

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Board of Selectmen

Minutes

August 4, 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: Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Susan Smith, Mirriah Murray, Jamie Fellner, Ray Reich, Bob Papsin.

Press: Linda Zukauskas – VOICES.

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 July 21, 2022 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications:

- **Correspondence from Dorothy Anderson:** Ms. Anderson has written the Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the Town Assessor regarding residents whose cars are not being taxed in Washington and who may be residing here for over 6 months (considered full time) and have not changed their motor vehicle registration from a previous or additional State of residence. Jim Brinton explained he has had multiple conversations with former Assessor Daniel Kenney. Proving that someone lives in Town for 6 months and a day is very difficult. The Assessor's Office has written letters to some property owners whose legal address may be in question and has had some success. Hiring private investigators has been done by some Towns but that can be costly and result in limited success. The Selectmen discussed contacting the Town Attorney to inquire if he has suggestions or could draft a letter. Joan Lodsins suggested checking the voter registration lists.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Appointment of Missy Brown as Municipal Agent:** **Motion:** To appoint Town Social Worker, Missy Brown, Municipal Agent for an indefinite term. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

First Selectman's report: Jim Brinton reported the following:

- **Transfer Station Update:** There has been some supply delay issues which has caused the addition of a couple of weeks to the project. If all goes as hoped, paving should be able to be done within the next 2-3 weeks, followed by line painting.
- **Veteran's Reception:** Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz hosted a reception at the Town Hall for Veteran's of the Korean and Viet Nam Wars. She eloquently thanked the Veteran's for their service and presented each of them with a Citation.
- **National Iron Bank thank you:** On July 16, 2022, the National Iron Bank held a 175th Anniversary Celebration at Washington's River Walk Pavilion. Under the direction of Washington Depot Branch manager, Justin Spring, the festivities included a raffle that raised \$1334. Thank you to

all who contributed and to National Iron Bank for donating the full amount to the Parks and Recreation Commission's Scholarship Fund.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Proposal for Spent Nuclear Fuel Repository:** George Berka attended a Board of Selectmen meeting in March to propose establishing a repository for spent nuclear fuel. The Selectmen requested he submit a written proposal. This proposal was received on July 26, 2022. The Selectmen each reviewed the proposal. **Motion:** To deny approval of the proposal to construct a Spent Nuclear Fuel Rod Repository in the Town of Washington. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
- **Electric Vehicle Charging Stations:** Jay Hubelbank reported that he has met with several representatives of companies who supply the charging stations and has attended a workshop. There are funds available through Eversource that would help defray the cost of purchasing more stations. He will provide more detail once proposals are received.
- **Idling:** Jay also addressed the issue of cars idling citing a State law that prohibits this. He suggested signage in parking areas in Town. Dean Sarjeant expressed his dislike of negative signage and suggested we try to educate by other means first.
- **Thursday What's Up in Washington Blast** will be sent once a month providing news from various Boards and Commissions.
- **Lake Patrol:** Dean Sarjeant reported a meeting with Lake Waramaug Authority Chairman Edgar Berner regarding staffing of the Police Boat. There has been a shortage of staff this season which has prevented coverage on the Lake as often as in past years. A plan is being firmed up for next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Request from Housing Commission for a feasibility study:** The Washington Community Hosing Trust passed on a proposal to the Washington Housing Commission for survey work to be done on a property owned by the Trust at 77 Baldwin Hill Road. This work will be done as part of feasibility study for affordable housing. The Housing Commission voted to approve the expenditure. The Commission is requesting approval of the Board of Selectmen. **Motion:** To approve the request of the Housing Commission to expend \$3,250 for a feasibility study for a Site Development Plan and to refer the request to the Board of Finance. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

- **Jamie Fellner**, Fenn Hill Road, addressed the speeding of cars in Town – particularly on Fenn Hill and Lower Church Hill and suggested the Town explore the possibility of installing speed bumps similar to what has been installed in Roxbury. Ms. Fellner offered to assist in any way possible.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:56p.m 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

