

Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen – June 16, 2014

1. J. Huebner called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:58 pm. Attending for the Board were J. Huebner and M. Case.
2. After leading the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes of June 9, 2014. M. Case seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. J. Huebner signed a letter to MEMA written by Phil Clark regarding the Town's application for funding of the Eden Glen hazard mitigation.
4. The Board approved the Chapter 90 funding request document.
5. J. Huebner confirmed that a signed copies of the Waste Ban Certificate letter and documentation were on file at Town Hall.
6. D. Fish told the Board that he has requested another written quote on the old truck, but hasn't received it yet. He is already using the new road surfacing material purchased with the pothole funding. He has made some curb cuts that will have to be inspected by P. Greene. The Conservation Commission has also been advised. He gave that information to the owners. M. Case told him that he had been contacted by Lillian Fox who reported that the loose stone had washed out from her property again onto Washington Mountain Road. D. Fish agreed to take care of clearing it off the roadway.
7. J. Huebner made a motion that the Board approve the contract from Berkshire Regional Health Alliance (BRHA) for the services of their Public Health Nurses. M. Case seconded and the vote to approve the contract was unanimous. J. Huebner signed the contract which is to be sent back to the BRHA. He mentioned that the Alliance has been interviewing several new nurses.
8. D. Parnell told the Board that there would be no warrant because his computer had crashed. He will reconstruct the last few weeks.

9. J. Huebner reported receiving a letter from Mary Deane who complained that the Highway Department's work pushing back the snow banks on her Mother's property at the corner of Frost and Stonehouse Roads had caused damage to the property. D. Fish agreed that the Town had done that work in past years, but was no longer doing it. John Morrow, who plowed her Mother's driveway, was pushing the snow banks back now. She also complained that the Town was not mowing and cleaning up her Mother's property. D. Fish stated that they had stopped doing this at her request last year, but had gone ahead and done it anyway last week. Additionally Ms. Deane cited the lack of an Annual Town Report. J. Huebner said that he would reply in detail to her complaints.

10. J. Huebner asked J. Hostetter the status of her work on compiling information for the missing Annual Reports. J. Hostetter told the Board that she was close to finishing the two oldest reports from 2010 and 2011 and pointed out that the work requires requesting and receiving critical information from the Clerk, Accountant and Tax Collector. Some of this is still being gathered. She hopes to have the reports finished through 2013 by the end of this summer. The Board asked her to assemble and publish each report as she finishes it.

11. The Board asked J. Nelson to continue making follow up calls to the residents who have not yet replied to the business census mailing for one more week. She reported leaving many voice mail messages with few replies.

12. The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has requested a picture of one of the Town's characteristic views or structures. The Old Town Hall was suggested. Kent Lew mentioned that he might have a few good shots of the Old Town Hall. He will check on that and get back to the Board.

13. M. Case told the Board that Berkshire Trails School roof will not to be replaced under the FY15 school budget. NEAST is surveying the district for changes. Central Berkshire Regional District may be shrinking as the number of students shrinks.

14. J. Huebner reported that he had received a notice that on June 20 the Brien Center will be showing a free film in North Adams titled "The Anonymous People" which deals with the issues around drug and alcohol abuse.
15. The Board signed and gave the final version of the Warrant to Chief Breen for his signature. The Chief said that he will post the Special Town Meeting Warrant at Town Hall, the Old Town Hall and the Transfer Station as usual.
16. J. Huebner reported that there is no news on Cross Place Road or the Depot Brook wetland problem. Along with their minutes, he received a notice that Westfield Wild & Scenic will meet in Huntington on June 19. These documents will be posted at Town Hall.
17. M. Case showed the meeting one of two identical signs which will be posted at either end of Washington Mountain Road designating our road as the "Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans' Scenic Byway". A ceremony marking the installation of the signs will be held on Saturday, July 19 at 11:00. Representative Smitty Pignatelli and Senator Ben Downing have confirmed that they will attend. J. Huebner said that the Governor will be invited. He also said that we will discuss plans for the event next week.
18. J. Huebner reported that P. Clark and the Conservation Commission are working to understand the Town's options regarding the Depot Brook situation. P. Clark and several others noted that Pittsfield is logging again in the forest.
19. J. Huebner suspended the Select Board meeting at 7:30pm and called the Joint meeting to order.
20. At 8:40 J. Huebner concluded the Joint meeting and called the Selectmen's meeting back to order.
21. The Board reviewed J. Nelson's performance evaluation.

22. At 8:45 J. Huebner made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting. M. Case seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Approved: _____

Approved: _____

Minutes written by J. Nelson