

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
February 2, 2023

HYBRID MEETING

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

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectman Jay Hubelbank.

Public: John Metcalf, Andrew Carron, Joan Lodsins, Bob Papsin, Margaret Ferguson, Dan Sherr, David Golembeski, Michelle Gorra, Todd Peterson, Larry Gendron, Rebecca Rebillard, Shannon Kozak.

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 19, 2023 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Reappointment of members of the Economic Development Committee for an indefinite term:**
Motion: To reappoint Dan Sherr, Tony Bedini, Jim Brinton, Michael Jackson, Wayne Hileman, Lisa Stein, Fran Kielty, Robyn Gray, Kristen Atlas, Trisha McMahon, Rudy Montgelas to the Economic Development Committee for an indefinite term. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Jim explained this reappointment as a matter of housekeeping as there were discrepancies in the original appointment terms. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- **Eversource:** Jim and Ethan Labella, Emergency Management Director, met with Eversource for a post-Christmas weekend storm debriefing to discuss problems that occurred with the loss of power. Going forward, it is hoped that there will be better communication with the Town's liaison.
- **Dog Park:** The area designated for the dog park near the Depot Firehouse has been moved and decreased in size. There are still many details to be worked out.
- **Reverse 911 call:** With the predicted forecast for bitter cold and high winds, if necessary, Jim will put out a reverse 911 call to residents, with updates, shelter information, etc.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discussion with ARPA Committee members re: recommendations:** Applications for ARPA Funds were approved for Greenwoods, ASAP, Broadband, HVA, Judy Black Park, Shakesperience and Housing Commission for the amounts requested. Other applications, Washington Art Association and Washington Community Housing Trust, and Steep Rock were approved but not for the full amount requested in order to grant more requests. The Committee capped performing arts applications at \$25,000 which included Pilobolus and Spring Hill. More information has been requested from the Institute for American Indian Studies, Gunn Memorial

Library, and the Stone Church. A legal opinion has been requested for the application made by the New Preston Congregational Church. The Committee initially denied the application made by the United Way. Applications with questions will be discussed further by the Board of Selectmen, then referred to the Board of Finance and finally a Town Meeting. Those applications that were fully approved have also been approved by the Board of Finance and are on the agenda for approval at a Special Town Meeting on February 23, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Authorization to enter into necessary documents for Judea Cemetery repairs: Motion:** To authorize First Selectman James L. Brinton to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain a 2023 Neglected Cemetery Account Grant should the Town be selected for a grant award. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: If approved monies will be used for repair of the fencing and cleaning of gravestones. The motion passed unanimously.

Visitors: None.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:59p.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