**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**October 8, 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: Joe Mustich, John Bounaiuto, Joan Lodsin, Debbie Forese, Leslie Anderson, Kevin Smith, Nick Solley, Chris Charles, Dave Werkhoven.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** To add subsequent business not already on the agenda. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: To extend an invitation to bid for a Clear-span Salt Storage Fabric Building. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the September 24, 2015 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Dick Carey, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:**

* **AT&T** has written notifying the Town that the company has “budgeted for and plans for the site in Washington to be activated in 2016” by building and mounting antennas on the Homeland Tower facility. If work can begin prior to the New Year, AT&T is optimistic that cell service will be available by the end of the first quarter of 2016.
* **Lake Waramaug Association** sent Mark Lyon a thank you letter for attending their Annual Meeting.
* **Titus Park Garage Notice of Public Hearing** for the installation of a canopy over the new gas pumps. The Town is an abutting property owner.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

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

* **Woodruff land donation to the Town of Washington:** the necessary paperwork has been completed and filed on the Town’s land records showing a piece of property the Woodruff’s donated to the Town to realign their property line with Rabbit Hill Road.
* **Energy savings:** the Town will be honored next week at an event sponsored by the CT Department of Energy and Eversource for the energy saving work that has been done at the Town Hall and Highway Garage. The Town will also receive incentive credits.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Awarding of Bid for Front-end Loader:** Mark Lyon explained that the two bids received from H.O. Penn for a caterpillar and Tyler Equipment for a Volvo had been reviewed by himself and Kevin Smith, Highway Director. Kevin also performed several comparisons with other front-end loader manufacturers. The H.O. Penn bid was for a smaller piece of equipment than what had been specified in the Invitation to Bid and specifications. **Motion:** To award the bid for a Front-end Loader to Tyler Equipment of Berlin, CT and Longmeadow, MA for $169,452. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey. Discussion: Dick Carey noted that the loader that is being replaced is also a Volvo and has set an excellent precedent. Jay Hubelbank asked about delivery time and if this machine will be used for plowing. Kevin expects it to be available within two weeks and it will be used for plowing. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Opening of Bids for Crushing-Processing Cost:** The following bids were received:

**Town & Aurell,** Bantam, CT $11.71 per ton

**Fay and Wright,** Goshen, CT $ 6.47 per ton

**Villager,** Fairport, NY $ 8.75 per ton.

Bids will be reviewed and awarded at the Selectmen’s meeting on October 22nd.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Invitation to Bid Clear-span Salt Storage Fabric Building: Motion:** To extend an Invitation to Bid for the purchase and delivery of two Clear-span, or equal, storage buildings for the Town of Washington Highway Department. Specifications are available from the Office of the First Selectman and are due by 4:30 p.m. on October 22, 2015. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: these fabric buildings will be constructed on the foundation of the Old Town Garage and will be used for stock piling salt/sand. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Region #12 AG-STEM program endorsement:** All members of the Board of Selectmen have attended numerous meetings and presentations on the proposed AG-STEM program for Region #12 and are in agreement it has been well thought out, expectations are realistic and will put Region #12 in a situation that will create a sound student body. **Motion:** The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington endorses the Region #12 AG-STEM program. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Jay Hubelbank stated he feels the plan is as cost efficient as possible. Town resident, John Bounaiuto, attended this evening’s meeting to express his concerns with the proposed program: 1) financing; 2) wording (dollar amount)of the question for the referendum; 3) the size and need of the indoor equestrian center; and 4) does the program adhere to the fundamental charger of the Region. The Selectmen addressed Mr. Bounaiuto’s concerns expressing their confidence in the program, the associated cost and belief that it is the solution to saving the school. Chris Charles also spoke in favor of the program as a solution and asked that the Democratic and Republican Town Committees work together to endorse it and promote people’s coming out to vote. Joan Lodsin expressed her feeling that is it a solution to the High School but that people should remember there are three primary schools that need to be addressed as well. The motion passed unanimously.

**Visitors:**

* **Joe Mustich** attended this evenings meeting to discuss: 1) the condition of the wooden guard rails along Nettleton Hollow Road. Mark Lyon explained that monies have been put into the Town budget for the past four years and is now in a position to begin replacing and installing new guardrails this fiscal year. He further explained that to meet State safety standards they will be metal. 2) The number of dead maple trees specifically in the vicinity of #397 Nettleton Hollow Rd. 3) No monies in the budget for maintaining or replacing. Mark explained that both the Tree Warden and Highway Director review the condition of Town-owned trees and make a determination of which ones will be taken down based on safety concerns. Some feeding of trees has occurred in the Depot area but agreed the funds are not there for regular maintenance. Tree Warden, Tom Osborne, has applied and received a grant to replace trees that needed to be taken down in the Plaza. Mr. Mustich suggested that individuals and local organizations may be interested in contributing to such a fund.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. with thanks to the visitors. By Dick Carey, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen’s Secretary