

Town of Washington
Board of Selectmen
MINUTES
February 2, 2012

1.0 ASSEMBLY

1.1 Meeting called to order at 7:00PM.

1.2 Members: Guy Eaton, Ken Eastman and Tom Marshall

1.3 Visitors: Bob Wright,

2.0 MINUTES

Eastman motioned that the Selectmen's minutes of January 26, 2012 be accepted as written. Marshall seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Important Dates -

February 4th □ Budget Hearing at the Town Hall 2PM

February 7th □ Planning Board Public Hearing regarding the proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance 6:30PM at the Town Hall with regular meeting to follow

February 8th □ Board of Adjustment Public Hearing 5:30PM with regular meeting to follow

February 8th □ Park and Recreation Commission 6:00PM at the Town Hall

February 9th □ School Board Budget Hearing 6:30PM at the Washington Elementary School

February 14th □ Forestry Committee 4PM at the Town Hall

February 15th- Conservation Commission meeting 7PM at the Town Hall

February 18th □ The Washington Rescue Squad will be hosting the First Annual Whoopie Pie Contest at Camp Morgan Lodge- Posters with rules are at the Town Hall and the Post Office

February 18th-19th Washington Ice Fishing Derby at Camp Morgan Lodge

March 2nd- Meet the Candidates Night 7PM at the Town Hall

March 3rd- Washington Snow Rider Dance at Camp Morgan Lodge 7:30PM

March 10th- School Meeting 2PM at the Washington Elementary School

March 13th □ Town Meeting 9AM at the Camp Morgan Lodge

Did You Know?

Applications for the position of Tax Collector are being accepted if you would like an application please see Michelle Dagesse at the Town Hall.

Jerry Klohs is requesting interest/input for a potluck dinner at Camp Morgan Lodge (February 12th between 5-7PM) to discuss creating a cooperative Washington, a food cooperative, and skill/work cooperative. If you are interested call Jerry: 1-800-746-8783

3.0 BUILDING AND PARKING PERMITS

3.1 None

4.0 APPOINTMENTS DURING THE DAY AND PREVIOUSLY

- 4.1 Lola Allen phoned to rent Camp Morgan Lodge. Dagesse assisted her and sent her an application.
- 4.2 Butch Amadio phoned and asked for a property card faxed to his office. Dagesse faxed the card.
- 4.3 Jerry Klohs came in to discuss his views on the Town of Washington and wanted to set up a potluck dinner. See □Did You Know□
- 4.4 Barbara Cash came in with a question regarding the petition on the Chief Marshall and how to become a Rescue Squad member. Dagesse will forward the rescue squad information.
- 4.5 Representatives of Capital Alarm came and tested the smoke alarms in all the Town buildings.
- 4.6 John Hyland came in to ask about the deadline for Town Report submissions and invited the Selectmen to the School Budget Hearing.
- 4.7 Dan Reed phoned to inquire if the Town□s attorney has returned with comments regarding Ulrich Road.
- 4.8

5.0 DEPARTMENT HEAD AND EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS

5.1 Michelle Dagesse:

- 5.1.1. Completed the proposed 2012 warrant.
- 5.1.2. Completed the detailed expense budget for this Saturdays Budget Hearing.

5.2 Ed Thayer:

- 5.2.1. Discussed that the downstream side of the Mill Street Bridge abutment was being backfilled today. The anticipated completion of the bridge will be completed at the end of February.
- 5.2.2. Discussed the wood boiler this year in the Town budget and the Town would recoup the monies within two to two and a half years. The Selectmen agreed to move forward with the warrant to read \$33,000.00

5.3 Sandra Poole:

- 5.3.1. Asked the Selectmen to appoint Colleen Duggan to type the minutes.

6.0 Public Appointments:

- 6.1 Bob Wright came in to discuss the Rescue Squad budget because he will not be able to attend the budget hearing this weekend. The Selectmen

discussed the billing fund account and lasts years capital reserve account for the ambulance fund. There was discussion on the condition of the current ambulance. Eaton said that right now it looks like the ambulance could last until 2014. Wright agreed that this would be the hope. Eaton asked how much a new ambulance would cost. Wright said \$184,000.00 was the best estimate that the Rescue Squad got from the most recent convention. Eaton asked Wright if the cell phone works with the equipment on the ambulance. Wright said yes, it has been completed and it is functioning. Eaton asked if the Rescue Squad has plenty of members. Bob said no, but we have one completing her course work and will be on the squad soon.

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

- 7.1 A copy of The New Hampshire Civil Engineer- Forward to Thayer
- 7.2 Email from Don Damm supporting Chief Marshall Filed
- 7.3 A copy of Legislative Bulletin- Public reading file
- 7.4 Letter from Local Government Center forwarding the public official schedule bond for 2012. Filed
- 7.5 Email from Sue Blothenburg forwarding information on HB1238. Public reading file
- 7.6 Email from Nick Zaharias supporting Chief Marshall. Filed
- 7.7 Letter from LCHIP forwarding comments from the preliminary plans that were provided by Richard Monahan, Jr. Architects. Filed
- 7.8 Information from Susan Terzakis regarding the Town of Washington flag request and pictures of Washington.

8.0 Unfinished Business

- 8.1 Discussed budget items for upcoming Budget Hearing.
- 8.2 Dagesse is requesting that the following committees or departments forward their reports for Town Report immediately to make sure that they are included. Cemetery Committee, Conservation Commission, Fire Department, Joint Loss Management Committee, Park and Recreation, Tax Collector and Rescue. All of these reports must be emailed to me so that I can insert them I am running short on time.
- 8.3 Bill Cole discussed the double doors in the basement of Camp Morgan Lodge. The Selectmen requested that he fix the frame of the door for approximately \$380.00.

9.0 New Business

9.1

10.0 DISBURSEMENTS APPROVED

- 10.1 The Board approved cheques for payroll of \$7,408.02 and vendor checks in the amount of \$44,388.88 for February 3, 2012

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

11.1 Eastman motioned to adjourn at 8:50PM. Marshall seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully,

Michelle Dagesse
Secretary for the Board of Selectmen

(See Below)

Open Letter: To the Selectmen of Washington, NH
From: Washington Citizens Speaking Out
Date: January 26, 2012
Subject: Support of Chief Marshall

There is a dust-up going on at the Town Hall that is not in the Town best interest, which needs to be addressed now. Some citizens have tossed two poorly written Petitions Warrant Article□s on the Selectmen□s desk and now the Town Hall is caught up in the process of what to do with this hot potato and the upcoming Town Warrant. It appears a small number of voters are exercising their right of speech to request the Chief of Police be removed by Town vote simply because they are dissatisfied, but without citing any cause, and failing to recognize the electorate do not have the direct power to remove the Chief □ that authority rests with the Selectmen. Also on the table is a petition requesting the voters to decide to elect a Chief rather than have the position controlled and managed by the Selectmen? We respect the right of those wishing to voice their opinion at this time, but find leaving these two related issues languishing until the Town Moderator can bring the questions before the Town Meeting in March unacceptable. Hidden in the intent of the two articles there appears to be a personal vendetta against a dedicated public servant, who many in the Town hold in great respect and do not wish to see unfairly damaged. We therefore, wish to make known our support of Chief Steven Marshall and his entire police force.

To some, Chief Marshall may be the blue gum ball light on the highway reminding us to let up on the accelerator. His service to this Town goes far beyond the familiar blue light. Marshall is a professional police officer who has served Washington as its Chief for 13 years. Let□s look at what he does:

- He provides management of and police law enforcement for our lovely peaceful town.
- His Police Department is one of the most cost effective units in the State

- He effectively integrates trained part time officers into the force for increased coverage.
- He is a certified EMT i2, and fills a frequent void occurring in Rescue Operations in town.
- He has been credited with saving the lives of Washington residents.
- His fast action ordering in air rescue for a recent critical accident was key to a life saved.
- He is certified in fire fighting and has entered home fires when needed.
- He is often the first person into a house call for a home dispute.
- He has on occasion single-handed arrested persons dangerous to our community.
- He is qualified to & prosecutes Town cases in court offsetting the expense of an attorney.
- He instituted the police vehicle camera system as protection for citizens and officers alike.
- He trains all his officers in Taser and OC tactic use before lethal methods.
- He has a school/police officer program to maintain openness with youth.
- He has his force keep a close eye on seasonal homes.
- He works the 2 am shift when needed to catch house thief[s].
- He is a member of the County SWAT and able to bring that resource to bear when needed.
- He does the Towns dirty work ☞ like citing unlicensed junk yards.
- He chases mischievous dogs and saves our pets from harm.
- He even helped cook the dinner in honor of Town Veterans.
- He has been known to find lost children on isolate woodland trails.
- He checks on elderly persons not heard from.
- He is alert and knows what is going on in town
- He wears a 10 lb Kevlar vest with a .40 cal. on his hip all day for our protection.

- He is Washington's Police Chief and he is a good Cop.

Maybe he has some faults like:

- He uses the blue gum ball a lot to slow us down and save lives.
- He sometimes stops us to advise we have a light out to help us avoid an accident.
- He will wave us down when we are in a hurry because there is black ice.
- He takes DWI offenders off the road so others may live.
- He chastises parents who let kids violate the law riding OHRV's without helmets.
- He corrects kids dangerously riding snowmobiles so they live to ride another day.
- He won't wave to you when he has another citizen's vehicle pulled over he stays focused.
- He won't wave when he is at an incident he stays focused.
- He is serious about his duty and performs it first, properly and very well he is a professional

Let it be known. We the citizens of Washington support our Police Chief and consider he is doing a top notch job. We request the Selectmen read this letter into the minutes of the next weekly meeting. And, at Town meeting the citizens will exercise their right to speak after we hear how our Chief has failed in his duty to the Town.

SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS