**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**December 18, 2014**

***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: Duncan Woodruff, Nick Solley.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 4, 2014 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

**Communications:**

* **Letter from Tim Cook:** Mr. Cook has presented this letter at a consolidated school meeting as well as to the Board of Selectmen. He outlines several suggestions to help with the rising per pupil costs in Region #12 and decline of education, athletics and facilities. His suggestions include: 1) Asking Litchfield High School to merge with Shepaug. 2) Add an agricultural school to Shepaug. 3) Give young families with 2 or more children $100,000 toward the down payment on a house. A copy of Tim’s letter is attached to the minutes filed with the Town Clerk.

**Appointments and Resignations:**

* **Motion:** To reappoint **Susan Payne, Diane Dupuis** (full members) and **Dirk Sabin** (alternate) to the **Conservation Commission** until 1/1/18. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
* **Motion:** To reappoint **Alison Gilchrest** (full member)to the **Historic District Commission** until 1/1/20 and **Louise VanTartwijk** (alternate) until 1/1/18. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
* **Motion:** To reappoint **Sheila Anson and C.J. Kersten** to the **Parks and Recreation Commission** until 1/1/18. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.
* **Motion:** To reappoint **Dimitri Rimsky** (full member) to the **Planning Commission** until 12/31/19and **Terri Tibbatts** (alternate) until 12/31/17. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

The Selectmen expressed their gratitude to the above for their continued willingness to serve the Town.

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

* **New Town Garage:** The Town received the Certificate of Occupancy. There are several items on the punch list which will be addressed in the spring (re-seeding and patching of asphalt). An Open House may be scheduled in January.
* **Conference Room:** The windows and doors are in, trim, lighting and insulation is complete. Carpeting needs to be installed. HVAC unit is in place and will be hooked up soon for heat, etc. Trim on the Main Hall side needs to be done.
* **Road Work Report:** Highway Director, Kevin Smith, has submitted a report of work completed since July 2014 which included reclaiming and paving of 3.45 miles of road; drainage improvements on Upper Church Hill Road; using over 500 tons of asphalt for patching on various roads; drilling, blasting and excavating ledge for drainage and road widening on three roads; installation of over 50 new catch basins and tops; install or replace over 2400 l.f. of drainage pipe; chip sealing 5.9 miles of road, cutting and removing over 150 dead or hazardous trees (not including trees related to storms); crack sealing 9.8 miles of road plus Town Hall and Depot Fire House; and installation of over 2800 tons of processed gravel to various dirt roads.
* **Titus Road (old Highway Department property) clean-out:** Work is progressing at the Blackville Road site to create a space to move the Titus Road materials to.
* **Cell Tower:** No word has been received from AT&T re: installation of their antenna. Litchfield County Dispatch is currently doing their installation. Mark Lyon has spoken with Town Attorney David Miles regarding the lease with Homeland Towers and the beginning of payments to the Town.
* **Heating Oil, Gas and Diesel Contract** for the 2015-2016 season has been signed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Comments on, and acceptance of, the Town’s POCD by the Board of Selectmen:** The Selectmen submitted their comments at the Planning Commission’s Public Hearing held November 13, 2014. **Motion:** To accept the proposed Plan of Conservation and Development. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Duncan Woodruff – property survey:** Mr. Woodruff attended this evening’s meeting to explain that he has recently had a survey of his property done and it differs slightly from the survey done 30+ years ago. When the property was originally mapped, Rabbit Hill Road was not paved. It has since been paved, improved and widened covering up the property line marker. Duncan is proposing he and his wife “quick claim” to the Town of Washington the land that is under Rabbit Hill Road. The up-dated survey will show his property line as the edge of the Road. The Selectmen did not see a problem however, Mark Lyon will check with Town Attorney David Miles regarding the procedure the Town needs to follow to accept the land under discussion.
* **Resolution adopting the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan:** FEMA has conditionally approved the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan dealing with severe damage as a result of natural hazards. **Motion:** To adopt the Town of Washington’s Hazard Mitigation Plan as submitted. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Mark Lyon. Discussion: By adopting the plan accepted by FEMA, the Town becomes eligible for Hazard Mitigation Grants. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Visitors:** None.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:08 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