**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**March 8, 2018**

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

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

Bill and Elaine Anderson, Valerie Friedman, John Buonaiuto, Sal De Simone, Fran De Simone, Joan Lodsin, Pete Tagley, Bob Weber, Mary Weber, Ted Bent, Jeff McCracken, Keith Templeton, Matt Archer, Lou Carmellini, Gary Caporizzo, Anthony Amato.

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the February 22, 2018 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dave Werkhoven and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:**

* **Land Use Enforcement Office Retiring:** Michael Ajello has submitted a notice of his retirement, effective March 31, 2018. Mike has been the Town’s Enforcement Officer for 15 years. The Selectmen thanked Mike for his years of service to the Town.

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

* **2nd Nor’easter:** The Town is still dealing with issues from Wednesday’s storm which left 16 +/- inches of snow, downed trees and electrical outages. Thank you to the Highway Department for a superb job in clearing the roads as efficiently as possible.
* **Walker Brook Road:** The culvert job is completed and the road is now open.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Proposals for the purchase/use of Harry O. Erickson Pavilion Hall:** Three proposals have been received: 1) New Preston Businesses; 2) Michael Deperno-Plain Goods; 3) Sarah Hamilton & Joe Snow-Mecanica. An ad-hoc committee made up of Board of Selectmen, Buildings & Properties Committee, and representatives from New Preston and Washington, will meet to review the proposals and choose one to present at a Special Town Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Permitting of Bingo**: Mark Lyon explained that permits for raffles and bingo were handled through the State – the Towns would submit the paperwork to the State, along with a permit fee and submit to the State. The Towns will now be required to handle the process entirely. In order for this to occur, an ordinance will need to be drafted and approved at a Town Meeting.

**Visitors:**

* **Jeff McCracken-renaming of Slaughterhouse Road:** Jeff McCracken a resident of Slaughterhouse Road, began the conversation requesting the road be re-named to Cogswell Road. Long-time resident, Mary Weber, explained the history of this request – reading from a 1985 newspaper article. According to the article, and research that residents have done, the road was originally named Cogswell Road. It apparently was changed to Slaughterhouse Road at the request of a resident, by First Selectman John Marsh. This change was never done formally at a Town Meeting. Property deeds show the road as Cogswell, however, EMS, Post Office etc. show it as Slaughterhouse. Mark Lyon explained that the only formal request to re-name the road came from Attorney James Kelly – who is also a property owner on the road. As far as Mark is aware, only one resident on the road would like it to stay Slaughterhouse. Mark offered to look into the land records and the process that would be necessary to re-name the road.
* **John Buonaiuto Petition for a Special Town Meeting:** John presented a petition with approximately 75 signatures that requests the Selectmen to schedule a Special Town Meeting that would “give townspeople the opportunity to hear the downside of the AGSTEM program” if the number of students that has been predicted does not happen. Those who have signed the petition would like predicted numbers to be verified and would like it explained what would happen if those numbers don’t happen – as well as the “clawback” issue. They would also like a vote taken on scheduling a new referendum. Mark Lyon explained that only the Board of Education could schedule a second referendum on the AGSTEM program. Should the majority of people at the Special Town Meeting want a second referendum, the Selectmen could only inform the Board of Ed of this vote – it could not schedule one. Mark explained that the signatures would need to be verified by the Town Clerk. Following this step, the Special Town Meeting could be scheduled.

**Adjournment:**

* **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:55p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dave Werkhoven, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen’s Secretary