

# March 18, 2010

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectman James L. Brinton.

**Press:** Ann Compton

**Visitors:** Mark Showalter, Duncan Woodruff, Adam Woodruff, Eric Epstein, Wayne Hileman.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m.

## **Minutes:**

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the March 4, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Susan Payne, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, has requested the minutes of the February 25, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen with the Land Use Chairmen, to be amended. The posted minutes stated that Washington has a goal of protecting the rural character by maintaining 30% as open space and that this goal had been exceeded between acreage protected by easements, Steep Rock, State Parks, etc. This needed to be corrected:

Motion:

To correct the record to state: the open space permanently protected, consists (to the best of Susan's ability to calculate at the meeting) of 5543 acres, plus State parkland and PDR farmland for a total of 6,406 which equals 25.86% of the Town's acreage. The Town Plan of Conservation and Development is 30% by 2015.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

## **First Selectman's Report:**

Mark Lyon reported the following:

### 2010-2011 Budget:

The Board of Selectmen has been working for several weeks on the budget and will be presenting a draft to the Board of Finance on Monday, March 22nd.

### Washington Environmental Council:

The Council has a goal of having 40% of Washington's total tonnage be "recyclable" by 2014 and they have several proposals on how to reach this goal. Solid waste disposal costs have decreased by \$1/ton – recyclables by \$3/ton. Several towns have ordinances requiring residents to use clear bags for their disposal – if recyclables are discovered in the bags, the person can be fined. The Selectmen would like to work with the WEC and hopes to use less aggressive steps at first to achieve the goal of having townspeople increase recycling.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### Awarding of Bid for Fire Apparatus Body:

Duncan Woodruff, a member of the Fire Department's truck committee reported that the committee had reviewed the three bids received and felt that Firematic followed the specs that had been provided by the Fire Department and they also were the lowest bidder. Duncan went on to provide several additional reasons for their suggestion of Firematic which included delivery time, size of tank, materials used, payment, warranties, etc.

### **Motion:**

To accept the recommendation of the Truck Committee of the Washington Volunteer Fire Department and award the bid for the Fire Apparatus Body to Firematic, Rocky Hill, CT for \$219,700.00.

By Jim Brinton, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### Housing Commission request for an expenditure of \$500 from the Affordable Housing Fund for a professional land appraisal.

The Board of Selectmen received a letter from the Housing Commission stating that at their March 8, 2010, the following recommendation was unanimously approved: To recommend to the Board of selectmen an expenditure from the Affordable Housing Fund not to exceed \$500 for a professional land appraisal of a newly drawn parcel at 272 Sabbaday Lane. The parcel to be appraised is intended to be used for affordable housing purposes in the Town of Washington. Wayne Hileman, Chairman of the Housing Commission, further explained the piece of property being discussed as a parcel owned currently by Estelle Bronson. She and her family have been working with the Housing Commission.

### **Motion:**

To approve the request of the Housing Commission and to request the expenditure from the Board of Finance.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

### Tree Warden report re: planting of trees in Bryan Plaza:

Tree Warden, Tom Osborne approached the Selectmen regarding the American Elm Program that has been working on developing an elm tree that would be genetically resistant to Dutch elm disease. Through the Program the Town would be able to purchase several trees, depending on size, for \$1700 to \$2400. Several trees were cut down last year in the Plaza and two more may be coming down in the near future. Jim Brinton mentioned the possibility of Yardapes volunteering some time to plant the trees and Mark Lyon explained the Town Highway Department will remove stumps and perform necessary prep work. As funds are not in the current budget and the program may not have the same offer next year, the suggestion was made to request funding from the Village Improvement Society for this project.

**Visitors:** None.

## **Adjournment:**

### **Motion:**

To adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

By Jim Brinton, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene  
Selectmen's Secretary