

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
October 18, 2019

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

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen David Werkhoven, Jay Hubelbank.

Public: Chris Charles, Michelle Gorra.

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

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the October 3, 2019 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Resignation of Davyne Verstandig and Appointment of Karen Silk as Poet Laureate:** Davyne has sent an email submitting her resignation as Poet Laureate stating it has been a pleasure to represent the Town of Washington and recommending Karen Silk be appointed to take her place. Karen has also sent an email expressing her interest in being appointed. **Motion:** To accept the resignation of Davyne Verstandig as Poet Laureate and appoint Karen Silk as Poet Laureate until 11/19. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Jay Hubelbank recommended an annual report be given by the Poet Laureate outlining his/her activities. The motion passed unanimously.

First Selectman's Report: Mark Lyon reported the following:

- **Storm:** The Town weathered this week's rain and wind storm well. There were only 72 power outages reported as well as numerous tree cleanups.
- **Blight Ordinance:** Tony Bedini has submitted a Draft Blight Ordinance for review by the Board of Selectmen. The purpose of this ordinance "is intended to protect the public health, safety and welfare, to maintain and preserve the beauty of neighborhoods and to allow for control of blighted premises." If the Board of Selectmen agree such an ordinance would be in the best interest of the Town, it would then be referred to the Planning Commission, and with their approval, brought before the Town for a vote at a Town meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **WiFi in the Depot:** Jay Hubelbank reported he and John Gueniat have met with Jaren Havell of Ed Advance for a walk through of the Town Hall and Washington Primary School. They have determined a direct line of sight from a 2nd floor classroom to the Town Hall exists. Equipment and wiring specs are being prepared. Security has also been discussed with new hard drives for backing up systems. Security training for employees will occur in the near future.
- **Job Descriptions:** Jay Hubelbank reported he has reviewed all job descriptions and will put them into their proper format. Ed Advance will then review to make certain they are all in the

same language, with proper grammar, etc. Jay thanked the employees for their cooperation on this project.

- **Region #12 Building Project:** Jay Hubelbank reported that there have been some construction delays due to some deliveries being made late. This has caused some classes to be late in starting but overall the project is viewed as positive, still on budget and all work should be completed by the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of downstairs copier:** Jay Hubelbank distributed a spreadsheet outlining cost comparisons for a new copier machine. **Motion:** To approve entering into a four-year lease, with an option to buy, with Konica Minolta per specifications. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dave Werkhoven. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Request by the Lions Club to waive the fee for use of the Main Hall:** A letter has been received from David Miles, Lions Club Treasurer, requesting the waiving of the fee for use of the Main Hall for their Trivia Night on November 9th. All funds raised go to support local civic and charitable causes. **Motion:** To approve waiving of the fee for the use of the Main Hall by the Lions Club on November 9, 2019. The deposit of \$1500 will be required as well as a Certificate of Insurance and payment of custodial services. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.
- **Tax Sale of 48 Rabbit Hill Road and 204 Wykeham Road:** Tax Collector Donna Alex has submitted information to the Selectmen regarding the two properties. 48 Rabbit Hill Road is a 2.3-acre piece of raw land in the name of Ann Goldstein Estate with a past due tax amount of \$11,108.81. 204 Wykeham Road is a 10-acre parcel in the name of Jonathan Laeger with a past due tax amount of \$15,252.12. **Motion:** To allow the Tax Collector to proceed with legal action to put both properties up for tax sales noting that the Town's options should be explored prior to the auctions in the event expenses are not met. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.

Visitor:

- **Michelle Gorra** inquired about the lease agreement for the new copier/printer.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:15p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dave Werkhoven, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant