Town of Washington

Board of Finance

October 17, 2016

Present: Members: Michael Jackson, Ted Bent, Craig Schoon, Jack Boyer, Sally Cornell, Barbara Brown,

Alternates: Phyllis Allen, Keith Templeton

Selectmen: Mark Lyon, David Werkhoven

Treasurer: Linda McGarr

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

**Minutes:** AMotion to accept theMinutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting by Phyllis Allen, second by Craig Schoon and unanimously approved with change on page 2 Romford Road Bridge should have a common instead of a period in the amount of $600,000.

**Tax Collector Report:**  First Selectmen Lyon stated that the tax collector has collected 100% of the pass due taxes for 2006 and 2009. She has also collected $8,800 off the suspended list.

**Treasurer Report:** Linda McGarr request a motion to take into income the line item of “Old Checks” that has been on the balance sheet some time. The total amount is $4,413.61. The amount represents old checks that have not cleared. Some are tax reimbursements, which after 3 years the town can take into income. Many are vendors that very possibly had checks reissue and the original check was not voided. A motion was made by Ted Bent to take the funds into income, second by Barbara Brown and unanimously approved. Question on the new After School Care account – this is the account for the new program for afterschool care. The program is under the Parks & Recreation Umbrella and parent fees will cover all salaries and expense.

**Selectman:** Expenditures are in line with the budget. We have been awarded two more bridge grants which is an 80/20 split. It is federal dollars that come through the state. It will be for the Town Road Bridge which is estimated to be a 4 ½ million dollar project and Whittlesey Road bridge which is estimated to be a 2.2 million dollar project. Both will be an 80% reimbursement. The process will take 2-3 years.

Question on what Fire Equipment PPE is – It is the protect gear for the firefighters which is budgeted most years.

Recap on Thursday‘s Meeting on the Ag – Stem with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Superintendent of Schools. They are in the process to resize the project and redoing their enrollment projection. They are still working with Danbury and getting a commitment from Bethel. The letter from the State Board of Education congratulated them on being the 20th Ag- Stem program. It encourages them to go forward but is requesting them to resize. They have appropriated some fund to Kaestle Boos, which was appropriated by referendum to look at resizing the project. They would use more of the existing space for classroom and would still be doing the outside “Animal Space” As for a new referendum, legally they would not have to do it per their lawyer but there was feeling that they should since there is a big enough change. It will be awhile before they would have new cost information and enrollment information. As for the science labs they are still looking into including it into the project. The Ag – Stem science labs will be incorporated into the current labs. The science labs will have to be done no matter what. The only new buildings would be the animal and greenhouse. There is concern that the funding will be lowered because of the state’s financial situation.

**Financial Reports**: Conveyance fees are up due to real-estate sales. Question on who is the emergency management employee which is Rocky Tomlinson who gets paid quarterly

**Pension Review**: The pension committee met with the Tom Gerchman who handles the town pension and Mary Mascolo who handles the Firefighter and EMT accounts from Pension Consultants. The issue on hand was timing, reporting, and communication. The idea is to do a RFP to see what other firms are out there. The overall performance of the pension with Union Savings Bank has been good. For the last 3 years their performance is right on the benchmark. This last year they are actually 2 points more than the benchmark. No complaints with Union Savings.

**Education:** Nothing additional.

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** None

**A motion to adjourn at 5:33 by Phyllis Allyn, second by Barbara Brown and unanimously approved.**

**Next Meeting: November 21, 2016**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kennedy Gomez Financial Administrator