

## Town of Washington Board of Selectmen's Meeting – September 10, 2012

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. J. Huebner, S. Lennon and M. Case present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes of August 27, 2012. S. Lennon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. The Selectmen completed their quarterly salary warrants for the remainder of FY2013.
5. D. Fish reported that the Highway Department is stock piling stone alongside of the salt shed and clearing roads of debris in anticipation of chip sealing.
6. M. Case recognized R. Spencer's appointment to the search committee for a new Business Manager for the School Department.
7. Ed Bond updated the Board on the annual Pumpkin Walk informing the Board that the previous hosts will not be able to organize the event this year. Ed Bond then recapped a meeting that took place at the Town Park earlier in the evening stating that some tasks were assigned. Lisa Guthrie is going to check on templates online and with the pumpkin vendor. Ben Phillips is looking into pallets for the fire. C. Willis is doing the hay ride again and Kenny McCarthy volunteered for hotdogs and rolls. Money to purchase candy was donated by an anonymous donor. The event is scheduled for Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. The Board expressed appreciation to the anonymous donor. M. Case volunteered his services.
8. Ed Bond reported on the HillTown Hoot scheduled for September 15, 2012 from noon to eight. Dave Fish is going to put up some fencing to block some of the entrances, Chief Breen, Dick Spencer, Dave Drugmond, Ben Douce, and Ed Bond will be handling traffic control. Ozzie will be providing food again this year and parking will be on the baseball field. Arlo Guthrie will not be there this year. The Board asked Ed Bond to let them know if additional funding is needed. J. Hostetter volunteered to carve pumpkins.
9. J. Huebner acknowledged receipt of a temporary food licenses application from Ozzie's for the Hilltown Hoot. The food cart was inspected by Health Agent, who signed off on the application. J. Huebner motioned to issue the temporary food permit. M. Case seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. There was discussion on how the proceeds from the Hoot will be distributed. M. case explained that participants can designate to specific school and un-designated funds goes to the Central Berkshire School District.
10. J. Huebner read an update from J. Nelson. MIIA letter was drafted and mailed. Verizon was contacted regarding the branches down. Verizon is not proactive but reactive. J. Huebner will draft a letter to The Public Service Commission regarding Verizon's response and will also mention the pole that needs to be moved. D. Fish to re-contact Verizon about moving the pole on Middlefield Road.
11. D. Fish requested that a Slow Children sign be placed on Frost Road near the Lover's Lane intersection. J. Huebner motioned to put up a caution children at play sign. S. Lennon seconded the motion. The motioned passed unanimously.

12. Public Water Systems Report will be next week.
13. J. Huebner reported that the MA Infrastructure Grant for Washington Mountain Road was submitted Friday adding that the estimate cost of \$70,000.00 per mile turned out to be half of what the cost would actually be.
14. J. Huebner motioned that the Selectmen sign the thank you letter to Dalton and Becket. M. Case seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
15. There will not be a Doors & Window bid opening tonight. It was postponed for two weeks as questions asked in both the first and second walk through were not answered before the seven day prior to opening deadline.
16. J. Huebner informed the Board that the Historical Commission would like to re-publish the Washington Town History. R. Spencer volunteered to scan the documents. There was discussion on self-publishing options. R. Spencer will talk to G. Ellis on tearing a book apart for scanning and work with J. Hostetter on scanning.
17. J. Huebner entered into record receipt of \$225.00 from the Chapel Commission.
18. J. Huebner asked D. Fish if Adam Southard has obtained his CDL licenses yet and if all license holder names have been submitted for random drug testing. D. Fish replied that Adam has not been licensed yet and he needs the contact information for the testing. J. Hostetter will provide the contact information.
19. J. Hostetter recapped the ABCC seminar stating that it was an outreach to cities and towns for input on the new on-line licensing system that will roll out in about eighteen months. Licensees will be able to file and follow the status of applications on-line, the public will be able to submit public record requests on-line and City and Towns will be able to file license related paperwork on-line. The application process was also reviewed. There will be future seminars and correspondence regarding all the above mentioned process.
20. J. Huebner recapped his attendance of the Fourth Annual Regionalization Tool Kit Conference on behalf of the Berkshire Public Health Association to give a report on how towns were doing with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. There was discussion and examples of regionalizing transportation for organizations like the Council on Aging, regionalizing Storm Water Cooperative and Veterans Services.
21. J. Huebner confirmed with D. Fish that the accident report for the incident between the Highway Department and M. Newton was filed.
22. J. Huebner stated that the removal of lead paint was added as an addendum to the door and windows RFP.
23. The Board discussed along with D. Fish and P. Clark supporting documentation for the CSX claim. There was also discussion on the bridge work currently underway on route 8.
24. J. Huebner read correspondence announcing Hazard Mitigation Grant Opportunities with a submission deadline of December 3, 2012. Phil Clark will review the document.

25. The Board discussed whether the Town should pursue Ultimate Energy Source solicitation for selling solar energy from solar farms being developed in Western Massachusetts with the decision that the Board will look into investigate it further.
26. J. Huebner reported on conversations he had with an organization call MA Development, a semi government agency that provides funds for brownfields. They do not think they have funds for demolishing Mapleview but will continue investigating what is available. J. Huebner added that he will contact BRPC to see if there is another avenue the Town can pursue.
27. J. Huebner informed the Board that the Dalton Selectboard will be discussing the possible closing of Blotz/Kirchner Road at their meeting this evening adding that the Dalton Selectboard received a complaint of heavy truck traffic on Kirchner Road. J. Huebner added that he consulted with Town Counsel and the Board has the authority to close the road without the need of a bylaw but the Board would not make any decision without public comment. Hinsdale is conducting a study before any decision is made.
28. J. Huebner reported that he talked to the Town Manger in Becket regarding Center pond. Something will be worked out for next year's budget. J. Huebner asked J. Hostetter to make a note for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. There was discussion on what was done in the past.
29. J. Huebner summarized a letter received from the Office of Attorney General dated August 24, 2012 regarding an Open Meeting Law complaint filed in October of 2010. It was decided that the Board did not violate the first claim, was found to have violated the OML on the second claim and an undetermined verdict in the third claim that improper deliberation occurred prior to the termination of Administrative Assistant T. Walker. J. Huebner drafted a letter questioning the facts as some dates were incorrect and if there's a principal of collective guilt as S. Lennon was copied on email but did not participate in the correspondence. Once the facts are clarified the Board will comply with submitting the emails into public record.
30. J. Hostetter read an email regarding President Barack Obama's proclamation. Governor Deval L. Patrick has ordered that the United States flag and the Commonwealth flag be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 in honor of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.
31. Lillian Fox asked for the details on the classification hearing. J. Hostetter reported that the request for advertisement was sent to the Berkshire Eagle on August 27, 2012 and will be published on September 11, 2012 and that it is scheduled to begin at 7:15 P.M on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
32. D. Parnell reported that there is nothing new to report on Town credit cards.
33. M. Case motioned to suspend the Selectboard meeting at 7:59 pm. to begin the Special Town Meeting. J. Huebner seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
34. M. Case motioned to reconvene the Selectboard meeting at 8:07 pm. J. Huebner seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

35. There was discussion on different ways to communicate public notices to residents. J. Huebner motioned to purchase another election sign to be used at the Transfer Station. S. Lennon seconded motion. The motioned passed by unanimous vote.
36. J. Huebner informed the Board that there was damage done to steps at the transfer station. Dave Drugmond has submitted a bill for the repair.
37. Lillian Fox informed the Board of the issue with the step up entering the Old Town Hall and asked that something be done. After discussion J. Huebner stated that he will ask E. Bond to correct the problem.
38. J. Huebner thanked everyone involved for another successful Sons and Daughters event. M. Case added a point if interest that a couple from Florida passing by stopped at the event as his father grew up in the Fox's residence. Allison added that the father work at General Electric and walked both ways to work. E. Bond relayed a resident's request to move the event to the newly renovated Town Hall.
39. J. Huebner informed Chief Breen of the Board's approval on putting up a caution sign on Frost Road then asked for an update of the school bus deal with Becket. Chief Breen stated that Becket will do what we want them to do and they will pay for it adding that the bus has been inspected so it is good to go.
40. Chief Breen informed the Board that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has decided to change the system of performing background checks, issuing pistol permits and all other processes. There is not cost for the program but he has to attend twelve four hour classes. He is working with eight other Police Chiefs to try and get the classes closer. He will keep the Board updated.
41. Chief Breen also informed the Board that Peter Blake would like to take over the Veterans Agent position adding that he thought it would be a great opportunity for the town as P. Blake would provide a good service to the town's Veterans. After discussion the Board asked Chief Breen to extend an invitation to P. Blake to discuss it with the Board.
42. S. Lennon asked J. Hostetter to finish cleaning out the old Selectmen's office. There was a discussion on clean and obtaining furniture for the room.
43. J. Huebner asked J. Hostetter to send the Selectboard's letter dated August 27<sup>th</sup> to John Bolton of Dalton.
44. A. Mikaniewicz confirmed that the Town Auditor position is an elected position then informed the Board that Mr. Grogan has accepted the position and has been sworn in.
45. M. Case motioned to adjourn the Selectmen meeting at 8:32 pm. J. Huebner seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

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Minutes written by J. Hostetter