

# Town of Washington

Annual Town Budget Meeting  
May 19, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Moderator: Henry Martin  
Clerk: Sheila Silvernail

**MODERATOR:** First Selectman, Mark Lyon, welcomed everyone at 7:30 p.m. requesting nominations for Moderator. Nick Solley nominated Henry Martin with a second by Michael Jackson. With no further nominations, Henry Martin was duly selected as Moderator.

**WARNING:** TOWN OF WASHINGTON, ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING  
The voters and electors of the Town of Washington are hereby warned that the Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, Connecticut to consider and act upon the following:

1. To consider and act upon the proposed General Fund Expenses and Transfers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
2. To consider and act upon the proposed Nonrecurring Capital Expenses for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
3. To consider and act upon an appropriation of an additional Nonrecurring Capital Expense for road repair and reconstruction.
4. To consider and act upon a proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Landing of Seaplanes on Lake Waramaug.
5. To approve and execute the Second Amendment to the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services Agreement with Covanta, Inc.

Dated at Washington, Connecticut this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016.  
Mark E. Lyon, David Werkhoven, Jay Hubelbank – Board of Selectmen

**RESOLUTION #1:** To approve an amount not to exceed \$4,762,945 for General Fund Expenses and Transfers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

- By Mark Lyon, Second Dave Werkhoven
- Discussion by M. Lyon, J. Paris, J. Buonaiuto, D. Forese, others noting various questions and explanations if line items.
- Motion from floor by J. Lodsins with second by D. Forese to vote on Resolution #1 by paper ballot. Vote by show hands failed to pass.
- Motion from floor by J. Lodsins with second by L. Anderson to move the question of Resolution #1. Vote by show of hands exceeded 2/3 majority and therefore carried with Resolution #1 going straight to vote.
- Vote Resolution #1 by show of hands carried and resolution passed.

**RESOLUTION #2:** To approve an amount not to exceed \$2,037,266 for Nonrecurring Capital Fund Expenses for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which will be offset by anticipated grants in the amount of \$919,000 resulting in a net expense of \$1,118,266.

- By Mark Lyon, Second by D. Sherr
- Discussion by M. Lyon, F. De Simone, J. Paris describing details of item.
- Vote Resolution #2 by verbal assent or dissent carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #3:** To approve an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for additional expenditures from the 2016-2017 Nonrecurring Capital Fund for road repair and reconstruction.

- By Mark Lyon, Second by Nick Solley
- Discussion by M. Lyon, S. Canning
- Vote Resolution #3 by show hands carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #4:** To approve the proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Landing of Seaplanes on Lake Waramaug.

- By Mark Lyon, Second by Weston Thorn
- Discussion by M. Lyon, C. Canal, P. Allen, L. Frank, E. Hochberg, J. Lodsins, J. Buonaiuto, B. Carey, and T. McGowan the Executive Director of the Lake Waramaug Task Force
- Motion from floor by Barbara Carey to move the question.
- Vote by show of hands carried clearly by 2/3 majority in favor.
- Vote Resolution #4 by show of hands clearly carried and passed.

**RESOLUTION #5:** To authorize Mark E. Lyon, First Selectman, David Werkhoven, Selectman, and Jay Hubelbank, Selectman, constituting all of the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, to execute and deliver the Second Amendment to the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services Agreement with Covanta, Inc.

- By Mark Lyon, Second by Jean Solomon-Smith
- Discussion by M. Lyon, C. Canal, J. Buonaiuto, J. Lodsins.
- Motion from floor by J. Lodsins to move the question with second by Ted.
- Vote by show of hands carried with 2/3 majority in favor.
- Vote Resolution #5 by show of hands passed.

**ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully  
Submitted:



Dated at Washington, CT this 20th day of May 2016.

# Town of Washington

Annual Town Budget Meeting  
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Clerk: Sheila Silvernail

First Selectman, Mark Lyon, welcomed everyone requesting nominations for Moderator. Nick Solley nominated Henry Martin with second by Michael Jackson. With no further nominations, Henry Martin was duly selected as Moderator.

Moderator: Good evening, welcome to the 2016 Annual Town Budget Meeting and thank you for coming tonight. Would the Clerk please read the warning.

Clerk: WARNING, TOWN OF WASHINGTON,  
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Moderator: Thank you very much. We have five items on the agenda. For each there will be a motion, a second, then discussion followed by a vote. In the discussion, after the motion is explained, you'll have the opportunity to ask questions, make comments pro or con. Please raise your hand to be recognized. When you are recognized, please state your name and address for sake of the recording and transcript. On to the first item.

M. Lyon: RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$4,762,945 for General Fund Expenses and Transfers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Moderator: Thank you, Mark. Could I have a second for that motion. OK, I'll recognize Dave Werkhoven.

D. Werkhoven: Second.

Moderator: Any introductory comments or explanation?

M. Lyon: This is the operating budget for the Town for the year. It represents a 3.3% increase, \$153,700.43. \$54,000 of that is to start our ten-year 100% revaluation. There's another approximately \$39,000 to \$40,000 in wage adjustments for our town employees, 2% for regular employees. We found over last couple years when trying to hire year-round part-time, basically our clerks and administrative staff, that we are not competitive. We were having trouble getting qualified applicants. So, there's a larger adjustment for those line items. Also, a piece of that goes to state mandated training for our registrars, several thousand dollars there. Our emergency services budget is up a little based on request by the fire department and emergency management.

Moderator: We are now in discussion for Item #1 on the agenda. I'm looking for raised hands if anybody would like to make a comment or ask a question. Yes sir, please identify yourself and address.

J. Paris: John Paris, 121 West Churchill Road. Why is the budget handout only two pages compared to fifteen-page budget? I have questions, but want to make sure I ask the right questions.

Moderator: Do you want to go one-by-one?

J. Paris: From which budget, handout or internet?

Moderator: We'll answer first question then continue.

M. Lyon: As you know, the line item budget is available on the website. In the interest of conserving, we printed a summary budget for distribution this evening.

J. Paris: OK.

Moderator: Continue, how many questions do you have?

J. Paris: Probably eight or nine, but there're easy to answer. I'd like to make a general comment about communications in the town. I think we'd have a bigger turnout for voting and meetings if communications were better. There's a lot that we can do using the phone-warn system, email, and maybe a Facebook page. I did some research. When you look at the Town

calendar and the Educational calendar for instance, the school voting budget wasn't on either calendar for the month of May. The school budget makes about \$9 million of taxes.

Moderator: Thank you for that idea.

J. Paris: Legal litigation fund – it was \$60,000 last year. It's \$40,000. Does this not accumulate or do we spend that much money every year?

M. Lyon: It does accumulate. We've had good fortune this year not spending a lot of the accumulated fund so we didn't need as much.

J. Paris: How much is the accumulation?

M. Lyon: We have a target of about \$200,000 a year based on previous experience dealing with litigation throughout the year.

J. Paris: OK. Am I permitted to ask a question about the education budget?

M. Lyon: It's not on.

Moderator: That's not part of the agenda. That was a matter of a separate process.

J. Paris: All right. Membership education under general government, \$4110 looks like that's a constant number each year. Is that some type of dues or something?

M. Lyon: Yes, it includes some dues as well as educational training for our staff. There's various professional organizations that provide training for our people.

J. Paris: Under election there's another educational number, \$2000 last year, \$6130 this year?

M. Lyon: That's the state mandated registrar certification courses.

J. Paris: OK. I see three other line items under election. Registrar is \$4500. Moderator is \$2500. Workers, deputies \$5000. That's in addition to the registrar's for \$8800. It seems like there's a lot of expenditures on voting. I was wondering what it was.

M. Lyon: That's exactly what it is. It's for the staff that's here for referendums, voting, primaries and it's based on what we assume will be the number of days we have to be open for elections and primaries. That's to pay the staff that's here that day.

J. Paris: I see. I grew up in Atlanta where there were a lot of volunteers. Are the people here being paid to take our ballots?

M. Lyon: Yes.

J. Paris: OK.

M. Lyon: It's not very far above minimum wage.

J. Paris: Right, well I understand from the lady in Bridgewater they pay \$15 an hour. Is that correct?

M. Lyon: They're doing pretty good in Bridgewater and don't let that out or our people will be going there.

Audience: [Laughter]

Moderator: John, are you about halfway through?

J. Paris: I'm almost finished.

Moderator: Let's keep going.

J. Paris: Fire marshal deputy \$6500 last year. Department request was \$1500 and you ended up approving \$9000. I am pro-fire department. I'm just curious.

M. Lyon: That's for the fire marshal position.

J. Paris: This was for the assistant.

M. Lyon: And the assistants. Through the course of our budget process we shifted from having a 35-hour week fire marshal back to the part-time fire marshal we currently have, but we are looking to hire deputies on a part-time basis to handle the number of inspections that have to be done annually. That's what brought the deputy fire marshal salary up.

J. Paris: On health insurance for the employees here at town hall. They're getting dental insurance?

M. Lyon: Yes.

J. Paris: Also, is that a decision based on the fact that the salaries are modest that we feel that we should give them dental insurance? Most companies don't give dental insurance. I'm not against it. I'm just curious.

M. Lyon: The dental insurance is self-insured and there's a limit on the benefit that each employee can receive throughout the year.

J. Paris: And what about the deductible? I think there's \$80,000 here for deductible. What is that?

M. Lyon: We offer our full-time employees a high-deductible health insurance plan which is approximately \$5000 for singles and \$10,000 for families. That is for reimbursement of medical expenses that are included in the deductible.

J. Paris: So in effect the employees are not paying anything for health insurance? Am I understanding that properly?

M. Lyon: They are responsible for the first \$250 or \$500 of their deductible.

J. Paris: OK.

M. Lyon: Also, if they go over the minimum deductible there's a cost-share for them as they go on with the insurance.

J. Paris: One last question, the \$15,000 for the steps out front? Why do we have epoxy steps and why are we spending \$15,000 a year to maintain those epoxy steps?

M. Lyon: It's not for maintenance. The epoxy steps were done two years ago and because of the lack of a moisture barrier installed in 1932 we had issues with moisture pushing epoxy off. Last year the contractor came back at his own expense and used a different process on the bottom three steps. If it's successful, we'll pay half the cost of redoing the rest of the steps.

Moderator: OK, looking for hands. Yes sir?

J. Buonaiuto: John Buonaiuto from 47 Shearer Road. Do the ECS funding cuts from the state impact our budget and if so, what has been determined as a remedy?

M. Lyon: The ECS funding effects the work the Board of Finance does after this meeting when they balance income against expense. It will affect their deliberations when they establish a mill rate. In the current budget that past our ECS funding went from \$221,000 to \$98,000. So that's income that will have to be made up by the Board of Finance in their deliberations.

J. Buonaiuto: OK, and the next pertains to Resolution #2.

Moderator: Yes, stay with Resolution #1 for now.

- J. Buonaiuto: Yes, OK. I will have a question about the anticipated grants. Just a comment and potentially it will impact our budget if the State of Connecticut fund the ... I would urge the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to implore our Board of Education to stop spending money until state monies, 70%, is appropriated.
- Moderator: OK, for everyone's edification, let me reaffirm the Board of Education budget is not on our agenda tonight. It would be inappropriate to make comments about it tonight. Looking for more hands, yes?
- D. Forese: Debbie Forese, 41 Horse Heaven. Questioning the 2% raise across the board. Shouldn't there be an employee evaluation where the people commit and excel at their jobs are rewarded for that rather than no matter what, they all get 2%?
- M. Lyon: That has been discussed in the past and has not been implemented.
- D. Forese: OK, I know you've discussed about the fire marshal deputy. Can you change the verbiage and actually say subcontractors because it implies that you're just going to have one person be the assistant.
- M. Lyon: There's different ways of handling that and it doesn't necessarily end up being a subcontractor. It may be an appointed deputy fire marshal. That hasn't been determined yet, but we felt that \$9500 budget number would cover it either way it's handled. It could be one part-time employee. It could be a subcontractor. It could be three or four part-time employees. It hasn't been decided yet. We don't have that person in place so we don't know how it's going to work out.
- D. Forese: Can we at least ask that it not be appointed, but that people can actually apply for it so the best qualified gets it?
- M. Lyon: There will be an application, yes.
- D. Forese: Thank you. Under the fire department vehicles, and I've asked this before, and it's higher maintenance and everything, but don't we have a couple of new vehicles and wouldn't they be under warranty?
- M. Lyon: Most of that budget goes to annual servicing, inspections, and testing. There's a balance in there for repairs. Yes, that budget was cut by the Board of Selectman from it's original request by the fire department. We hoped that it all doesn't get used, but it's based on history.
- D. Forese: OK, thank you. The trooper has more than a 2% raise and the question is that he's at the highest he can be for a state trooper right now. Honestly, nobody in town sees him. He's locked away from his office. There's been



requests before to actually consider a part-time state trooper to cover our constables or getting somebody at a lower rate. Right now we're maxed out at I believe \$120,000?

M. Lyon: No, it's more than that.

D. Forese: OK, it's more than that.

M. Lyon: It's a percentage. We get a bill for that.

D. Forese: Right.

M. Lyon: We don't hire him. We can't fire him. We get who we are assigned.

D. Forese: We have no choice in that?

M. Lyon: I can't say we have no choice, but it's a drawn-out process.

D. Forese: OK, the vehicle maintenance for the police cars, if we had hired two more town crew, we have a mechanic on the town crew. Couldn't he handle all that to save money there? Then we can get more of the town roads done if we hired the actual town crew. Cut the budget for vehicle repair if we had our own mechanic take care of all of our vehicles?

M. Lyon: Our own mechanic does do some of the work and some is sent out. It's also to buy tires and materials for that.

D. Forese: We're still under warranty because they're both rather new, correct?

M. Lyon: Warranty items are handled under warranty, but the warranty is very limited on emergency service vehicles.

D. Forese: OK.

M. Lyon: You don't get ten years and 100,000 miles like you do on a passenger car.

D. Forese: [Laughter] Thank you. Could you define the job description for our Emergency Management Coordinator.

M. Lyon: What was that?

D. Forese: The Emergency Management Coordinator.

M. Lyon: That's Mr. Tomlinson and he handles a lot of our emergency management preparedness. He also works on contracts with LCD and our emergency generators. He is also our representative at LCD, works with the CERT

team, and a key member of the team when we are addressing any. So far we've only had to deal with weather related emergencies, but he also works with all private and public schools on their emergency action plans. This year in our Capital Budget we're looking to get FacilityDude which is a program that allows our emergency management plans to be put in an app so they would be ready for any our emergency responders to work with on wireless devices.

D. Forese: Got you. I was wondering because we're almost double from most any other town our size for that so I just wanted to make sure had more of a job description, which he does.

Moderator: Could I ask where you are on your list?

D. Forese: Last question.

Moderator: I just want to make sure everybody gets a chance and I would come back if you had a lot more.

D. Forese: No, just one more.

Moderator: Go ahead and finish.

D. Forese: The tree work under road maintenance has increased. Have you ever done a cost analysis? If we hired one of the town crew that had experience and a second-grade bucket truck. it looks like we would save us money in a few years and we'd have our own tree crew right in town.

M. Lyon: Yes, we have. We looked into a used bucket truck a couple of years ago. Our policy went up considerably because of the liability of operating a bucket truck as well as the annual inspections and services that are required. We provide a minimum of manpower when we use a contracted crew. If we were running our crew, we would have to use more of our manpower.

D. Forese: Are we hiring another town crew at all this year?

M. Lyon: No.

D. Forese: OK, thank you.

Moderator: Thank you. Any other questions or comments about the budget? Joan?

J. Lodsins: Joan Lodsins, 12 Tompkins Hill Road. I'd like to make a twp-part motion. One, to move the question and two, to have it by paper ballot.

Moderator: OK, which?

M. Lyon: One at a time.

Moderator: Yes, we can't do two at a time. Which one do you want to have first?

J. Lodsins: Move the question.

Moderator: OK, if you move the question, then we go straight to a vote. We won't be able to entertain the motion for paper ballot. Perhaps if you want to have the vote on the paper ballot, we should do that one first.

J. Lodsins: OK, then I will move that we vote by paper ballot.

Moderator: OK, let me explain. There's been a motion from the floor to vote on Item #1 by paper ballot instead of a show of hands. Once that motion is seconded can be debated. It takes a bare majority to pass. I'm looking for a second on that motion.

D. Forese: Second.

Moderator: OK, we have a second. Does anyone want to discuss the motion? Yes?

J. Buonaiuto: Will there be any more discussion on the budget?

Moderator: This vote does not cut off debate. All it does is determine the nature of how we're going to vote whether a show of hands or by paper ballot. Anybody else have questions about the paper ballot or this motion to vote on it? Could I ask a question? Are you going to be suggesting this for all five items or just this one?

J. Lodsins: This and one other.

Moderator: So the implication of this to clarify is that we'd have to get up and vote two separate times by paper ballot. That will take some time to do that twice. The way we normally do it is a show of hands. Then if we can't tell who won we could go to a paper ballot, but that's the motion you want to make. I respect that and the motion is in order. Does anybody else have discussion or points to raise before we vote on whether we use paper ballot or show of hands for Item #1?

Audience: [Silence]

Moderator: All in favor of voting for Item #1 on the warning by paper ballot raise your hand.

Moderator: All in favor of voting for Item #1 not by paper ballot raise your hand.

Moderator: The Moderator's observation is that the motion does not carry. We will vote by a show of hands. If by my determination the show is too close, then we'll go to paper ballot.

Moderator: You had a second motion. You wanted to move the question, right?

J. Lodsine: Yes.

Moderator: OK, let me explain before I ask for a second. This motion is to move the question which will cut off debate on Item #1 and it requires a 2/3 majority for it to pass. Let me double check the facts [reviews reference] and that's about it. It's a 2/3 majority to pass. If you are in favor, it basically means you think we've talked about this enough and it's time to vote. Any questions on the motion? OK, could I have a second on that?

L. Anderson: [Second] Leslie Anderson.

Moderator: OK, thank you. All in favor of moving the question and going straight to a vote on Item #1 please raise your hands. [Silent count of hands] All in favor of continuing to discuss and not go straight to vote raise your hands. [Silent count of hands] OK, this is a close call. I'm going to need help because it's a 2/3 majority. It's clear going to direct vote is majority. I don't know if it's 2/3 majority so I'm going to ask you to raise your hands and ask for help to actually count the hands.

People who voted in favor of moving the question and going straight to a vote please raise your hands again. Mark would you count this side and I'll count this side. When we get done counting, I'm going to ask for help with the math. Forty-four and eighteen is sixty-two. So sixty-two in favor of moving the question.

Thank you for your indulgence. Will the people who voted not to move the question and want to keep talking about Item #1 please raise your hands. Eight and twelve is twenty.

So sixty-two and twenty. The sixty-two of eighty-two is 2/3. It's actually three-quarters so does everybody agree with the math that we have gotten the 2/3 vote? OK, so the motion to move the question has carried. We are now going straight to a vote on Item #1. Let me read the motion again.

Moderator: RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$4,762,945 for General Fund Expenses and Transfers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. All in favor of that motion please raise your hands. [Silent count]

All against the motion please raise your hands. [Silent count] OK, the motion carries.

Moderator: Now we go on to Item #2. Mark would you make the motion?

M. Lyon: RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$2,037,266 for Nonrecurring Capital Fund Expenses for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which will be offset by anticipated grants in the amount of \$919,000 resulting in a net expense of \$1,118,266.

Moderator: Do you have any introductory comments or explanations?

Clerk: We need a second.

M. Lyon: We need a second.

Moderator: Oh, yes, excuse. Motion's been made. Could I have a second for Item #2? Dan?

Clerk: Could I have a last name for the record?

M. Lyon: Dan Sherr.

Moderator: This represents a decrease over last year's Capital Nonrecurring Budget. It includes most of our typical capital expenses, some fire department equipment, some highway equipment, bridge repairs, guardrails, pavement maintenance which is chip sealing, paving, drainage and refurbishment of dirt roads. Our Buildings and Property Committee put in a request for resurfacing of floors in the basement, some repairs to town hall cupola, the town hall lettering out front refinished, work at Lake Waramaug dam gate valve, and start on the emergency action plan for the lake which is now Town responsibility under state dam maintenance regulations. There's also some work for the FacilityDude that we talked about before. We also put money to start working on plans for a senior center. We've also included a map scanner and update to our digital and mylar maps so we can digitize and have available online.

Moderator: Thank you, now into discussion of Item #2. Yes?

J. Wildman: Where are the grants coming from? From the state?

M. Lyon: These are both grants. One is the Town Aid Road Grant which is an annual grant. This is the grant that we have in the bank from this current fiscal year. We've already received the \$570,000 that from the DOT Highway Enhancement Grant for work in the plaza. We're hoping to get more out of that because the project budget has grown over what was

anticipated when we applied. We're still in the running to get some more, but we don't know about any additional money. The \$20,000 is money that we money back from our current recycling. We get a rebate for what we deliver to recycling. Through the Board of Finance we formed what I'll call a recycling fund. We're going to use money out of that for engineering work on our transfer station. This is all money we know we have.

Moderator: Any further hands? Yes?

F. De Simone: Sunset Lane.

Moderator: Thank you.

F. De Simone: Where are the monies coming from for the senior center?

M. Lyon: We can't get a grant for a senior center unless we have a plan.

F. De Simone: I know.

M. Lyon: So this year we've budgeted \$25,000 to get a plan.

F. De Simone: When is the plan supposed to be coming?

M. Lyon: When we hire somebody to do it after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

F. De Simone: We've put a lot of work into it for how many years and nothings come about yet.

M. Lyon: This is the first step. This is an item that's been cut out of our last two budget years.

F. De Simone: Thank you.

Moderator: OK, on this side. Yes?

J. Paris: Could you break down the \$820,000?

Moderator: Could you state your name once again.

J. Paris: 121 West Churchill Road, John Paris.

Moderator: Thank you.

J. Paris: Could you break down the depot enhancement project? It was one million seventy last year. It's eight twenty this year. What is enhancing what? What does that mean?

M. Lyon: That has to do with the Transportation Enhancement Grant. It's mostly for work in the plaza, sidewalks, parking, paving, drainage, lighting, and making ADA compliant walkways. That is the preliminary budget number that came out of the work with the Plaza Committee. The eight hundred and twenty is what we have between the grant and the town budget. If we get more money from the state, we'll modify the plans to meet the budget. The preliminary plan or design for the plaza project is with the DOT for their review. Once it's approved as something that works within their grant, we'll have a public meeting and airing of that those preliminary plans.

Moderator: Any other questions on Item #2? Seeing no hands, ready to vote. Let me read the motion again.

RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$2,037,266 for Nonrecurring Capital Fund Expenses for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which will be offset by anticipated grants in the amount of \$919,000, resulting in a net expense of \$1,118,266.

All in favor of that motion, please say aye.

Audience: Aye.

Moderator: I wanted to check if you were listening. We've asked for raising hands in past. Any opposed, please say nay.

Audience: [Silence]

Moderator: OK, the motion carries unanimously. Thank you, on to number three.

M. Lyon: RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for additional expenditures from the 2016-2017 Nonrecurring Capital Fund for road repair and reconstruction.

Moderator: Could I have second for Item #3 on the agenda.

N. Solley: Second.

Moderator: Mark, any explanation?

M. Lyon: This is an additional budget item for the fourth year. It came from work between the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to address major

road reconstruction and repair work that hadn't been budgeted for many years. It's been a successful program. These are the bigger projects where you see drainage redone, roads totally ground and regraded, compacted, and repaved. This is for major projects. We've done River Road and a number of other roads in town.

Moderator: Anybody want to ask a question or make a comment? Yes?

S. Canning: Can't resist opportunity to say how grateful for the steady, cheerful work of our road crew in this time. If appropriate tonight, I'd like to go on record thanking them.

Audience: [Applause]

S. Canning: Lived in many small towns in other places and never felt so well served and protected by a road crew.

Moderator: Thank you.

Audience: [Applause]

Moderator: Thank you for your very generous comment and perhaps the road crew would like to hear what she had to say.

M. Lyon: We'll send a transcript.

Audience: [Laughter]

Moderator: Any other questions or comments about Item #3? Are we ready to vote? Let me read the motion.

RESOLVED: To approve an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for additional expenditures from the 2016-2017 Nonrecurring Capital Fund for road repair and reconstruction.

All in favor raise your hands. Any opposed? Motion carries unanimously.

M. Lyon: RESOLVED: To approve the proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Landing of Seaplanes on Lake Waramaug.

Moderator: Could I have a second on this motion?

W. Thorn: Second, Weston Thorn, 228 West Shore Road.

Moderator: Do you want to explain anything about this?



M. Lyon: I can read the actual ordinance if you'd like. Basically this has come through the lake authority because they are concerned about safety and potential invasive species. There are eleven sections that basically bans the landing of seaplanes unless absolute emergency. There is a \$250 fine. I will read it if someone wants me to.

Moderator: There are copies of the ordinance for handout. We can hand one to you. Mary Anne, some people need some. While she's doing that, let me explain something about this that is different from the other ones. People who can vote must be electors, that is registered voters in the Town of Washington. Can't just be taxpayers. There's no monetary aspect of this that would affect the budget so rules are only registered voters in the town can vote on this resolution. Any questions on that? Yes, Carlos?

C. Canal: Carlos Canal, 142 Sabbaday Lane. The Town has an interest in the boat inspection station at Lake Waramaug. If a seaplane lands and create a problem, I think it would impact the boat station to some degree. I wonder if that tie is considered monetary or not.

Moderator: I'll let Mark answer that. I think it has been considered, but Mark go ahead.

M. Lyon: There isn't a provision in this ordinance for inspections. It's a simple ban so there isn't a tie in with an inspection fee or the opportunity to inspect or anything else. It's a straightforward ban on landing a seaplane so there isn't a monetary piece to it where we would gain some income if we were inspecting.

Moderator: Phyllis?

P. Allen: Phyllis Allen ... I would like to know how we are going to patrol this then? If a seaplane does land there, will it be done by our marine officers? How will we know that they are going to be fined or ticketed?

M. Lyon: All planes have a registration on the side of the plane. If that registration was reported, it would be investigated just like reporting a license plate for a motor vehicle infraction. One of the sections states that whenever a landing occurs it shall be prima facie evidence of violation and that owner was operator thereof and the violation shall be an infraction. It can be investigated like motor vehicle.

P. Allen: [Inaudible]

M. Lyon: Correct.

Moderator: Let's stay on this side, in the back, yes?

L. Frank: Linda Frank, 157 West Shore Road. I remember being down at the lake years ago and there was a biplane that came in. It was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It was terrifying. I think anyone using lake in motor boat, kayak, anyone on the lake doesn't expect having plane come at them. There is the safety issue. Tom McGowan is here from the Lake Waramaug Task Force the group that has saved the lake over forty years and has greatest interest keeping planes off for environmental reasons. Tom?

Moderator: Wait, Tom hasn't been recognized.

L. Frank: Oh, sorry.

Moderator: John, take the microphone back. Looking for more hands. Tom, I will get to you. In the front, yes?

E. Hochberg: Ed Hochberg, 15 Couch Road. What concerns me is the minutiae of the \$250 fine. It seems to me that those with planes would just consider it part of the expense of having plane. I understand that by state law that's the maximum fine. I was thinking perhaps there was another way of making it more costly. One of the concerns is that planes may be bringing contamination to the lake. Is it possible to have some kind of ordinance at a later date that if there is a violation, they have to go through an inspection, pay for the inspection, and fined an exorbitant amount for any pollution. It's just a thought.

Moderator: Thank you for the idea. I can't answer your question right now. Obviously that would be for the future. OK, Joan?

J. Lodsins: Joan Lodsins, 12 Tompkins Hill Road. My question also concerns the fine. The way I read this, it's actually \$500 because it says each take off and each landing. Is that correct?

M. Lyon: That's how I read it also.

Audience: [Laughter]

J. Lodsins: Where would this money go?

M. Lyon: That's a good question.

Audience: [Laughter]

M. Lyon: I'll be honest with you. There is opportunity for appeal through the court system on this. That's the way the ordinance is set up. I would assume that

the fine would go to the town just like other fines that are imposed through town ordinance.

J. Lodsins: No, fines that are imposed in towns. Oh, maybe on civil matters. On speeding tickets it doesn't go to the town.

M. Lyon: No, you're right, but this is a town ordinance.

J. Lodsins: Right. I would just like to say that I think the idea is a good one, but I don't think this is sufficient to cover what people are asking for. The question about amount of fine is one thing. If Kent doesn't pass it, do they get to share in the fine? There's things that aren't clear enough in here in my opinion that should be worked on further and not passed at this time even though it's a good idea.

Moderator: Yes, John?

J. Buonaiuto: What's the jurisdiction especially with the Kent-Warren factor? Who determines what on the lake? Is the lake owned by Washington, Warren, and Kent? How does that work?

M. Lyon: The surface of the lake is governed by DEEP who through agreement with the Lake Waramaug Authority gives them authority over rules on the lake. The Town has the ability to regulate aircraft landing and takeoff in it's land property. The Town of Washington has the most shorefront. The Kent strip is along edge of lake from Lake Waramaug Country Club to the state park. From there the rest of the shorefront around Arrow Point and to the Boulders is Warren. That's basically it would be covered. The intent of the authority was to have all three towns pass this. Kent Board of Selectmen had some reservations about putting on their agenda. They wanted to look at other ways of regulating it other than outright ban. Warren has it on their agenda for their town meeting this evening. We have had two attorneys review this and it's legal for the town pass this ordinance.

Moderator: We have an expert in the audience, Tom McGowan. Tom if you would like to say a few words briefly and impart some information to the meeting before we vote, that would be fine. I ask you to be as brief as possible.

T. McGowan: Good evening, I'm very pleased to be here. I'm the Executive Director of the Lake Waramaug Task Force. That's a private nonprofit organization dedicated to the improvement of the water quality and the ecological quality of Lake Waramaug. We've been doing this since 1975.

Since 1999 we've recognized early on compared to other lakes that invasive plants, nonnative were a threat of the lake, the lake environment, property values, recreational opportunities, and so forth. These are nonnative plants that outcompete the native plants and once established grow rapidly and become almost impossible to eradicate once established. Therefore, it's wise to spend a little bit of money on prevention in this case particularly because once that plant is established almost no amount of money will be able to get rid of the most aggressive of these kinds of plants. So they are spread primarily by boats and boats on trailers which come in and have fragments attached to the motor or on the trailer itself. The state has passed a law that you can't be on the road with a boat, a trailer, or a car even with even a plant fragment on it. The state recognized that this is an issue.

As of 2013 the last time all the lakes in the state have been surveyed, of 260 lakes surveyed by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 60% had one or more invasive plants. The two major lakes along with the third in northwestern Connecticut, Waramaug is one, Candlewood, and as you know Bantam. Bantam has four invasive plants. Candlewood has two, but primarily Eurasian Water Milfoil. A handout has been distributed and you can see pictures of what the shoreline looks like and how much is covered already with Eurasian Milfoil which can grow up to thirty feet in depth. Waramaug has an average depth of twenty-five feet so you can imagine if that got established in Waramaug just how much of the surface area theoretically could be covered with a plant of that nature.

Also, it spreads by fragments or cuttings. If a motorboat runs through a bed of Eurasian Water Milfoil and chops it up it creates a whole stream of new plants that can float around to the rest of the lake. So this is why they're so difficult to compete with.

Fortunately the folks here in Washington took the unprecedented action in 2002 after three years of voluntarily asking people to check their boats passed an ordinance, just like you're asked to adopt tonight, an ordinance that would mandate that all people bringing a motorboat had to go through an inspection. The only ramp under agreement with the state on the lake is the Washington ramp. That ordinance was passed. You should be proud. I'm proud of you. The Town of Washington has budgeted every year since then provided funds to the Park and Recreation Commission and to the Lake Waramaug Authority to conduct those inspections of each and every boat that enters the lake. The Lake Waramaug Authority under Trooper Sordi oversees this both onshore and on the lake. So you have the only comprehensive inspection program and coupled with that your partner in this, the Task Force, annually conducts a whole lake shoreline survey by professional plant scientists to look for and identify any new invasive

plant that might have come into the lake. For anything found, the sites are identified by GPS and our divers that are on call come out and pull it.

So what you're faced with now is the last element in the puzzle. Every boats inspected. All the landowners cooperate. Even the boat storage and repair people cooperate. The Lake Waramaug Country Club cooperates. The State of Connecticut now requires people launching boats at the state park to come through the Washington boat launch to be inspected. This is how comprehensive that program is. The only thing left is the seaplanes. There aren't many landing now, but the fact is there's no easy way to ensure that these planes will land here will be clean. There's no federal rule. There's no state rule or control only advisory recommendations by the seaplane association that planes be inspected before takeoff. Most of these planes are moored in the water which means inspection is difficult underwater and pontoons could pickup more plants on takeoff. We think this is something despite the fact of few planes now. There could be more in the future. It only takes one plant or one fragment to start an invasion of plants. The only way to do this is through a town ordinance. The state won't do it, can't do it. The federal government can't do it. It's up to you and ask for your support. Thank you.

Audience: [Applause]

Moderator: Thank you very much. Are there any more hands? Carlos?

C. Canal: Good evening, I'm impressed that so many are interested in our budget and also in Lake Waramaug. I would like to follow-up on what Tom said. He gave you the technical side of the equation. I'm going to repeat some comments I made back in 2002 when there was a debate with some people against establishing the boat inspection ramp at the Washington end of the lake. I made a comment to the effect that we all agree is in a very special and beautiful place. It abounds in natural resource which is the great attraction bringing us to this town and to this area. We're also blessed by the confluence of three special resources, the environmental crown jewels of our area. They are Lake Waramaug, the Shepaug River, and the Steep Rock Reservation. There aren't many towns that have three natural assets of that type available to them. We are blessed and fortunate.

The Lake Waramaug Task Force has done a terrific job on the lake. Remember it was a lake that was in eutrophication and it was impossible to play in the lake. They carried on and kept the whole ecosystem in great shape. Equally important through their support and that of Washington the boat inspection station has been a great success and done a terrific job. I think it's in the interest of all of us to make certain that Lake Waramaug continues to be the pristine and beautiful lake it is and continues as an environmental crown jewels. We should be aware that one seaplane could

change all that. It's really important that we vote in favor of this ordinance that would ban seaplanes. It's important for all of us that want this to remain the beautiful and special spot that it is, not only for ourselves, but for future generations. Thank you.

Audience: [Applause]

Moderator: Any more comments or questions? Yes?

B. Carey: Barbara Carey, 138 Churchill. I think obviously, we can't do this to death. We want to stop seaplanes. There aren't going to be that many. I think we should bring it to a vote right now, because sooner or later everybody has to go through the Washington section of the lake if they land a plane. So let's vote on it.

Moderator: So are you moving the question? Is that a motion to move the question?

B. Carey: Yes.

Moderator: OK, you all know what that means now. We need a 2/3 vote, debate is cut off because the question has been moved. We're not voting on Item #4 yet, we're voting on the motion to move the question and go directly to the vote with no more debate, questions, or comments.

All in favor of moving the question please raise your hands. All against moving the question please raise your hands. There's clearly a 2/3 majority. The motion carries.

Moderator: We're going directly to a vote now. Let me read the motion.

RESOLVED: To approve the proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Landing of Seaplanes on Lake Waramaug.

All in favor of that motion please raise your hands. Any against raise your hands. OK, the motion clearly carries and it's passed.

Moderator: On to the last item on the agenda, Item #5. Would you make the motion, Mark?

M. Lyon: RESOLVED: To authorize Mark E. Lyon, First Selectman, David Werkhoven, Selectman, and Jay Hubelbank, Selectman, constituting all of the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, to execute and deliver the Second Amendment to the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services Agreement with Covanta, Inc.

Moderator: Who would like to second this one?

J. Solomon-Smith: [Second] Jean Solomon-Smith

Moderator: Any introductory comments?

M. Lyon: We have a long-term municipal solid waste agreement. It originated in January of 2013 and was amended in 2015. This is our second amendment. It's a fourteen-town member organization and a contract for Covanta for municipal solid waste disposal incinerator in Bristol, Connecticut. This mostly came about through the activity of the Operating Committee. Covanta has an agreement with the fourteen towns to accept residential trash. They were working to run their plant to capacity so there was a lot of trash from towns outside of the fourteen members as well as commercial trash. The trash coming into the plant was causing long delays as the plant overreached it's capacity. This agreement will limit the amount of (quote unquote) "commercial" trash or trash from other than residential trash from the member communities to a level that allows us to keep efficiently delivering ours. It basically limits the (quote unquote) outside trash that Covanta can accept. It ran overcapacity. There were excessive wait lines. Our hauler, Stone, was spending four to seven hours waiting in line to unload. This addresses the problem delivering residential trash. It's about five pages so I won't read it [at this point].

Moderator: Any questions on this one?

C. Canal: Yes, ... the recycling ...

Moderator: He didn't have the microphone. The question was could Mark address the recycling aspect of the motion.

M. Lyon: This amendment doesn't affect the recycling side. This just affects the MSW that's going to the incinerator, the trash to energy plant. The recycling agreement is contained in the overall agreement, but it isn't part of this amendment.

C. Canal: When does that come for renewal?

M. Lyon: We currently have a contract with Murphy Road for accepting recyclables and that comes due, I think, in another two years. The renewal comes due. There's a five-year term.

C. Canal: May I ask? The Washington Environmental Council did a review of a number of the recyclable items that Murphy handles and found that some fourteen additional items could be included in the list for Washington and the other towns in that agreement. Is there a possibility that an amendment

could be made upon renewal or that we insist that they take on that. That would expand the tonnage of recycling immeasurably.

M. Lyon: It would definitely reviewed when we renew in 2018. I can bring it up with the Operating Committee if we want to try and address that prior to that.

C. Canal: If you could, it would be greatly appreciated.

Moderator: Thank you very much. Any other questions or comments on Item #5? Yes, John?

J. Buonaiuto: I know you said, Mark, that the recyclables weren't part of the amendment, but just to clarify. Liz has told me that certain things are kicked back. Do we get revenue from the recyclables? When something is deemed unacceptable for the company, are there fines?

M. Lyon: No, we do get a per ton rebate on recyclables delivered to Murphy Road and if they deem that there is contamination, they take a percentage off the total load. Typically the only percentage taken off for contamination is for wetness. If the paper products are wet such as in open container during rain or snow, that's typically when we get percentage off the total load. It's usually 5%. We don't get a rebate on that percentage.

J. Buonaiuto: Paper and cardboard?

M. Lyon: Typically that's the issue with contamination. I follow up. We get a statement back that says how much credit we get. I've called and typically that's the issue due to wet paper products.

J. Buonaiuto: I know, but on the plastics and glass that even have a recyclable emblem and they're saying that certain color items and weighted items are not acceptable.

M. Lyon: That's what Carlos Canal was referring to. There are things that have the triangle on them that aren't acceptable at Murphy Road under our contract. That's what Carlos was referring to.

Moderator: Any other questions? Joan?

J. Lodsins: Am I correct that the questions about recycling and items recycled is not relevant to this motion at all?

M. Lyon: Correct.

J. Lodsins: Then I'd like to make a motion to move the question.



Moderator: OK, 2/3 majority to move the question and cut off debate.

M. Lyon: We need a second.

Ted: Second.

Moderator: Thank you. All in favor of moving the question and going straight to vote with no further debate, please raise your hands. Any want to discuss further? Motion carries. We will now vote on Item #5. We will now vote on Item #5, the final item on the agenda. I will read it.

RESOLVED: To authorize Mark E. Lyon, First Selectman, David Werkhoven, Selectman, and Jay Hubelbank, Selectman, constituting all of the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, to execute and deliver the Second Amendment to the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services Agreement with Covanta, Inc.

All in favor of that motion, please raise your hands. Any against. Motion carries and the question passes.

Moderator: There is no further business on our agenda. I suggest that we adjourn. Everybody OK with that?

Audience: [Applause]

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully  
Submitted:

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Dated at Washington, CT this 20th day of May 2016