

## Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen – Oct. 27, 2014

1. S. Lennon called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Attending for the Board were S. Lennon and M. Case. S. Lennon led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. J. Hostetter presented the Board with a warrant to sign for a Special Town Meeting to be held on November 10 at 7:15pm at Town Hall. S. Lennon made a motion to approve the warrant as written. M. Case seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous. The Board signed the warrant and it was also signed, and then posted, by Chief Breen at 7:10pm. The warrant had 2 articles. The first was “To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow a sum not to exceed \$65,000 in order to hire Professional Engineering Services for Hydraulic Studies and Culvert Designs for the Town’s Culverts at Cross Place Road, Lower Valley Road and Lower Sargent Road”. The second article was “To see if the Town will vote to support or oppose the natural gas pipeline proposed by Kinder Morgan to cross a portion of Washington”. J. Hostetter posted the warrant on the Town’s web site
3. S. Lennon made a motion to accept the minutes from October 20, 2014. M. Case stated that an amendment to the minutes was needed. The minutes incorrectly cited Mr. Fred Hanson as the name of the elderly resident lost in the woods on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The missing person was actually Mr. Robert Hanson. M. Case made a motion that we accept the minutes from 10/20 amended to reflect this correction. He proceeded to make that correction to the minutes by hand and initialed it. S. Lennon seconded the motion and the vote to accept the amended minutes was unanimous.
4. The Board reviewed the Monthly Selectmen’s Letter. D. Spencer asked if the pipeline resolution was mentioned in the letter. S. Lennon told him that it was included. S. Lennon made a motion to accept the letter. M. Case

seconded and the motion passed unanimously. J. Hostetter emailed the letter to Lisa Guthrie for publication in the November Tracks.

5. A Resident of Middlefield asked the Board about the Town's plans to repair the recently failed bridge on Middlefield Road in Town. D. Fish said that he was well aware of the problem. The bridge has been closed. The I beams and the bridge deck need to be replaced. He has moved Jersey barriers to close off that bridge. He will consult Phil Clark to put together a plan for repairing the bridge.
6. D. Fish mentioned that the state has asked for proof that the Bailey Bridge on Cross Place Road was engineered. He emphasized that all Bailey bridges were engineered to support the weight of tanks. P. Clark will submit the requested paperwork.
7. S. Lennon asked D. Fish if there had been any progress on the road and bridge maintenance plan. He replied that he and P. Clark were still trying to find time to finish it.
8. M. Case said that there was no progress to report on the 5 acres of cemetery land from Pittsfield. Nor is there any news yet about North Lake Estates. However, we are expecting an official from the DEP to do a site visit and report on our development options at the lake, if any. He mentioned that there will be a bake sale on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> during the voting.
9. The Board reported no developments with the Borgnis landfill. The family offered the land to the Town, but the Town will not take the land as it is considered likely to have been polluted. No taxes have been paid on the property for many years. D. Fish mentioned that that land is subdivided into 3 parcels. K. Walls of the Conservation Committee said that GE dumped there for years.

- 10.J. Nelson reported that some Town Hall employees had been having difficulty accessing their voice mail. She will assist them individually, write up instructions for phone access and email the information to all.
11. Ed Pickett of 589 N. Washington State Road asked the Board several questions about the Kinder Morgan pipeline and its effect on the Town. He asked if the Town will get any compensation from the company in exchange for the use of our land. He also asked if the pipeline can be taxed. He would like to see some of the profits shared with the Town. M. Case told him that there will be debate and a Town vote to support or oppose the pipeline on November 10 at 7:15pm at a Special town Meeting. He urged him to attend. M. Case also mentioned that at present the pipeline only crosses the town for about 250 feet. He mentioned that Pittsfield is approving the pipeline's passage through their watershed. He referred Mr. Pickett to the Town web site for much valuable information on the pipeline and Kinder Morgan's plans.
12. The Board asked for an update on Skyborne Solar. J. Nelson told them that Skyborne has decided not to build a solar farm in Washington because transmission costs will be too high from our location.
- 13.J. Hostetter told the Board that she did not get any scanning done last week as she concentrated on the Annual report work. As soon as she gets the last of the Clerk's data she will be able to finish the reports off and submit all to the Board for review before they are printed. She will return to Bucksteep LLC their ABCC application to be completed. She made a copy of that version of the document for our files. She noted that she had asked Mr. Loveszy for new, clearer photocopies of their ID's. The ones submitted are very dark and it is hard to read the dates on them.
14. M. Case gave D. Fish a copy of the Chapter 90 Local Road Funding Survey sent by the Mass. Municipal Association (MMA) to complete. The survey asks what it will cost us annually to keep the roads in a state of good repair.

The MMA will use the survey results to educate state officials and the public about the true need that exists at the local level. They will use this information to fight for an adequate Chapter 90 bond bill this coming year.

15. S. Lennon reported that he had obtained quotes from Pittsfield Communications Systems for emergency radios needed by the Town. Prices range from about \$500 to \$200 each. M. Case pointed out that radios operate on line of sight. They are not well suited to our terrain as hills will block the signals. In response to a question on the Town's emergency plan , M. Case responded that Paul Mikaniewicz is our Emergency Management Chief. If there were to be an emergency such as a toxic spill from a railroad car, CSX has good emergency management plans. The fire department would respond. Pittsfield has a regional hazmat team which would be called in.

16. S. Lennon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8: 02. M. Case seconded and the motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

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

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

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

Minutes written by J. Nelson