

Town of Washington
Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2020, Selectmen Meeting 9:00 am at the Town Hall

ASSEMBLY

MEMBERS: Tom Marshall, Jed Schwartz, Don Revane

1.0 Visitors:

2.0 Minutes: Schwartz moved to approve the meeting minutes of May 14, 2020, Revane second, all voted in favor.

IMPORTANT DATES:

May 28, 2020, The Town Offices are closed except for essential business due to COVID-19. Usual Selectmen office hours have been cut back to 9-10 am, evening 7 pm public meetings at the Town Hall are canceled until further notice.

May 27, 2020, Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting, Camp Morgan Lodge, 7:00 pm

DID YOU KNOW!!

Unfortunately with the Covid-19 pandemic the Old Home Day scheduled for the end of July has been postponed until 2021.

In conjunction with Park & Rec. and with careful consideration of the safety of our public, with much regret, the select board with Park & Rec. unanimously voted to cancel the Summer Program held at Camp Morgan.

From the Board of Selectmen March 30, 2020

To visitors and non-resident homeowners who have come to Washington to escape exposure to COVID- 19, and residents returning from out of state.

Due to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the town of Washington, the Selectmen issued a Shelter in place advisory on March 23.

When you arrive in Town, you and anyone with you is advised to self-quarantine for not less than 14 days.

Please arrive with the supplies you need to get you through your period of quarantine. You should not leave your home for any reason **except to fulfill essential needs.**

Please adhere to social distancing guidelines and avoid social gatherings or recreational activities that could put you or others at risk, including gathering in groups of UTVs, Off-Road Bikes, and Cycling or for Hiking.

Our town officials are dedicated to a coordinated effort to keep our community and town employees as safe as possible by promoting measures to stay ahead of the pandemic.

Please stay home and stay safe!

From the Fire Chief and Fire Warden Regarding Burn Permits:

In regards to burn permits, we will not be issuing burn permits at this time so that we can limit the person to person contact. The permitting process can now be done online at nhfirepermit.com so please direct everyone to that site for their fire permits.

The Tax Collector and Town Clerk starting May 28, 2020, hours have changed to the following: Thursdays 1:00 to 5:00 pm, Friday 9:00 to 3:00 pm and the last Saturday of the Month 9:00 to 12:00 pm. The same protocol will be in effect. (See # 5 below)

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

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 several 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, 7 pm 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.

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 standby 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. 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 Thursdays between 1:00 pm -5:00 pm, Fridays, 9:00 to 3:00 pm and the last Saturday of the month, 9:00 to 12:00 pm or please mail 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 the items that you think might be of use to others rather than leaving them at the “mall”. Please remain in your vehicles until you can pull up to the compactor to dispose of your trash. **Paper and cardboard are no longer being accepted at the recycling center**, all other 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 need welfare assistance. If you need assistance with groceries, please contact Sue Hofstetter at 495-0096 to schedule an appointment to pick up ordered items from 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:

"For 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, or mail to the Selectmen at 7 Halfmoon Pond Road, Washington NH 03280. The Board will review your permit within 7 days and get back to you by phone with any questions or concerns."

3.1 Scott Depot Tm # 22/52 requesting a building permit to construct a 12 X 9' open porch. Revane moved to approve the building permit. Marshall second all voted in favor.
Permit # 20/27

4.0 APPOINTMENTS DURING THE DAY AND PREVIOUSLY:

4.1 Dan Lavoie discussed property on Valley Road.

4.2 Ryan Curran, discussed the Covid-19 (2.0) opening for restaurants.

4.3 Conference call with Allan Kingsbury, (Ciardelli). Re: introduction to the services of Ciardelli and to submit a bid on the town's heating and fuel expense.

5.0 DEPARTMENT HEADS AND EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS:

5.1 Chief Murdough

5.1.1 Correspondence to the select board regarding an end of the year parade send off to students. Date and Time to be determined.

5.2 Ed Thayer (DPW)

5.2.1 Provided quotes to purchase and install highway radio in the new backhoe and transfer radio into additional equipment. Schwartz moved to approve the expenditure, Marshall second all voted in favor.

5.2.2 Email to the select board with the needed repairs for the golf cart at the transfer station. Schwartz moved to approve the golf cart repair for \$500.00. Revane second all voted in favor.

5.3 Chief Atkins

5.3.1 Provided the calls of service.

5.3.2 Discussed the paramedic status and after deliberation Revane moved to retain the paramedic status Marshall second, Schwartz recused oneself.

5.4 Bruce Carpenter

5.4.1 Discussed the opening of restaurants (2.0).

5.4.2 Provided his resignation letter as Health Officer. With much regret, the select board accepted his resignation and thanked him for all his hard work that he has done for the town.

6.0 PUBLIC:

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

7.1 NH Department of Environmental Services, Re: Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit 2019-038963 Tm # 14/202.

7.2 NH Department of Environmental Services, Re: Shoreland Impact Permit 2019-02626 Tm # 12/69

7.3 American Red Cross for the generous gift of \$ 500.00 voted at town meeting.

7.4 Property owner (CC) a letter they had sent to Chief Murdough, regarding boundaries complaint.

7.5 Jed Schwartz provided a copy of one's email correspondence to Matthew Serge, (town council) and Greg Im. Re: Bond expenditure

8.0 OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 Revane motioned to authorize the balance of the invoice for new signage for the fire/rescue complex from the fire department budget line (building maintenance). Marshall second Schwartz recused.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Marshall moved to approve the \$ 100.00 donation to the Community Serve Fund held by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Schwartz second all voted in favor.

10.0 EXPENDITURES:

10.1 The Selectmen authorized payroll checks for \$ 7,948.35 and vendor checks for \$ 4,612.47 for the week of May 22, 2020.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

11.1 Schwartz moved to adjourn at 2:12 pm and Revane second. Moved

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah DeFosse