

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**August 17, 2023**

**HYBRID MEETING**

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

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

**Public:** Susan Smith, Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Andrew Carron.

**Press:** Ann Jamieson – 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 August 3, 2023 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:**

- **Resignation of Carrie Rowe from the Sustainability Committee:** The Selectmen accepted Carrie Rowe's resignation with thanks for her service as one of the initial members of the Committee.
- **Appointment of Hugh Rogers to the Sustainability Committee: Motion:** To appoint Hugh Rogers to the Sustainability Committee for an indefinite term. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Hugh has submitted his letter of interest to serve on this committee. He has been actively involved in the River Alliance and similar organizations. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- **Powassan Virus:** Jim was notified by the Housatonic Valley Health District, which had been notified by the State Department of Health, that there were two confirmed cases of this virus in Washington. The virus is transmitted by deer ticks and can be seriously debilitating. At present there is no vaccine or treatment. A meeting was held with all Town employees advising the need to be vigilant and to take all necessary precautions. An email blast will be sent out tomorrow notifying residents with a link to the Center for Disease Control that contains more information on the virus.
- **Tunnel Road Bridge:** Work will resume on the bridge following a site visit from the DEEP which concluded that any infractions have been remedied and all levels are acceptable.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Titan Energy Contract:** At the last Board of Selectmen's meeting a motion was made to renew the contract with Titan Energy for one year. The contract will be reviewed again in December or January of 2024 to determine if the Town would be eligible for a better rate if renewed for a two-year period.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**Visitors:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:40p.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss a possible litigation matter involving the Health Department. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

The Selectmen re-entered the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 5:50p.m. having taken no action.

**Adjournment:**

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:50p.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