**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**January 26, 2017**

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen David Werkhoven and Jay Hubelbank.

Public: Ethan LaBella, Nick Solley.

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

**MOTION:** To add subsequent business not already on the Agenda. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: To extend an RFP for a new phone system for the Town. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the January 12, 2017 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.

**Communications:**

* **Contract with Cardinal Engineering re: Spring Hill Road Bridge –** has been reviewed by Town Attorney, David Miles who has suggested minor changes. Mark Lyon will contact Cardinal to discuss.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None, however, Mark Lyon reported he has contacted Margaret Cheney re: her position on Inland Wetlands and has not yet heard back. As there is someone interested in serving on the Commission, Margaret may be asked to resign due to her lack of attendance.

**First Selectman’s Report:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Further discussion of Western Region Water Utility Coordinating Committee:** Aquarion Water Company had requested exclusive rights to serve the Town of Washington. The Board of Selectmen denied that exclusive right. Subsequently, the DEEP has designated themselves as the exclusive server for State-owned properties. Aquarion has now requested to be the exclusive server for areas within 1000 feet of where they now have water lines and have submitted maps indicating the areas that Exclusive Service Area (ESA) Declaration would cover. **Motion:** To accept areas designated by Aquarion as their ESA. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
* **AGSTEM correspondence:** Selectman Dave Werkhoven updated the Selectmen on recent correspondence regarding the AGSTEM program and the request by the DAS Commissioner to take the project off the “Priority list”. Following discussion, the Selectmen agreed to send a letter directly to Commissioner Currey as well as key Senators and Representatives.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Approval of Parks and Recreation Commission Coordinator Job Description:** Lisa Easter, Parks and Recreation Coordinator for the past nineteen years, has submitted her resignation. The position has been advertised. Since hiring Lisa, the Job Description for her position has been updated to include the present responsibilities, hours required, benefits, etc. **Motion:** To approve the current Job Description for the position of Parks and Recreation Coordinator. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
* **Extending of RFPs for phone system: Motion:** To extend an RFP to convert the current Town phone system to a VOIP system compatible with the municipal use of the Nutmeg Network. RFPs will be due in the Selectmen’s Office by 2:00 p.m. February 10, 2017. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved. **Motion:** To extend an RFP for pricing on SIP trunks. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Visitors:**

* **Ethan LaBella, Washington Volunteer Fire Department,** attended this evening’s meeting to discuss construction of a Class A Burn Building. A proposal had been made to place such a unit at the New Preston Firehouse property. However, this was met with quite a bit of resistance by the neighboring property owners. The Fire Department is now seeking permission to construct this building at the Town Highway Department property on Blackville Road. Ethan explained how the building works, the benefits for training, etc. There are no exposure hazards. Mark Lyon expressed his belief that the building is a good idea for the Department and requested that Highway Director, Kevin Smith, and the Buildings and Properties Commission be involved in further discussions. **Motion:** To direct and authorize First Selectman Mark Lyon to work directly with the Buildings and Properties Commission, the Fire Department, and the Highway Director on any further discussions and/or plans for a Class A Burn Building on Highway Department property. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:01p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dave Werkhoven, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen’s Secretary