

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
June 9, 2022

HYBRID MEETING

Minutes are subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Dean Sarjeant.

Public: Kathy Mann, Michelle Gorra, Joan Lodsins, Rebecca Rebillard, Michelle Gorra, Leslie Anderson, Simon Metz.

Call to Order: First Selectman Jim Brinton called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Appointment of Robert Tomlinson as Veteran's Service Contact: Motion:** To appoint Robert Tomlinson as Veteran's Service Contact for the Town of Washington for an indefinite term. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.
- **Appointment of Loretta Stagen as a full member of the Conservation Commission. Motion:** To appoint Loretta Stagen as a full member of the Conservation Commission (moving up from an alternate) until 1/1/24. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved
- **Resignation of Christian MacDonald as an alternate on the Conservation Commission: Motion:** To accept Christian MacDonald's resignation from the Conservation Commission with appreciation for his service. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

First Selectman's Report: Jim Brinton reported:

- **Annual Employee job evaluations** will begin next month.
- **Freedom of Information Training** will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00pm. Employees and Board and Commission members are invited to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on Transfer Station:** Work on improvements to the Transfer Station will begin the week after the July 4th Holiday. Compactors will be installed and a safer traffic pattern put into place. Looking forward, recycling changes may be made that would include separating glass out of the single stream. There was also discussion as to how to ensure that only Washington residents are using the Transfer Station with stricter enforcement of Transfer Station stickers on vehicles and how to prevent recycling from being deposited in solid waste containers. Once the new changes have been made, information will be available on the Town's website, in the Friday email blasts, through the Environmental Council, etc.

- **Noise Ordinance discussion:** Simon Metz attended this evening's meeting to discuss a proposed Noise Ordinance for the Town that would prohibit noise from 7:30pm – 7:30am. It appears as if the main focus would be on construction noise. Lawn care companies could be exempt. The Selectmen expressed concerns as to how to enforce such an ordinance without hurting local businesses and wondered if it could be addressed more in the Land Use and/or Building Department permitting process. Following discussion, the suggestion was made to have an informational meeting to gain a better understanding of how the public feels. Mr. Metz offered to contact Towns that already have such an Ordinance to determine how it is enforced and if conditions have improved by having it.
- **Electric car charger:** Jay Hubelbank is looking into possible funding to purchase additional chargers for placement throughout the Town. Currently the Town is covering the cost of the one in the Depot. If the Town were to change to a user pay system, it would not be to make money but to cover the cost of the electricity to run the charger. Jay also brought up the fact that there is a State Statute that prohibits drivers from keeping their cars idling. Information is available from the State.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Visitors:

- **Kathy Mann** inquired if a Noise Ordinance could also include residential noise at late hours – particularly loud machinery.
- **Rebecca Rebillard** expressed her opinion that the Town should be more diligent in enforcing rules and regulations already in place.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:09pm as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant