**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**March 23, 2016**

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark Lyon, Selectman David Werkhoven.

Public: Dan Condon, Tony Fornasier, Tony Bedini, Nick Solley.

Press: Taylor Rapalyea.

**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 March 10, 2016 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:**

* **Motion:** To appoint Richard K. Burnham (U) as an alternate to the Zoning Commission to fill the vacancy that ends 11/17 and Mitchell Solomon (R) as an alternate to the Zoning Commission to fill the vacancy that ends 11/19. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven. Discussion: both gentlemen have been attending meetings and have expressed their interest in serving on this Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

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

* **Cell Tower:** The tower has been activated for AT&T customers. Track phones and Jitterbugs are not receiving services. Mark will contact AT&T as it was the Town’s understanding these phones would work. The question was raised if dialing “911” in an emergency would work regardless of the carrier. Mark will look into this as well. Resident Dan Condon inquired if Verizon would be providing service in Town. Mark explained that they have been approached in the past and that he plans to make contact again as they would be able to go on the tower along with AT&T.
* **Chestnut Lane:** Because the drinking water is affected, the Town has signed a Consent Agreement with the State Department of Health which makes grant monies available for addressing the contaminated wells. Requests for Proposals will be done. More information to follow.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Resolution endorsing the Regional Performance Incentive Program:** NWCONNect initiative is a regional collaboration including municipal leaders, businesses and residents with the goal of deploying a mobile antenna system to enhance mobile coverage, bring a fiber optic network to homes and businesses and promote benefits for safety, education, health care, economic development, etc. NWCONNect has requested NHCOG support (Washington is a member) for the submission of a Regional Performance Incentive Program application. **Motion:** To adopt a resolution endorsing the Regional Incentive Program for Rural Broadband & Mobile Enhancement: Technology and Business Model Study. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven. Discussion: There is no financial obligation to the Town – this motion supports the initiative only. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Letter of Support re: Blackville Road Scenic Road Designation:** Numerous residents of Blackville Road, Sabbaday Lane and Old Litchfield Road have applied for a four-mile section of Route 109 to be designated as a State Scenic Road. The Conservation Commission has written a letter of support and the residents have requested a letter from the Board of Selectmen. **Motion:** To submit a letter to the State Department of Transportation supporting the application to designate a section of Route 109 as a Scenic Road. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven. Discussion: this will not affect the proposed road work and culvert replacement on Blackville Road. Any future projects in the designated area will require more public input, more study of the implications of the proposed work, etc. The motion passed unanimously.

**Visitors:**

* **Tony Fornasier re: Findley Road:** Ms. Fornasier and Dan Condon, residents of Findley Road, attended this evening’s meeting to discuss the deteriorating condition of the road, and their concern that more has not been done by the Town to repair it. Heavy rains cause run offs and wash outs of the road and their property - in addition to ice forming on the road in the winter making it hazardous. Mark Lyon explained that the Highway Department has made some “temporary” repairs to the road but due to budget restrictions, the major drainage work required (per an engineered study) has yet to be done. There was discussion of possible ways to divert the water in the meantime. Mark agreed to again look at the situation with Highway Director Kevin Smith in hopes of improving the situation.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dave Werkhoven, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen’s Secretary