

Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen – September 10, 2015

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Attending for the Board were J. Huebner, S. Lennon and M. Case.
2. After leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes of Sept. 3, 2015. The vote to accept was unanimous.
3. D. Fish informed the Board that we will not be able to use group purchasing for repairs to Frost and Blotz Roads. He will have to put it out to bid if we want to do it this year. It could cost more than anticipated. Group Purchasing put out a group bid and we were not included in it. If bids come in too high, he doesn't have to accept them and will wait for next year to re-bid using Group Purchasing.
4. J. Huebner reported that he received a letter from Mark Devlyder at MassDOT regarding plans for the Summit Hill bridge. It appears that plans for the bridge work will not be finalized this year. Twenty five percent of the plans are complete and have been given to the state and CSX to review. Following this review there will be a design public hearing. There was some confusion in the letter about the hearing schedule. J. Huebner will contact Mark DeVlyder for clarification. MassDOT was thinking about using some left over pre-cast elements from the big dig on Summit Hill bridge.
5. S. Lennon reported that Peter Holden of Holden Engineering attended the Conservation Commission meeting on 8/6. He presented information on Cross Place Road bridge and described a less costly and environmentally sound plan for the temporary road bypass during construction. He plans to schedule a public hearing as soon as abutters can be notified.

6. J. Huebner reported that Karen Avelle had responded to a request from Paul Blanc of Holden Engineering for a list of Cross Place abutters he identified.
7. Sean Connors told the Board that he would be unable to attend next week's Capital Assets meeting and inquired if there would be any discussion of the Eden Glen Pond at that time. J. Huebner responded that before we can consider restoring the pond we have to know what the potential costs will be. The Town will have to vote on a final decision of this question.
8. Ed Bond told the Board that cars are still speeding past his house on Frost Road despite the lines he painted on the road. J. Huebner advised him to take down license plate numbers. Ed mentioned that he has ordered the replacement windows for the Old Town Hall. They won't be in until September. He said the Sheriff's work crew will be available then to assist with the installation and with other repairs to the building. There was brief discussion of the fact that, as part of the Washington Mountain Road reconstruction, a very large culvert will be put in next to the Old South Center School.
9. J. Huebner reported receiving a check in the amount of \$55.20 from George Apkin Company for scrap metal.
10. In brief discussion of the situation at the two new lots on Lovers Lane, D. Fish told the Board that he had looked into that and signed off on a driveway permit for one. On the second lot where the driveway had been installed already in violation of Town and state codes, he said that some replanting and landscaping is underway. J. Huebner said that we can fine the owner up to \$25,000. He asked the Conservation Commission to send the owner a letter.
11. K. Avelle told the Board that she had all of the classification forms approved by the state last week. She requested August 14 at 7:30pm for the

classification hearing. The Board agreed to that date. She will put the required notice in the Eagle.

12.J. Hostetter presented the Board with the permit for the Sons and Daughters celebration to be held in September. The Board duly signed the permit. She reported that she still has not received the \$50.00 permit fee from Summit Hill for the car show. The campground also needs a pool permit. She received a request from Jim Sheppler, an employee of the state, for Town Annual Reports from the 60's through the 80's. The Board decided that a set of our Annual Reports should be placed at the Becket/Washington Library for future inquiries. V. Cormier asked if anyone had information on well digging at Pugzee's Farm to please contact her.

13.Glenn Grogan told the Board that he believes he has found a better savings bank for the Town's funds. He will investigate further, but information that he has received from East Hampton Savings Bank offers better depository rates than our current provider, TD Bank. He would like to change banks if East Hampton can satisfy his inquiries. He will get Dan Parnell involved and report back to the Board next week.

14.J. Huebner commented briefly on the following:

- a. The Board received notice of a ZBA hearing in Lenox on August 19 about the conversion of a Bed and Breakfast inn to residential units.
- b. J. Huebner signed a letter to the Superintendent of the Hinsdale Highway Department informing him that Washington will maintain that portion of Kirchner Road from Route 8 to the Dalton town line, as well as Bullard's Crossing, for the sum of \$ 4,500. This is the contractual agreement for FY 2016. We ask for signature and payment in full by August 30.
- c. Sen Ben Downing will hold a coffee and donuts meeting at Town Hall in Washington in November.

- d. Town Counsel has done some work on Holden’s failure to perform to contract on the Cross Place Road bridge project. Counsel will submit his invoice to the Town.
- e. Mike Case is currently serving as Veterans’ agent for the Town.
- f. J. Nelson to resume working on securing the best price for an emergency phone for Town Hall.
- g. The Board declined to sign a petition regarding religious discrimination.
- h. J. Hostetter reported receiving new posters from the Dept. of Labor on workplace regulations. One will be posted at Town Hall and the other at the Town Garage. She has completed sending out the appointment letters. She told the Board that we need to renew the registration of the Town’s web address and pay the hosting fee. J. Huebner told her that the charges will be taken out of the Selectmen’s account.

15. J. Huebner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. M. Case seconded and the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Approved: _____

Approved: _____

Respectfully submitted,

J. Nelson