

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Board of Selectmen

Minutes

April 13, 2023

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: Chris Charles, Susan Branson, Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Carole Matteo, Bob Papsin, Andrew Carron, Ed Berner.

Press: Linda Zukauskas-VOICES.

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

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the March 30, 2023 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

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

- **Transfer Station:** There has been such a good response to the textile recycling, an additional container has been ordered. Composting and glass recycling is also increasing significantly.
- **Wykeham Road Speeding:** Speeding is a large concern for residents of Wykeham Road (and elsewhere throughout Town). Jim has spoken and met with several of Wykeham Road residents, spoken with neighboring towns and has contacted the Connecticut's Office of the State Traffic Association regarding methods that can be taken to address the problem. Some have been implemented – such as the flashing speed limit signs, more police presence – and others are not feasible such as speed bumps, weight restrictions, signage, etc. Safety is a main priority for the Town as is enforcement of speed limits to the extent possible. Residents are also reminded that should their road not be safe for walking children or dogs, there are alternatives such as River Walk Park and any of the Steep Rock Association preserves. The Town will remain vigilant in addressing the speeding problem.

Selectmen's Reports:

- **Jay Hubelbank** reported that **Earth Day** will be observed in Town on Saturday, April 22nd. There will be various activities in the Depot including information from Washington Environmental Council, the Sustainability Committee, etc. roadside cleanups are encouraged. A dumpster will be at the Town Hall from April 19 – 24 for depositing litter.
- **Dean Sarjeant** reported that more information will be coming in the not-too-distant future regarding "**Lake Waramaug Keepers**" that will be increasing patrolling on Lake Waramaug.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of wake boats on Lake Waramaug:** Jim Brinton has been meeting and speaking with the First Selectmen of Kent and Warren as well as the various Lake organizations regarding the possible ordinance to prohibit wake boats on the lake. Connecticut Maria Horn has offered her assistance to address the issue as well. More information will be forthcoming. Carole Matteo voiced her support and gratitude and stressed the importance of keeping the Lake clean by prohibiting invasive species from taking hold. Bob Papsin mentioned that Sean Hayden, Executive Director of the Lake Waramaug Task Force, has contacted the Town's Inland Wetlands Commission regarding the installation of more aerators in the Lake as there is concern about the water quality due to the lack of ice this winter.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of Transfer Station fees:** Jim Brinton explained that fees at the Transfer Station may need to be adjusted as collection fees have increased. The Selectmen will review the fees at the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Visitors:

- **Chris Charles** felt that the installation of the flashing speed limit signs in Town are effective. He inquired as to whether tickets could be issued from those that are fitted with cameras. Jim Brinton explained that the State of Connecticut does not allow for that to happen.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:58p.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