**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**March 7, 2019**

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen David Werkhoven and Jay Hubelbank.

Public: Michelle Gorra, Chris Charles.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:28p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the February 21, 2019 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

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

* **Highway Department** continues to go through salt/sand supply due to the numerous storms causing slippery roadways.
* **Enviro Services** conducted an energy audit of all Town Buildings and found nothing that could be improved upon. The lights in the New Preston Firehouse meeting room will be replaced with LED bulbs.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Plastic Bag Ordinance update:** The draft of the Ordinance prohibiting the use of plastic bags in Town stores is currently with the Town Attorney for his review. Jay Hubelbank inquired if a Special Town Meeting could be scheduled around Earth Day to adopt the Ordinance. Mark Lyon explained that it would be more cost effective to do it at the annual Town Meeting in May.
* **Region #12 Building Project update:** Jay Hubelbank reported that the project continues to be on schedule. He and Mark Lyon did a walk through last week and noted that the progress and organization of the project is “impressive”.
* **Eversource** continues to do work on their high tension wires/poles that run through the south end of Washington. A large number of trees have been, and continue to be, cut down – some running through Steep Rock Association and private lands. Steep Rock, the Town’s Conservation Commission and the Washington Environmental Council have all expressed concern. Jay Hubelbank has reached out numerous times to Eversource in hopes of having a representative come to speak to interested parties. Mark Lyon will also make contact.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Renewal of Beach House Lease: Motion:** To renew the Beach House Lease with Chris and Leah Papsin for the period April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dave Werkhoven. Discussion: the Parks and Recreation Commission continues to be pleased with the fulfilling of duties associated with renting and Beach House and recommends renewing of the lease. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Renewal of 38 Bee Brook Road Lease:** **Motion:** To renew the lease with the Booth’s for the period April 1 – November 1, 2019 for $1. at 38 Bee Brook Road. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: this is the property being used as a “pop-up” park with picnic tables, etc. There has been discussion of utilizing the space for such things as “bike parking” to eliminate the numerous cars that park throughout the Depot in cycling season. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Setting an Agenda for a Special Town meeting:** **Motion:** To schedule a Special Town Meeting for the purpose of nominating candidates for the Board of Education on Thursday April 4, 2019 at 7:30p.m. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Voting for the candidates will take place at the School Budget Referendum on May 7, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

**Visitors:**

* **Michelle Gorra** inquired if the polls would be open all day on May 7th. Mark Lyon explained that because there will be voting for the candidates for the Board of Education, they would be open all day.
* **Chris Charles** inquiredabout the replacement for Janet Hill, noting that the candidate chosen is very highly thought of in New Milford and is an excellent choice.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:55p.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 Assistant