

Town of Washington  
Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2020, Selectmen Meeting 9:00 am at the Town Hall

ASSEMBLY

MEMBERS: Tom Marshall (absent), Jed Schwartz, Don Revane

1.0 Visitors:

2.0 Minutes: Schwartz moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 5, 2020, Revane second, all voted in favor.

IMPORTANT DATES:

March 26, 2020, The Town Offices are closed except for essential business by town officials and employees due to COVID19. Selectmen office hours will be 9-10am, the public can phone in if they have questions for the board, no 7:00 PM evening public meetings at the Town Hall until further notice.

**DID YOU KNOW!!**

**Parks & Recreation  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Town Hall  
Saturday, April 4, 2020, / 10:00 am  
Light refreshment will be served (rain or shine)  
**HAS BEEN CANCELLED****

**The Town of Washington Ordains:  
Ordinance #93:011  
Spring Road Load Limit Posting**

**Limitation of Use:** Except as specifically provided in Section V below, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle weighing more than six (6) tons on any Limited Weight Street, Highway from **March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>** or as deemed necessary.

**Special Permits:** The Road Agent shall issue a special permit after consulting with the Board of Selectmen for the operation of vehicles weighing more than six (6) tons over Limited Weight Streets, Highways and/or Bridges only after the Road Agent and Selectmen determines that the vehicle will not cause unusual damage to the highway.

**Exceptions:** Delivery vehicles making occasional trips to service residences. Any permitted business in the Town of Washington operating a Motor Vehicle empty over six (6) tons from their place of business to and from N.H. Route 31 and N.H. Route 10.

Pursuant to Town Ordinance #001983-1

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle in excess of 2,000 lbs. on any class V road to a summer cottage or class 6 highways until the end of mud season as designated by the Public Works Director.

If anyone is negatively impacted by the Corona Virus and needs assistance, please contact Monica Scanlan, Welfare Administrator 495-0262.

Town of Washington's Food Pantry will be open on Saturdays for the month of March, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, by appointment only. Call Sue Hofstetter 495-0096 for appointment.

## **From the Board of Selectmen March 18, 2020**

### **Re: COVID-19**

Due to State and Nationwide advisories and mandates resulting from the continuing spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Town of Washington is implementing a number of precautionary measures to protect our community, town officials and employees. Please know these measures are temporary and we are all hoping to get back to normal as soon as possible! As the situation evolves we expect changes and revisions to these measures. Please visit the Washington Website <https://www.washingtonnh.org> for the latest updates on services and restrictions due to the pandemic.

**As of Tuesday March 17, access to all town Buildings will be restricted to essential personnel only. The business of our town government will go on, but much of this work will be completed remotely.**

**Restricted Buildings:** Town Hall, DPW Building, Fire, Rescue and Police Station, Camp Morgan Lodge, Shedd Free Library.

All public Committee, Board and Commission meetings are suspended until further notice. Any essential town business can be conducted by phone or internet conference, minutes will be recorded and posted as usual.

**1. The Selectmen** will be canceling the weekly Thursday, 7pm public meetings until further notice. We will continue working on the business of the town and will record and post minutes as always. The Selectmen are in close contact with our town safety agencies; Emergency

Management, Fire and Rescue, Police and Welfare, and will do our best to keep the public informed of any information relevant to community safety and access to public services. Call 603-495-3661 to contact the selectmen's office with any questions or concerns. Please leave us a message and one of us will get back to you if the line is tied up

**Building Permits:** Please download the permit from the town website and leave the completed permit and all required documents in the box (labeled "Building Permits") located in the entryway to the meeting house on Thursday mornings between 9:am and Noon. The Board will review your permit within 7 days and get back to by phone with any questions or concerns."

**2. Emergency Management** - Cynthia Dressel, the new Director of Washington's Emergency Management Team is in contact with the state and federal agencies associated with the response to the COVID-19 emergency. The Town's EOC will open if needed, but for now we are on stand-by and ready to coordinate with the local, state and federal response activities if needed.

**3. Fire and Rescue** The Washington Fire and Rescue Chief and Captain are in close contact with our associated hospitals and doing their best to stay on top of the latest protocols that are being updated daily regarding first responders assisting those in need of help during this crisis. For now, the Fire Station building has restricted access to only those who are active fire, rescue and police personnel. As always **in an emergency call 911**, Non emergencies fire/rescue 495-3133.

**4. Police** The Washington police are on full alert and maintaining their usual full schedule of operations. Non emergencies call 495-3294.

**5. The Tax Collector and Town Clerk** will be available by telephone only, 603-495-3667, please leave a message if your call is not answered, if you have an urgent question, call Sandy Eccard at 748-2197. Documents and motor vehicle registrations will be processed by enclosing them in an envelope and leaving them in the drop-box located in the outer entrance of the Town Hall before 1pm on Thursdays, **or** mailing your documents to:

*Town Clerk or Tax Collector*  
7 Halfmoon Pond Rd.  
Washington, NH 03280

Your documents will be mailed back to you. Please plan ahead, this will take some extra time!

**FYI: The state has extended all temporary plates issued after March 1st from 20 to 45 days. So far there is no extension to the 10-day grace period for standard registration renewals.**

For detailed information concerning the documents required to register your vehicle or any other business with the town clerk or tax collector, please go to the town Website and choose the Town Clerk or Tax Collector in the Boards and Committees tab. They can both be reached by phone or email, also noted on the website.

**6. The Recycling/Transfer station** will be opened at the usual hours, but the “mall” will be closed until further notice. For now, please hold your items that you think might be of use to others rather than leaving them at the “mall”. Please remain in your vehicles until you are able to pull up to the compactor to dispose of your trash. All recycling will continue as usual. The attendant shed is restricted to employees only.

**7. The Department of Public Works** will continue to be fully operational, however their building will be restricted to DPW personnel only. Please call Ed Thayer with any questions regarding the roads or the transfer station at 603-495-3641.

**8. The Welfare Department** is here to help! Please contact Monica Scanlan at 495-0262 if you are in need of welfare assistance. If you need assistance with groceries, please contact Sue Hofstetter at 495-0096 to schedule an appointment to visit the food pantry. The privacy of all welfare clients is guarded and respected so please let us know if you need help!

**9. The Washington Library** will be closed until further notice, they will be anxious to reopen as soon as this emergency is behind us.

Again, as the situation evolves we expect changes and revisions to these measures. Please visit the Washington Website <https://www.washingtonnh.org> for the latest updates on services and restrictions due to the pandemic.

Please stay safe and reach out to us if you need help!

Washington Board of Selectmen

### 3.0 BUILDING PERMITS:

### 4.0 APPOINTMENTS DURING THE DAY AND PREVIOUSLY:

### 5.0 DEPARTMENT HEADS AND EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS:

5.1 Cynthia Dressel, (EOC Director) brought the Select Board up to date with the latest information from the state agencies regarding the pandemic.

5.2 Cynthia agreed to establish an “official” Town of Washington Facebook page where important town related information can be shared with the public. The information on this FB page will be restricted to content that will aid in the welfare of the community and supply clear information regarding events, policies, programs and services provided by the town.

### 6.0 PUBLIC:

### 7.0 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

7.1 Ed Thayer provided two "Permission to Work" documents from residents in order to continue with Ayers Pond Road Bridge replacement project. Filed

7.2 NH DHHS Sent an Official Health Alert RE: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update #8: Updates on COVID19 Testing and Reporting.

7.3 NH Preservation Alliance news Volume XXXV, No. 1

7.4 NH Municipal Association Legislative Bulletin # 12.

7.5 NH Department of Revenue Administration (PA-34) Inventory of Property Transfer

7.6 NH Department of Environmental Services, RE: Millen Lake Dam # D245004, letter of deficiency issued on April 13, 2012 has determined that the deficiencies have been corrected.

7.7 Eversource, RE: Maintenance outage required scheduled on April 28, 2020, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

#### 8.0 OLD BUSINESS:

#### 9.0 NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Revane Moved to approve \$1,500.00 from the Health Reimbursement Capital Reserve fund and for Schwartz to sign on behalf of the Select Board. Moved

9.2 Revane moved to approve \$3,205.14 from the Town Building Capital Reserve Fund and of Schwartz to sign on behalf of the board. Moved

#### 10.0 EXPENDITURES:

10.1 The Selectmen authorized payroll checks in the amount of \$ 9,812.96 and vendor checks in the amount of \$ 237,769.76 for the week of March 21, 2020.

#### 11.0 ADJOURNMENT

11.1 Schwartz moved to adjourn at 10:05 am and Revane second. Moved

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah DeFosse