

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**October 13, 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:** Ted Bent, Ray Reich, Rebecca Rebillard, Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Bob Papsin, Tod Peterson, Susan Smith.

**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 September 29, 2022 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:**

- **Appointment of Carrie Loyd to the Housing Commission: Motion:** Appointment of Carrie Loyd as an alternate on the Housing Commission until 1/1/23. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: Carrie has attended meetings of the Commission, submitted a letter of interest and is endorsed by the Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

**First Selectman's Report:** Jim Brinton reported the following:

- **Bristol Police Officers killed in the line of duty:** On behalf of the Town of Washington, Jim expressed sympathy to the families and the Town of Bristol.
- **Town Hall architectural study:** The Buildings and Properties Commission and Director of Facilities, Mark Showalter, will follow up with GHF Architectural Firm that conducted a study to determine efficient uses of Town Hall spaces.
- **Road Work:** The Highway Department is finishing up this year's scheduled road work.
- **Annual Employee Evaluations** have been scheduled and begun. Jay Hubelbank suggested that new employees be invited to a Board of Selectmen's meeting to give a report – particularly on the new positions created.
- **Washington Rotary Volunteer Recognition Reception:** Friday, October 14, 2022 – 5:00-6:30pm – River Walk Pavilion.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **EV Charging Stations:** Jay Hubelbank reported he has met with companies involved with Eversource to install EV Charging Stations. At the present time, five locations have been identified which would provide ten charging ports. The total cost is \$145,064. After 'Incentives', the cost to the Town would be \$55,768. Jay is preparing an ARPA Funding application and will speak with Highway Director Kevin Smith to determine if the Town could provide site work to lessen the costs. Currently, the Town covers the electrical cost for the

charger in the Depot. The new chargers will accept credit cards so that the users will pay this expense.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Request to the Board of Finance for funds for Sustainability Committee:** Jay Hubelbank reported that the Sustainability Committee has been working on several initiatives including a no idling campaign, composting and recycling offers at the Transfer Station, etc. In order to educate the public, the Committee estimates it would need approximately \$5000 to pay for mailings, banners, signs, etc. **Motion:** To submit a request to the Board of Finance for an ex-budget appropriation of \$4,000 to cover these expenses. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: The approval by the Board of Finance is needed. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Discussion of signs on Town Property:** Jim Brinton asked the Selectmen to begin thinking about a policy in regard to signs on Town Property. Although the Town wants to support and promote local businesses and organizations, there should be guidelines as to who and what can be displayed. John Gueniat requested (by phone call) that when developing this policy, the monuments to Veterans at the end of the Town Hall walk should remain unobstructed by signs.

#### **Visitors:**

- **Leslie Anderson inquired** if an emergency response plan has been put into place in regard to the EV Charging Stations should there be a fire. Jim Brinton assured her there would be as well as training provided.
- **Rebecca Rebillard** inquired about the Board of Educations position on extending a Request for Proposal for asbestos testing on the second floor of the Administration Building. Jim Brinton explained that the Finance Committee of the Board of Ed did not vote on approving the \$1400 for the testing as of this date. Rebecca expressed her belief that no more money should be put into the Day Care project until it is known if all other parts will work.
- **Ray Reich** asked if the Selectmen had an estimate of how many electric vehicles may be expected to be in Town in five years. Dean Sarjeant expressed his thought that this could not be predicted at this point given the constant evolving and improving of the technology.

#### **Adjournment:**

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:02p.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