

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
April 11, 2024
HYBRID MEETING

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

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Dean Sarjeant.

Public: Ted Backer, Robert Fisher, Wayne Hileman, Andrew Carron, Michelle Gorra, Victoria Rowan, Ray Reich, Dan Paige, Linda Gomez, R Carr.

Press: Ann Jamieson – VOICES.

Call to order: First Selectman James Brinton called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the March 27, 2024 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Appointment of Christopher Combs to the Arts Council:** **Motion:** To appoint Christopher Combs to the Arts Council for an indefinite term. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: Chris is the Executive Director of the Institute for American Indian Studies, was born and raised in Washington, has expressed his interest in serving and has the endorsement of the Council. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Resignation of John Buonaiuto from the Region #12 Board of Education:** John submitted his letter of resignation to the Chairman of the Board of Education on March 31, 2024 effective immediately. The Selectmen thanked John for his years of service. A special election will need to be scheduled to fill the vacancy. Dates will be set at the next Board of Selectmen’s meeting for nominations followed by an election two weeks later.

First Selectman’s Report: Jim Brinton reported the following:

- **Ambulance Headquarters:** Jim met with the architects for the renovation of the new Ambulance Headquarters. Funding is complete. Jim will be working with the Building and Land Use Offices regarding necessary permits, etc.
- **Golf Course Road:** Jim met with the manager of the Washington Club to discuss the possibility of the Town taking over Golf Course Road. As this has been discussed previously, the Town agreed to maintain the road as a “test” this winter. The road is in very poor condition. It was explained that the Town will not consider taking over the road until it is brought up to DOT standards.
- **Lake Waramaug Interlocal Commission:** Jim attended a meeting of the Commission this week. The Commission meets annually to discuss various matters concerning the lake. An Informational meeting will be held at the Washington Town Hall on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 7:00p.m. to discuss the results of the survey conducted by Terra Vigilis Environmental Services. There will be no vote at this meeting.

Selectmen's Report:

- **Jay Hubelbank** reminded the public that Earth Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 20, 2024 will activities and demonstrations at Judy Black Park. A dumpster will be available in front of the Town Hall from April 18-22 for residents to dispose of road side cleanups.
- **Dean Sarjeant:** No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **To amend ARPA funding approvals made at the March 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting:** At the March 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting approval was granted to fund \$14,000 to purchase and stock a climate controlled mobile trailer for use in the event of a town-wide emergency and \$21,000 to purchase and stock a storage container for traffic cones, barricades, signs, etc. The information was submitted incorrectly. **Motion:** To approve \$21,000 to purchase and stock a climate controlled mobile trailer for use in the event of a town-wide emergency and \$14,000 to purchase and stock a storage container for traffic cones, barricades, signs, etc. and to forward to the Board of Finance for their approval, followed by approval at a Town Meeting. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.
- **Christian Street Bridge:** Several bids were received for the replacement of Christian Street Bridge each having an astronomical price tag. **Motion:** Not to award the bid for the replacement of Christian Street Bridge at this time and to re-bid in October or November. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: according to the engineers, the bridge is not in an unsafe condition. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Conveyance of 1.006 acres to ROMAC:** **Motion:** To forward a request to convey 1.006 acres of Town property to ROMAC to the Planning Commission and if there is no problem to place on a Town Meeting Agenda for approval. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.
- **To extend an RFP for a Project Manager for the Ambulance Headquarters:** **Motion:** To extend a Request for Proposal seeking statements of qualifications and proposals for the provision of Project Management Services in the construction/renovation of the Ambulance Headquarters located at 92 Bee Brook Road, Washington Depot, CT. This professional will be responsible for management of all phases of the project including, but not limited to, architect/engineer management, construction supervision, field verification, recordkeeping and grant close-out. Respondents should provide three (3) hard copies of proposals which should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "BID DOCUMENT – RFQ/RFP (insert date) Project Management Services – 92 Bee Brook" to: Town of Washington, James Brinton, First Selectman, 2 Bryan Plaza, Washington Depot, CT 06794 by 11:00a.m. May 10, 2024. Emailed or faxed bids will not be accepted. For more information regarding qualifications and requirements contact James Brinton at jbrinton@washingtonct.org. The Town of Washington has the right to reject any or all proposals. To negotiate with any or all companies submitting qualifications and to enter into an agreement with any company if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. The Town is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Dated this 11th day of April 2024.

James L. Brinton
Jay Hubelbank
Dean Sarjeant
Board of Selectmen

By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Visitors: None:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: To adjourn the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 5:48p.m. to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a real estate transaction regarding the Transfer Station. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

The Selectmen re-entered the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen having taken no action in Executive Session.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:35p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant