**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**January 15, 2015**

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen Richard O. Carey and Jay Hubelbank.

Public: Tony Bedini, Nick Solley, Joan Lodsin, Rocky Tomlinson, Chris Charles.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:33p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 30, 2104 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:**

* **Resignation of Patricia Welles as Democratic Registrar of Voters:** Mrs. Welles has submitted a letter of resignation as Registrar of Voters for the Democratic Party as of January 30, 2015 as she is moving to Florida. The Selectmen thanked Mrs. Welles for her service to the Town. Town Clerk, Sheila Anson, has explained that in the case of a Registrar’s resignation, the Deputy Registrar of Voters becomes the Registrar. In this case, Donna Dutcher will become Registrar. She will then submit a letter of resignation as she does not wish to maintain the position of Registrar, and the Democratic Town Committee will appoint a Registrar.
* **Resignation of Patricia Welles as CACD Fuel Assistance Interviewer:** Mrs. Welles has submitted a letter or resignation as Fuel Assistance Interviewer as of January 30, 2015 as she is moving to Florida. The Selectmen thanked Mrs. Welles for her service to the Town in this capacity. See “First Selectman’s Report” regarding replacement of this position.

**First Selectman’s Report:** First Selectman mark Lyon reported the following:

* **Community Services Specialist, Samantha Sommerer,** has begun working for the Town of Washington and will be providing social services to residents. This position is partially funded through a grant received by the Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut (CAAWC) – there is minimal ($1300/quarter) cost to the Town. Among the many services and information she will be able to offer, will be the filing of fuel assistance applications to replace Mrs. Welles. Samantha will have office hours at the Town Hall, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
* **Cell Tower Update:** Still no information or progress on AT&T’s installation of their antennas. Mark has drafted a letter to Homeland Towers which will be reviewed by Town Attorney, David Miles – the hope is that by putting pressure on Homeland, they will put pressure on AT&T. Litchfield County Dispatch has installed their generator for their antenna on the cell tower. AT&T (and any other carrier) will need to install their own.
* **Conference Room:** Carpeting has been installed. Audio/Visual equipment is being installed. Plastering and painting in the Main Hall will begin next week.
* **New Town Garage Open House:** Mark will speak with Highway Director, Kevin Smith, to schedule.
* **New Town Garage Policies:** The Buildings & Properties Commission is currently working on a policy clarifying the use of equipment and the facility by employees. They will review this at their meeting scheduled for January 28th and the present to the Board of Selectmen.
* **Renting of the Main Hall:** Inquiries have been made to the Selectmen’s Office re: the renting of the Main Hall once all the work is completed. This will be discussed further with the Buildings & Properties Commission and the Board of Selectmen.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Resolution endorsing the NW CT Economic Development Corp’s RPI Grant Request:** The NWCTEDC submitted a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant request entitled “Northwest Connecticut Career & Workforce Training Services Coalition” in cooperation with the NW Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) and the Northwest Chamber of Commerce. Workforce development, higher education and employer training were identified as key issues for job creation and retention efforts in the NW region of the State. Supporting organizations include the regions community colleges as well at public school superintendents, guidance/career counselors, local boards or education, private/independent schools, regional technical schools and the CT Dept. of Labor. **Motion:** To adopt a resolution by a vote of 3 to 0, endorsing the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposal submitted by the NW CT Economic Development Corporation (NWCTEDC) entitled Northwest Connecticut Career & Workforce Training Services Coalition. The coalition will be tasked with matching employer needs with available resources to meet those needs and increasing student and worker awareness of employment, training and higher education opportunities in NW Connecticut. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: the importance of working with Region #12 was stressed and discussed as well as the possibility of Mark Lyon becoming a member of the board. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dick Carey, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen’s Secretary