

Joint Selectboard Meeting with Selectboard of Washington November 25, 2024

The meeting was opened at 6:35 PM by Ann Martie Vicsonti, Chair with Curt Robie and Tamarin Laurel-Paine, members also in attendance. Others present were the Washington Select Board, Mark Doane Middlefield Administrative Assistant, and Middlefield residents Kenneth Murray and Adair Laurel-Cafarella.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the vacant Town Administrator position. The Washington Selectboard has decided to go with a separate part time Town Administrator and not continue with a shared position with Middlefield.

Discussion occurred surrounding the Inter Municipal Agreement where a six-month notice was to be given to terminate the contract. As the Town Administrator has already resigned, and no candidates are in the wings, a motion was made, seconded, and carried by Middlefield to have the contract end in one month. The motion carried. Washington Town Counsel will draw up a Letter of Termination with the last date being January 15, 2025. This will also allow time for finalization of payments of salary.

The Towns of Middlefield and Washington will meet on January 15, 2025 in Washington Town Hall to finalize all aspects for termination of the Inter Municipal Agreement. The Washington Board then left.

The Middlefield Board then opened a Tax Classification hearing with the Board of Assessors. The Assessors reported that the software they use is not working correctly and the software programs (QDS and Tylor) are not in agreement, giving 2 different valuation figures. Also, the question of a single tax rate or split tax rate was discussed, with Kenneth Murray recommending to stay with a single tax rate. He explained that the split tax rate will not make much of a tax difference. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to go with a single tax rate. A question was asked how this will affect the tax payer. The assessors stated that there would be no jump in taxes. The Assessors also reported the Town had new growth of \$1,000,000.00.

It was also stated that Mary Ann Pease needs the Tax information by the week before Christmas so tax bills will be ready by January 1, 2025. It was also stated that Beverly Cooper needs to close out FY 24.

Another date will be chosen for continuation of the Tax Classification Hearing.

No further business to come before the Board, the meeting was closed at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark W. Doane,
Administrative Assistant

Ann Marie Visconti, Chair: _____

Curt Robie, Member: _____

Tamarin Laurel-Paine, Member: _____