Town of Washington

Board of Finance

**February 22, 2016**

Present: Members: Michael Jackson, Sally Cornell,

Ted Bent, Barbara Brown, Elizabeth Adams, Jack Boyer

Alternates: Keith Templeton,

Selectmen: Dave Werkhoven

Treasurer: Linda McGarr

Chairman Michael Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the January 25, 2015 meeting were approved with the change on page 2 from dive to divide.

**Tax Collector Report:** Donna Alex, Tax Collector reported that the tax collection is at 95%.

There was a distribution of the list of the top ten delinquent taxpayers. Liens have been put on all the properties. Several meetings have been made with the Tax Collector Donna Alex , Selectman Mark Lyon and Attorney Adam Cohen. With the criteria’s set, the two oldest properties are going to a tax sale. These two properties are the most problematic properties on the list. There has been communication with some individual that may be interested in the properties. Once the properties go to the attorney all discussion on the properties must go through the attorney. Other properties on the delinquent list are in the process of being sold. When the next oldest properties meet the criteria they will be on the next tax sell. The cost for the attorney is $3000-$4000 per sale. He gets paid first, then the town and then anyone else. The Selectman before the sale makes the decision of what they will do if the property does not sell at the auction. All properties are sold as is and the town has immunity to any problems to the property.

On the motor vehicle tax, the state is trying to pass the bill #5055 to no longer holding up vehicle registration on delinquent taxes and parking fees. This will affect our income. Per the Tax Collector, people do not like paying car taxes. Many people don’t pay their taxes until they have to register their cars. The town may have to use a collection agency to collect delinquent car tax. The other issue with Motor Vehicle Departments is their new computer program. Each individual with a license is assigned a “CIBLS” number. The problem is that if you register your car in a slightly different name, such as using a middle initial the system creates a new “CIBLS” number. Some people will get more than one “CIBLS” number. With more than one “CBLS” number, the system looks like they have not paid their taxes which prevent them from registering. Many need to call the Tax Collector’s office to get clearance. Another problem is that tax bills are going to wrong towns. If the error is found a taxpayer only pays interest 30 days after the error is corrected not when the bill is issued.

**Treasurer Report:** Michael asked if the Treasure, Linda McGarr would check that all accounts at all banks are collateralized.

**Selectman:** Selectman, Dave Werkhoven reported several meetings have been set up for the budget process. We notify the Board of Finance as soon as possible for the presentation of the budget.

**Financial Reports**: The budget is inline. Two items to watch are overtime on the Highway department because of the timing of the little storms we had and the other is permits. There has been a lot of activity in the building department with permits. Permit money except for $2.00 per permit is turned over to the state so because of the activity those expense lines are going to come over budget.

**Board of Education**: No report

**Old Business:** A motion to approve the 2014-2015 audit was made by Barbara Brown, seconded by Ted Bent and unanimously approved.

**New Business:** None

The meeting was motioned to adjourn at 5:43

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kennedy Gomez Financial Administrator