

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Board of Selectmen

Minutes

January 19, 2023

HYBRID MEETING

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

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

Public: Dan Sherr, Bob Papsin, Shelley White, Joan Lodsins, Tammy Rill, Andrew Carron, Todd Peterson, Larry Gendron, Rebecca Rebillard.

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 January 5, 2023 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications. None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Resignation of Susan Payne from the Delay of Demolition Committee:** The Selectmen accepted Susan Payne's resignation with thanks for the time served.

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

- **Budget Season:** Finance Director, Linda Gomez, has contacted Department Heads regarding their fiscal year 2023-2024 budget needs.
- **Transfer Station:** The container for textile recycling should be arriving next week. The new compactors are up and running. Thank you to the staff for doing a great job!

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Approval of ARPA Fund Committee recommendations:** Jim Brinton explained that there were still some questions regarding applications made for funding and invited Committee Chairman, Andrew Carron, and members of the Committee to attend the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen to discuss. **Motion:** To approve the following requests and to refer to the Board of Finance: Greenwoods Counseling - \$10,000; ASAP - \$5,000; Broadband - \$30,000; HVA - \$75,000; Judy Black Park - \$18,250; Housing Commission - \$7,000; Washington Business Association - \$8,800; Washington Friends of Music - \$10,000. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
- **Approval of Capital Improvement Plan: Motion:** To approve the Town of Washington's Capital Improvement Plan. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Jim explained that this needs to be done annually and allows the Town to apply for State grants. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Set Special Town Meeting Date and Agenda: Motion:** To set the agenda as follows: The voters and electors of the Town of Washington are hereby warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 7:30p.m. at Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, Connecticut to consider and act upon the following:
 To approve the ARPA Fund Committee recommendations.
 To approve the Town of Washington's Capital Improvement Plan.
 To approve the sale of the Johnson Property. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
- **Discuss/Act upon the appointment of the Arts Council:** Jim Brinton explained that the Town's POCD recommended the formation of such a Council which will be "dedicated to increasing arts awareness and appreciation by supporting, promoting and connecting visual, performing, and literary artists, arts organizations and businesses...." The call was put out asking interested parties to contact the First Selectman stating their interest in serving. The Council is to be made up of 9 members, 12 or more responded. **Motion:** To appoint the following to the Arts Council for an indefinite term: Karen Silk, Simon Holt, Sarah Clemente, Kirsten Leon, Kent Burnham, Abdo Ballester, Victoria Rowan, Tracy Liz Miller and Fran Kielty. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Dean Sarjeant questioned the selection explaining that there had been several people meeting to discuss the formation of such a council and they have not been included in this final list. Jim Brinton explained his goal of involving people who may not otherwise be involved in Town Boards, Commissions or Committees. The motion passed with Dean Sarjeant abstaining.
- **Discuss/Act upon HVHD budget increase:** Dean Sarjeant, the Town's representative to the Housatonic Valley Health District explained that there would be an increase to the member Towns for the 2023-2024 fiscal year due to increased costs in areas such as health insurance, vaccines and medical supplies and specimen transportation. This results in a \$10.71 per capita increase or \$39,027 for the Town of Washington. Dean expressed his opinion that this was reasonable in light of the services provided to the Town. **Motion:** To support the projected increase for consideration in the Town's 2023-2024 budget. By Dean Sarjeant, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Visitors: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: To adjourn the meeting at 5:59p.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss land use Office personnel. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

The Selectmen re-entered the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:13p.m. with no action being taken in Executive Session.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:13p.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