

## Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen – March 7, 2016

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Attending for the Board were J. Huebner, S. Lennon and M. Case.
2. After leading the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance, J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes of February 29, 2016. M. Case seconded the motion and the vote to accept was unanimous.
3. J. Huebner mentioned that Town Counsel, Jeremia Pollard is on vacation and so has not replied to our legal queries yet. J. Huebner will speak with him as soon as he returns.
4. Steve Nelson, Washington delegate to WiredWest, asked the Board for permission to reserve the Auditorium for a strategy session meeting of the delegates from the 18 WiredWest towns with the strongest commitment to the shared ownership plan of operation of the Broadband network. The purpose of the meeting will be to agree on the most effective way to communicate to the WiredWest towns and committees not so strongly committed to shared ownership that some concessions in the operating agreement can be negotiated and that it is time to move forward. The Board agreed unanimously to make the room available for this private meeting. S. Nelson told them that he will clear the date and time chosen with J. Hostetter who is responsible for booking the auditorium.
5. J. Huebner reminded Ed Bond that we need his budget for the Chapel. Ed responded that the roofer he hired has done an unacceptable job and that when they arrive at an agreement he will have a better idea if additional funds will be needed. K. Lew mentioned that that Mike Burke had told the Board last week that he thought there were carpenter ants in the Chapel. The Board asked Ed

to look into this. He said that he doubted the presence of the ants but that he would check and update the Board.

6. K. Lew mentioned that we have no money to participate in the map project that is being promoted locally. The producer of the Becket/Washington Map has come to the town for a \$300 grant to help defray the cost of printing. The maps were first produced a couple of years ago and were eagerly snapped up for free by our residents, real estate brokers, visitors to the area and others. The producer is planning a re-issue. It was suggested that that we could possibly use some uncommitted Cultural Council funds for this map project. It was also suggested that we put this on the Annual Meeting warrant or a Special Town Meeting warrant and let the voters decide if it is worthwhile. This suggestion was met with approval and K. Lew said he would look into it.
7. J. Huebner said that we received the paperwork for Chapter 90 from Mass DOT tonight. K. Lew questioned whether or not we will be able to fund the Cross Place Road and Middlefield Road projects out of the Ch. 90 funding. J. Huebner said we will need to discuss this next week when P. Clark and D. Fish will attend.
8. Dick Grillon mentioned that the Washington Mountain Road (WMR) plans show Savery Brook in the wrong location. He is disappointed in the lack of accuracy. Trish Drugmond added that she had looked at the plans a bit this evening and noticed that the road was listed as Mount Washington Road. J. Huebner said that the contractor, Balthazar, had committed to fixing the source of water on WMR that is flooding one of our resident's driveways near the Little Red School House. This will be fixed tomorrow.
9. J. Huebner reported that we had received a letter from DOT addressing our concerns about the plan for reconstruction of Summit

Hill Road Bridge. They have committed to getting the impassable detour road into reasonable shape before the start of construction. Hinsdale will work on grading and finishing the surface with gravel. DOT also said that they will “compress the schedule” to get the job finished more quickly. Construction will be done in the summer months of 2017. They will not be able to add a second lane to the bridge without starting the process all over again. D. Spencer and others agreed that this was not an option for the Town. The reconstruction is already many years overdue. Strong consensus was that we must move ahead with it now. J. Huebner said that he will draft a reply to DOT’s letter to present to the Board next week.

10. There is no news on the cemetery. K. Lew and Dick Grillon discussed the placement of the proposed additions to our Veteran’s Memorial behind the Old Town Hall where the older tablets stand.
11. J. Huebner reported that the Town Received a check in the amount of \$212.50 from Waste Management.
12. He made a motion to nominate Chief Breen as Inspector of animals again. His term will last through April 30, 2017. Mike Case seconded the motion and the vote to approve the nomination was unanimous.
13. J. Hostetter told the Board that we have received a petition from Verizon for Job # 4A0C1VU. The location of the work is Upper Valley Road. They enclosed their petition to install conduit and move 3 electric poles. Also enclosed were 3 abutters’ cards to be sent to the affected residents. They requested that the Town hold a public hearing on the project. J. Hostetter suggested that the meeting be held on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 6:30 pm. Verizon accepted this date as did the Board. J. Hostetter will fill out and send the cards to the abutters.

14. Vera Cormier of the Board of Health told the Selectmen that she had signed the well permit tonight.

15. K. Lew mentioned that he has found the MMA best practices material of interest. He will print it out and review it . He thinks it may be a helpful resource for the Finance Committee.

16. J. Huebner took a roll call vote to go into executive session at 7:32 pm. The room was cleared and the doors closed. He made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:38 pm. M. Case seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

17. J. Huebner made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen’s Meeting at 7:39 pm. M. Case seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

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

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted, Jan Nelson