

Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen at the Town Hall on July 25, 2016

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Attending for the Board was J. Huebner, M. Case and T. Drugmand.
2. After leading the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance M. Case moved to approve the minutes of July 18, 2016 meeting. J. Huebner seconded and the vote to accept the minutes was unanimous.
3. M. Case moved to approve the monthly Selectboard's letter to residents. J. Huebner seconded and the vote to accept the minutes was unanimous.
4. After a brief J. Huebner motioned to approve the Selectboard's letter to Ben Downing. T. Drugmand seconded and the vote to approve the letter passed unanimously.
5. E. Neumuth met with the Board to request that he be nominated the Town of Washington representative to the Highlands Footpath project explaining that Highlands Footpath project will ultimately link scenic or historical sights through meandering paths running east to west from Lee to Goshen using the Town of Washington existing trails within October Mountain. Connecting paths could be created and there may be some signage installed. E. Neumuth informed the Board that the Town of Becket's representative is Meredith Babcock, presented the Board with a letter requesting a town representative and outlining the objectives of the project and that Selectmen M. Case was familiar with the project and could provide more details. After review of the document and a brief discussion J. Huebner motioned to appoint Ed Neumuth the Town of Washington's representative to the Highlands Footpath. T. Drugmand seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.
6. Kent Lew informed the Board that today he and S. Nelson got together for a conversation with counsel regarding the Eversource and Verizon fees but didn't go into the detail as they're waiting for a resolution. K. Lew did report that the \$5,620.00 note can be paid much later down the road as it is not an application fee but part of the licensing process to do a pole survey. The Verizon fee is pending. K. Lew added that the town does have an approved appropriation for the overall project that would cover the cost so a STM may not be needed adding that there is a timing/accounting issue as the Town has not got the financing yet. K. Lew also added that there is legislation pending allowing MLP accounting to happen as an enterprise fund instead of a separate fund.
7. After K. Lew's report J. Huebner motioned to amend the monthly Selectboard letter replacing "will" with "may" in the last sentence of the fourth paragraph changing the sentence to read "we may have to have a Special Town Meeting to authorize the spending". M. Case seconded and the motion passed.

8. The Board confirmed with K. Lew that there is a Capital Assets Meeting in two weeks. T. Drugmand asked for clarification on agenda item to discuss Town Hall infrastructure asking if the Maintenance Coordinator E. Bond has provided a comprehensive maintenance plan. E. Bond reported that K. Lew has a report of some information, he will update the report and will attend the Capital Asset meeting to answer anyone questions.
9. S. Deloye reported that the COA received the chair cart. The folding chairs have been removed from the stage and are being stored on the cart in the storage closet. S. Deloye asked if the broken or weak wooden chairs should they be thrown away or repaired. J. Huebner stated that there are many residents in town that would like chairs restored. K. Lew suggested a report on count and condition compared to need before a decision is made. After discussion J. Hostetter volunteered to conduct the inventory of good chairs.
10. Steve Deloye asked the Board if he could contact Head Start regarding the left behind shed. After discussion the Board granted permission to S. Deloye.
11. J. Huebner entered into the record that he signed the contract between the Town of Washington and Full Circle Technologies, Inc. for online permitting assistant for the town. J. Huebner stated that it is an expensive service but this first year is being fully paid for by BRPC adding that the Town can opt out of the services when it comes time to pay for the service.
12. V. Cormier reported that the only information she could find on 385 Johnson Hill Road is the original well and septic design from 1996 that she couldn't find any Title 5 reports. V. Cormier also reported that she received a Well Permit application. After discussion V. Cormier stated that she will call the Attorney representing the sale regarding the Title V and she asked J. Hostetter to email the BPHA to request assignment of a Health Agent to review the well plans and conduct a site visit.
13. J. Huebner entered into the record receipt of a check from the Town of Becket for \$2,210.00 for Vocational Education Transportation.
14. J. Huebner read aloud a card from B. Simmons thanking the Board for sending her get well cards when she was sick.
15. C. Breen reported there will be an even split on the vocational transportation cost with the Town of Becket as each town has one student. There was a brief discussion on J. Guthrie's request for transportation to Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School with K. Lew reporting that during the budget process he was told by the Assistant Superintendent that approval decisions are typically made at the end of the summer that Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School had to confirm acceptance and the

student had to confirm the commitment to attend. K. Lew asked that the Town find out whether those two things have happened.

- 16.C. Breen informed the Board of the good news he received from Bruce Augustine regarding the upcoming two or three Emergency Management in kind grants reporting that the amount of money the Washington pays to the Town of Becket for services fire and ambulance can be considered as the "in kind" criteria for the grants.
- 17.T. Drugmand asked C. Breen about the unpaid firearm licenses amount of the weekly warrant. Chief Breen explained that it is 75% for money he collected for firearm licenses issued in the Town that we are required to pay to the State.
- 18.Board asked V. Cormier if drainage in front of her house is satisfactory to which V. Cormier replied that it is. A. Southard added that T. Johnson will talk to her to discuss installing a catch basin along the property.
- 19.The Board reviewed the weekly warrant line items asking A. Southard if the tool and bearing items purchased from Pittsfield Lawn and Tractor came with a warrantee to which A. Southard replied that they did not.
- 20.J. Huebner confirmed that J. Hostetter assigned the Emergency Beaver Permit issued before her vacation was assigned a number.
- 21.A. Southard reported that he had nothing new to report on Blotz except they're going to begin trimming branches. Summit Hill Road branch trimming is scheduled for this week. K. Lew asked if the Highway Department spoke to the utility company about their cutting schedule. A. Southard reported that the power company is not going to trim for another three weeks so the Highway will move forward on the town's schedule.
- 22.Greg Grogan asked Board for an update on the Municipal Light Plan. The Board referred him to K. Lew.
- 23.J. Huebner confirmed with P. Clark an informational meeting on Eden Glen for August 15th at 7:30 PM.
24. P. Clark submitted for signature the Cross Place Road Culvert Replacement & Related Work contract. P. Clark informed the Board that the advertisement for invitation to bid on Eden Glen is going out on August 10, 2016 with an informational meeting held on the 15th and the bid opening will be held at the Town Hall on August 29th at 7:30.
- 25.J. Huebner reported that he reached out Mr. Wildman of the Department of Ecological Restoration (DER) regarding money to remove the dam. The first review meeting will be held in two weeks and with any luck the Town should have an official decision on money to remove the Eden Glen dam in October or late September. P. Clark informed the Board that the time works as some of the work associated with removal of the dam was

incorporated into the Eden Glen project scope and the work was also pulled out as an alternative scope. It will be discussed during the meeting of the August 15th meeting.

- 26.M Case told A. Southard that the Highway Crew did a nice job on the Schulze Road drainage.
27. T. Drugmand discussed briefly with A. Southard the use of a pole saw while on the back of the big truck to cut branches.
- 28.J. Huebner reported that there is nothing new to report from Syncarpa. He also tried to contact the Clean Footprint folks out of Florida without luck. This company plans to install solar arrays in both North Adams and Adams. They discounted more and offer grants to towns that go with them. He will continue to follow up.
- 29.Jim Huebner entered into the record receipt of the following correspondence:
 - i. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Human Services information notice regarding reporting sources of radiation discovered in trash and scrap waste collections.
 - ii. Town of Lenox ZBA notice regarding petition of Steve C. Morrison for property owned by My Four Daughters LLC. Notice will be posted.
 - iii. Town of Lenox ZBA notice of decision approving the site plan of Willow Creek Road LLC solar project. Notice will be posted.
 - iv. City of Pittsfield notice of special permit granted to Jeffrey Carr and Bonnie Levine of 669 Churchill Street.
 - v. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission memorandum to Delegates and Alternates to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission requesting completion of the ballot authorization for executive committee to act on behalf of the commission. J. Hostetter to send to M. Wiley.
- 30.The Board discussed the letter to Mr. Shapira regarding the new Veterans Memorial to recapture his interest. After discussion the Board provided J. Hostetter with a draft letter to type on town letterhead.
- 31.M. Case reported that T. Drugmand's election to the Selectboard is listed in this month's issue of The Beacon.
- 32.T. Drugmand asked J. Hostetter to put into the minutes that the Emma Bailey Scholarship Committee is looking forward to having a meeting in September and will reach out to L. Levernoch and the Washington Scholarship for a possible collaboration.
- 33.There was discussion on reviewing for release Executive Session meeting minutes. It was decided that the Board would not at this time review any of the Executive Session meeting minutes for this year. J. Huebner motioned to release the executive session

minutes of August 25, 2014. M. Case seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

34. M. Case is to going to be listed as the towns Veterans Service Officer even though the Pittsfield VSO will be performing that office's duties for the town.

35.J. Huebner motioned to sign letter to E. Shapira. M. Case seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

36.V. Breen reported that on his weekly drive through of Bucksteep he came across some activity. Someone was having a fire contained in a fire ring. V. Breen asked if there were any plans made for Bucksteep. There were none.

37.J. Huebner motioned to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 7:59 pm. T. Drugmand seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Accepted: _____ Date _____

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Accepted: _____

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Hostetter