**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**July 16, 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: Nick Solley, Tony Bedini, Leslie Anderson, Rocky Tomlinson, Jim Rudzavice (Eagle Electric).

Press: Loumarie Rodriquez – VOICES.

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the July 2, 2015 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Dick Carey, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

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

* **Road paving:** Has begun. Jay Hubelbank suggested that the Town’s website be used to inform residents of upcoming road work.
* **Chip sealing:** Will be scheduled in the next several weeks.
* **Plaza Project:** The contract with TPA Design has been signed.
* **Reimbursement:** Washington has received $817 from the Town of Warren for 2 quarters of solar power generation.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Awarding of Bids for Purchase of an Emergency Generator:** The following bids were received and opened yesterday:

**Tower Generator $29,962**

**Eagle Electric $29,423**

**Wright Electric** (80kw) **$35,400.**

Mark Lyon explained the bids were reviewed and Emergency Management Coordinator, Rocky Tomlinson, recommended awarding the bid to Tower Generator as the Town already has a maintenance contract for its other generators with them. **Motion:** To award the bid for an emergency generator at the Depot Firehouse to Tower Generator, Canton, CT for $29,962. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Jay Hubelbank and Dick Carey agreed that Tower would be a logical choice as the maintenance contract is in place. The motion passed unanimously.

* **Selection of Economic Development Coordinator:** The interview panel – First Selectman Mark Lyon, Board of Finance Chairman Michael Jackson, WBA representatives Valerie Sedelnick and Howard Rosenfeld, NWHCOG Development Director Jocelyn Ayer, community representatives Tony Bedini and Dan Sherr, met with representative of Goman & York and Bartram & Cochran. **Motion:** To hire Goman & York to provide economic development coordination services to the Town of Washington for a period of one year for $55,000. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey. Discussion: Goman & York has a range of experience, and a “team” that will work with the Town. It currently works with the 8-town Northwest Planning Collaborative as well. Mark has sent a memo to the Finance, Planning and Zoning Commission Chairmen regarding selecting a member of their commission to serve on the Economic Development Advisory Committee. A workshop with the committee and Goman & York is scheduled for July 29, 2015. Coordination services will begin in early August. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Cell Tower Update:** Mark Lyon has had several conversation with Melanie Bachman, CT Siting Council, and Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers, regarding AT&T’s request to the Siting Council for an 18 month extension to install their antenna on the tower on Blackville Road. Both are understanding and share the same concerns as the Town. If the Town does not support AT&T’s request for an extension, and the permit expires, the Siting Council could direct Homeland Towers to dismantle the tower. Following discussion the Selectmen felt it in the best interest of the Town to support a request for extension but not the full 18 months. **Motion:** The Board of Selectmen authorizes First Selectman Mark Lyon to write to the CT Siting Council stating that it reluctantly agrees to extend AT&Ts permit for 9 month. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Mark Lyon. Discussion: The Selectmen felt that 9 months (deadline June 2016) still provided AT&T with prime construction seasons. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**Visitors:**

* **Tony Bedini** asked if AT&T only needed to install their antenna and generator and at what cost. Mark Lyon confirmed that that was all that was needed and in their permit application stated a $250,000 buildup cost. That, however, would include work that has already been completed.
* **Nick Solley** asked that the minutes reflect that Eagle Electric (who also bid on the emergency generator) has contributed greatly to the Town by donating their services at little or no cost. Tower Generator does, and will, service generators that they have not installed.
* **Jim Rudzavice,** Eagle Electric, thanked Mr. Solley for his comments and voiced his frustration in this request for a bid. He stated that Eagle, the low bidder, met all the specifications of the bid, supports local businesses, hires local people and hasgladly donated work to the Town. Eagle would also be able to provide service if requested. He questioned the sense of bidding on future projects. Jim stated he accepted the Selectmen’s position but was disappointed.

**EXCUTIVE SESSION:** The Selectmen adjourned their regular meeting at 5:57 p.m. and entered into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

The Selectmen reentered their regular meeting at 6:05p.m.

**Motion:** To accept the Settlement Agreement for Docket #LLI-CV-15-60121975. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:07p.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