

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
June 11, 2020

Meeting held via video conferencing.

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

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Michelle Gorra.

Public: Dan Sherr, Joan Lodsins, Shane Mongar, Wayne Hileman, Leslie Anderson, Chris Charles, Susan Smith, Susan Branson.

Press: Linda Zukauskas.

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

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Motion:** To appoint **Shane Mongar to the Housing Commission until 1/1/2020.** By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Shane Mongar attended this evening's meeting. As he was able to purchase a home in Washington from the Washington Community Housing Trust, he expressed his willingness to help others. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Motion:** To reappoint: **Robert Tomlinson to the Cable Advisory Board until 6/30/2020.**
Charles LaMuniere to the Inland Wetlands Commission until 6/30/2023.
Bruce Bennett to the Inland Wetlands Commission until 6/30/2023.
Ellen Condon to the Judea Cemetery Commission until 6/30/2025.
Sandy Papsin to the Lake Waramaug Authority until 6/30/2023. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

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

- **Restaurants re-opening:** Per Governor Lamont's orders, restaurants can begin to allow indoor dining with capacity restrictions and proper protocol. Picnic tables placed around town are being used regularly.
- **COVID-19 Testing:** DOCS Urgent Care is offering COVID-19 testing in Washington on Saturday, June 20th from 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m. at the Washington Primary School grounds for Washington residents and Washington business employees. Registration is required – information can be found on the Town's website.
- **Town Hall re-opening:** Town Hall offices will begin to re-open to the public on Monday, June 22nd. The public will be allowed in by appointment only. Temperature checks, face coverings will be required. Hand sanitizing "stations" will be available.
- **Town Beach** will open Saturday, June 20th with limited attendance being allowed and certain protocols followed. More information can be found on the Town's website.
- **Senior Bus** will begin running Monday, June 22nd for medical appointments only. More information can be obtained from the Senior Center.
- **River Walk Park:** Presently the ball fields and tennis courts are open with limited numbers and no organized tournament games.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **WiFi in the Depot:** Jay Hubelbank reported equipment has been installed at the Judy Black Park and at the Pantry which will enable greater coverage throughout the Depot. Electrical lines are being installed and equipment ordered.

- **Tax Deferral Program:** Tax Collector Donna Alex has reported that there have been 5 applicants and 2 have been approved.
- **Black Lives Matter:** Michelle Gorra commended those involved in the peaceful demonstration in Washington Depot as well as the Town and State police officers who were present and appreciated their efforts.
- **Transfer Station:** Michelle Gorra suggested that with the proposed improvements to the Transfer Station that the Washington Environmental Council and other “experts” be consulted to insure proper recycling procedures are followed. Jay Hubelbank and Jim Brinton met earlier this week with Cardinal Engineering to review plans. Preliminary designs will be completed by Cardinal.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Affordable Housing:** Michelle Gorra attended a Northwest Council of Governments seminar. A grant will be filed for, through COG, for funds to update what the Town has and to create a plan going forward. Michelle will provide a Resolution that will need to be done at the next Selectmen’s meeting.
- **Invitation to Bid: Motion:** The Town of Washington will accept sealed bids for paving approximately 6000 sq. yds. of Ultra-Thin Bonded Pavement Type B on a section of Nettleton Hollow Rd. Bids will be accepted until 4:00p.m. on June 25, 2020 at Bryan Memorial Town Hall, 2 Bryan Plaza, Washington Depot, CT 06794. They may be left in the drop-box on the front steps of Town Hall. Specifications may be obtained at 860-868-2259 or at selectmen@washingtonct.org. Current liability and worker’s compensation insurances are required. The Town of Washington reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to award the bid in the best interest of the Town of Washington. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

- **Wayne Hileman** attended this evening’s meeting to give a presentation on **ConneCT** which would bring a broadband internet network to the Litchfield Hills. This network would provide internet to all devices as it is becoming more essential that everyone has access. Wayne presented a business plan which included municipalities installing the fiber network by bonding funds over a 20-year period. Benefits would include attracting more young people to Town, easing of the digital divide in education, enabling robust wireless communication, insuring future rural health care and increase in home values. More information will be forthcoming in upcoming months.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 6:30p.m. to discuss a personnel matter and legal matter. They re-entered the regular meeting at 6:54p.m. with no action being taken.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:54p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Michelle Gorra and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen’s Assistant