

## **Town of Washington Board of Selectmen's Meeting – May 07, 2012**

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. J. Huebner, M. Case and S. Lennon was present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. J. Huebner motioned to approve the minutes of April 30, 2012 as written. S. Lennon seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
5. J. Huebner announced that there is a serious problem with the Annual Town Meeting Warrant in that it was not posted until today, since it was not posted until today we cannot hold the meeting this Saturday night as there was not a seven day notification period. J. Huebner then recapped the things that needed to be done, the meeting needs to be rescheduled and the residents need to be notified adding that Town Council recommended using the reverse 911 system, which required creating a recording with the pertinent information. Chief Breen addressed the room to explain why the meeting date needs to be changed stating that J. Hostetter called on Thursday night making arrangement to deliver the warrant for posting by sliding it under the door, he did not see the package when he looked on Saturday and assumed that it was posted by another Constable. Not seeing it posted on Monday he called J. Hostetter, who stated it was delivered as discussed. Upon another check he discovered when it was slipped under the door it went under the rug where he also found month old mail. Chief Breen again apologized for assuming. J. Huebner stating that he is not one to announce blame, request that Chief Breen state a summary version of the explanation on the recording. There was discussion on new reschedule date and the reverse 911 system with the decision that the meeting will be Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, that there should be two round of calls announcing the cancelation and reschedule date, Chief Breen will write up the script, get approval, make the recording and work with the Sheriff to the first call out within the next twenty four hours. J. Hostetter emailed the Town Clerk during the meeting with the proposed date, confirmed with Chief Breen that the Election paperwork submitted with the ATMW was posted and excused herself from the room to edit the ATMW. The Election paperwork was posted at approximately 12:00 on Monday, May 7, 2012.
6. J. Huebner asked R. Borgnis what kind of physical activities the COA is involved in as the Berkshire Public Health Alliance is trying to take an inventory of all the public health activities in the County. R. Borgnis replied that is a Thursday morning exercise group and Lorraine Dean could answer any question as she is one of the original members.
7. K. Walls reported that the water level is down as CSX used a machine last week to dig down in front of the culvert adding that the beavers have begun to rebuild but the added depth is making their job to block the flow a lot harder. J. Huebner added that digging was one recommendation and adding a deceiver was the other.
8. The Board signed the following permits for Summit Hill Campground: number 93 Sale of Milk products, number 94 Fast Food, number 95 Outdoor Concert on May 26<sup>th</sup>, number 96 Outdoor Concert on July 6<sup>th</sup>, number 97 Outdoor Concert on September 1<sup>st</sup>. J. Hostetter explained that these are reissues as the previous permits were misplaced.
9. J. Huebner reviewed the Constellation Energy contract entering into the record that the Town entered into a two year contract in June of 2011 then requested a reminder for the Board to begin energy supplier discussion in June of 2013.
10. J. Huebner informed the Board that there is a delay in receiving the new Personnel Handbook from Attorney Dupree.
11. J. Huebner informed the Board that the Town does not have any legal authority to force access to the North Lake threw the Conservatory property adding any action taken with the Town's property would have to be

with access threw Middlefield. J. Huebner and R. Spencer discussed opening up the access road with further discussion and contacting Middlefield tabled until the next Capital Asset Meeting.

12. J. Huebner asked Chief Breen why the Town was paying Middlefield for the Pumpkin Walk now. Chief Breen explained that the bill has been received.
13. J. Hostetter submitted the new Annual Town Meeting Warrant to the Board for signature and reviewed the changes with J. Huebner. J. Huebner reiterated that M. Case would be in a little later due to a scheduling conflict adding that the both he and S. Lennon can sign it now.
14. The Board discussed with D. Fish the request for an Emergency Beaver Trapping permit for Charles Thomas of Fassel Road in Hinsdale for the complaint location of Cross Place Road. J. Huebner signed permit number ten.
15. D. Fish recapped an incident at the Highway Garage on Friday reporting that since he would be away most of the day he had given T. Soules the day's schedule that included checking the beaver deceiver on Cross Place Road, checking the roads and then raking Watson Road. D. Fish reported that he was not satisfied with the work T. Soules reported he had done and that T. Soules became angry, hitting the roof of the truck, when asked to join him in re-working the beaver deceiver and questioned as to why he was not bringing his waders. D. Fish added that Chief Breen was called as T. Soules refused to go home as instructed. Chief Breen was not available and called the State Police to respond to the call. D. Fish reported that when asked if action was needed by the State Police he replied no action was necessary that the matter would be discussed with the Selectmen. T. Soules agreed that the flow was not 100% explaining in detail the action taken to unblock both sides of the culvert pipe reporting that left side was unblock using hydraulic force but that the right side did not have an adequate level of water to generate the necessary force which required using a hook and poking with a stick to break up the debris. T. Soules added that he left that job confident that the road was not in jeopardy of flooding. T. Soules then recapped the conversation and actions that took place at the Highway Garage expressing that he was not angry with the decision to re-work the deceivers that he didn't like D. Fish's temper, excessive driving speed and harsh breaking. The Board asked D. Fish if he had anything to add and if he is recommending anything at this time. In hearing none J. Huebner stated that the Board did not hear any real inconsistencies in the version of the story, that the issue is not if it was opened to satisfaction or that there was a disagreement but the manner in which the situation was handled. D. Fish is a demanding boss and in being the boss he should've been able to work this out adding that the Board are not referee's but the Board is available to help when it is needed. J. Huebner asked D. Fish the absence of the third crew member adding stress to the working crew and asked D. Fish to contact M. Newton to discuss his intentions keeping in mind M. and C. Newton have undergone. There was discussion on the water level, remaining jobs on the schedule with the Board stating that they appreciate the fact you both work hard. M. Case added that he hopes they can overcome their differences and get back to work.
16. J. Huebner reported on a conversation he had with Roy Bryan of the Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee reporting that there is grant money available, that he provided R. Bryan with details but has not heard back yet.
17. The Board asked J. Nelson to report on the Administrative job sharing decision. J. Nelson reported that stated she and J. Hostetter talked briefly and that she may work the meetings, write up the minutes, make the corrections and post the agenda during the summer. J. Hostetter requested that they formally meet to discuss all the details, coordination of information, all the projects that need to be addressed, dealing with all the boxes left in the old selectmen's room, vacation coverage adding that it needs to be defined so that all parties are clear and nothing is left unattended. After discussion it was decided that J. Hostetter and J. Nelson will meet to discuss the details.
18. J. Nelson reported on the EECBG grant stating that the only task remain in the accounting, she has to make sure all the invoices are compiled and submitted to the DOER adding that she is working with D. Parnell on the invoices. J. Nelson also reported that she is working with C. Briggs on the Town invoices to BRPC, who

was expecting two checks. C. Briggs determined that the checks were never cashed that they went out on April 9<sup>th</sup> with D. Parnell confirming that. J. Nelson added that she would like to go back to the Treasurer of the BRPC to see if the Town's check covered both invoices and if that is not the case C. Briggs will put a stop payment on the check. There was discussion returning to the DOER the unused portion of the grant.

19. The Board discussed with J. Hostetter her request for published separate telephone lines for the other offices in the Town Hall with the Board requesting that J. Hostetter research the project. R. Borgnis commented that there are a number of lines coming into the Town Hall but not all are listed.
20. The Board requested that J. Hostetter create a separate account for the Administrative Assistant Gmail account as it is an awkward flow coping her on email via the Selectmen's Gmail suggesting washingtonAA@gmail.
21. Ed. Bond reported that the BCHC community service crew appreciated the pizza and it showed in their final cleanup of the building, that Sheriff Keith Lang is going to contact him when a crew can return to work on the outside of the Town Hall. E. Bond thanked S. Lennon for the good job in getting them here and for the use of his tools. E. Bond also reported that the hot water issue has been resolved; that the system has been inspected by Plumbing Inspector M. Levernoch and the Building Maintenance Coordinator has been educated on the new filtration system. E. Bond also reported that the blinds should be here in time for the COA dinner and movie and suggested getting a microphone for use during the meeting as it is hard to hear the Board.
22. J. Hostetter informed the Board that the Town Clerk, during her absence, has charged the Administrative Assistant with issuing dog licenses and filling requests for absentee ballots by mailing out applications.
23. J. Huebner acknowledged the MIIA's notification that they are gather information for the new addition at the Massachusetts municipal Directory,
24. J. Huebner acknowledged a request from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development to report on those the Town had paid unemployment insurance for. It will be passed it to Cathy Briggs
25. J. Huebner reported Town Counsel is going to continue to research the topic but has indicated that the Town has the where withal to put a weight limit on Blots Road adding that as soon as the pathway is clear that the next thing to do would be to contact both Dalton and Hinsdale to get feedback on that proposal.
26. J. Huebner informed the Board that he was contacted by Mrs. Diehl a week ago to say that the structures on the Lovers Lane property will be removed soon. After discussion the Board determined that they will allow a little more time as Mr. Diehl had just passed away. There was discussion on the number of structures on the property.
27. J. Huebner asked if anyone had suggestions on the edits to the Mapleview RFP. J. Hostetter recapped the suggestions from the January Capital Asset Meeting to add a floor plan, adding back the language detailing the in lieu of taxes, suggestions to include a survey of the property line separating Mapleview and the Phillips property, suggestion to consider a long term lease, municipal financing (bond) for the right proposal or using the Town's municipal buying power. R. Spencer suggesting adding the book and page number in the RFP. J. Huebner stated that this needs to go back out to bid in next couple weeks. J. Hostetter will send to J. Huebner the proposed edits to the Mapleview RFP.
28. J. Huebner informed the Board that he had received an email Mr. Barry offering to attend the ATM to answer questions regarding the stretch code article or Green Communities. After discussion it was decided that J. Huebner will notify Mr. Barry that the Town will take him up on his offer.
29. J. Huebner asked Chief Breen to go over the steps he will take to get the reverse 911 message out within the

next 24 hours. Chief Breen stated that he will go up to see the Sheriff tomorrow, inform him of the situation that it needs to go out within 24 hours adding that he will write the script, get the Boards approval then record. J. Huebner reiterated that it needs to what, why and when the new one is. It there should be two rounds of calls, S. Lennon informed C. Breen that he is in Boston tomorrow but will have his cell if he is needed and that he will call Director Brady to set up an appointment. R. Borgnis suggested calling Scott Stanford, the Town's reporter at the Berkshire Eagle notify him of the change. M. Case will notify the Superintendent of Schools. J. Huebner will contact Lisa Guthrie about a special edition of the Tracks. J. Nelson asked if the Town website needs to be changed. J. Hostetter email during the meeting the revised warrant to Webmaster. J. Hostetter emailed during the meeting a request to M. Lampro to post at the Transfer Station that the date has changed.

30. J. Huebner motioned to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 8:23 PM. S. Lennon seconded the motion. The motioned passed unanimously.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by J. Hostetter