

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
October 1, 2020

Meeting held via video conferencing.

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Dean Sarjeant.

Public: Joan Lodsins, Leslie Anderson, Dan Sherr, Michelle Gorra, Chris Charles.

Press: Linda Zukauskas, VOICES; Lance Reynolds, Republican American.

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 September 17, 2020 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

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

- **CT DOT – CCGP Grant:** DOT is offering grant monies for projects that would encourage bicycle and pedestrian driven traffic. Cardinal Engineering is preparing the application, due October 16, 2020. If approved, the Town could receive \$600,000 for improvements to the sidewalks and parking areas on Titus Road – making for better/safer walking condition.
- **Whittlesey Road and Rabbit Hill Road Bridges:** Monies are still in the “pipeline”, which may allow for work to begin this fiscal year – particularly on Rabbit Hill.
- **Schools** are all open and reporting no issues in regard to COVID.
- **WPS Lease:** Greg Cava has contacted Jim to review the Town's lease for the Washington Primary School.
- **PURA:** Jim attended a zoom conference call with PURA addressing municipalities and Eversource working together prior to a major storm. This would include having a “make safe crew” in place, communication with the municipalities Eversource liaison and operations. Jim., Emergency Management Directors Mark Showalter and Ethan Labella have a meeting scheduled for next Thursday with Eversource.
- **Building/Land Use software:** Jim met today with the Land Use and Building Department and a software company that could provide software for tying the permit process together.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **WiFi in the Depot:** Selectman Jay Hubelbank reported that WiFi in the Depot is now running. Two more hookups – Judy Black Park and the Washington Food Market will take place shortly. Jay thanked Michelle Gorra for distributing information to businesses and John Gueniat for his IT assistance.
- **Job Descriptions:** Jay reported that Town Employee Job Descriptions are now finalized and employees will receive. Jay would like to begin an evaluation process with employees next

year and will be requesting employees set individual goals. Jay thanked all for their cooperation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Use of Town Hall room(s) for outside programs:** The use of the Main Hall by the Altorelli Health Group has been very successful. They will be adding several more hours per week. Our Seniors are invited to attend at no cost. It was suggested that our Senior Center use the Hall as well if it would help with providing more services.
- **Region #12 Building Permit funds:** Discussion tabled.

Visitors:

- **Michelle Gorra** advised the Selectmen that she has been contacted by local service providers regarding streamlining the land use permit process. She inquired, as a possibility, if the Land Use Coordinator and Enforcement Officer could be given more authority to sign off on applications, and/or if office hours could be coordinated to overlap. More discussion to follow.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:53p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant