**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**March 12, 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: Joan Lodsin, Tony Bedini, Nick Solley and Joe Fredlund.

**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 February 26, 2015 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Dick Carey, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

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

* **Replacement of culvert Sabbaday Lane/Blackville Road:** Several of the residents in the vicinity of Sabbaday Lane and Blackville Road have expressed their concern re: the proposed DOT work to widen and straighten a portion of Blackville Road – Route 109. The replacement of the culvert under Sabbaday Lane is not a concern. The residents have written to DOT and have requested a meeting with Mark Lyon. Mark will meet with them on Saturday, March 14th and may request a meeting with DOT and the engineering firm that will be doing the work. Mark has explained that public hearings have been held and changes may not occur at this point. Mark also added that he is in favor of changes made to Blackville Road that would improve site-lines. However, in his opinion, and those of the residents, the extent of work proposed may not be necessary. The biggest concern appears to be that the proposed widening and straightening of a portion of Blackville Road, will contribute to vehicles travelling at a faster speed.
* **Plaza Project:** David Head of VHB (engineering firm chosen by CT DOT) has notified the Town that the number of hours TPA Design has indicated as necessary to do the work for the Plaza Project may be high. The necessary paperwork will be done to set up a meeting to negotiate the number of hours and cost for the contract. Once this is completed, it is hoped that work can begin.
* **Romford Road Bridge:** WMC Engineering has been chosen to do the work on the Romford Road Bridge. A meeting will be held to discuss the scope of work in the not-too-distant future.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Discussion with Buildings & Properties Commission re: use of Town Hall Facilities:** The Buildings & Properties Commission has been working on drafting policies for use of 1) Bowling Alley and Upstairs Conference Room; and 2) the Main Hall (Auditorium). **Discussion of #1:** In the past, those renting the Bowling Alley or the Upstairs Conference Room were not required to purchase liability insurance – a Waiver of Liability was completed. Mark Lyon will check with Town Attorney David Miles to determine if this Waiver covers the Town should there be an accident. Jay Hubelbank also recommended checking with CIRMA – the Town’s insurance carrier. **Motion:** To approve the Use of Bowling Alley and Upstairs Conference Room Policy as proposed, subject to the resolution of the liability question. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved. **Discussion of #2:** The proposed policy for Use of the Main Hall (Auditorium) is not in its final stage. The Buildings & Properties Commission and the Board of Selectmen discussed several points including the higher cost to rent the Hall, the type of events allowed, not allowing the use of tents for catering, allowing catering trucks, best entrance for caterers, use of heating/warming dishes, having a custodian present during functions, room capacity, use of Town Hall tables and chairs. The new Conference Room is not available for rent. Tony Bedini of Buildings & Properties offered to include suggestions made this evening into the draft for further review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Renewal of Beach House lease: Motion:** To renew the lease for the Beach House between the Town of Washington and Chris and Leah Papsin for the period April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016 for $650. Month. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey. Discussion: the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Papsins are in agreement to renew the lease for another year. Required caretaking duties are a part of the lease agreement. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Board of Education elections:** Two Washington members of the Board of Ed are up for re-election in May 2015. The Board of Selectmen discussed the merits of holding these elections at the same time as the Region #12 School Budget Referendum. **Motion:** To schedule a Special Town Meeting for Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. to nominate candidates for the two Washington Board of Education seats. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: by holding this meeting prior to the elections, nominated candidates are given a chance to express their views and the townspeople have an opportunity to get to know the candidates prior to electing them. (In the past candidates were nominated and elected at the May Town Meeting.) The motion passed unanimously. **Motion:** To hold the election of the two Washington Board of Education members to coincide with the Region #12 Budget vote on May 5, 2015.

**Visitors:** Nick Solley asked which two Board of Education members are up for re-election. Michelle Gorra (who most believe will run again) and Tony Bedini (who stated he will not seek re-election).

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:30 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