

**Joint Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board and Village Trustees
September 22, 2011
Thatcher Brook Primary School**

Present: R. Ellis, Chair; K. Miller, P. Clapp, J. Grenier, and B. Butler, Select Board; P. H. Flanders, Village President; L. Sayah and N. Howell-Sherman, Trustees; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; T. Stevens State Representative; C. Preston, Waterbury Record; and C. Lawrence, Town Clerk.

The meeting of both Boards was called to order at 7:55a.m.

A discussion was held as to how the future of the State Complex is critical to the successful rebuilding of Waterbury. A group met with Dunkeil Saunders law firm and they prepared a position paper on the State Complex issue for the Boards to consider. The key point is to keep the 1,500 State employees in Waterbury. The Boards discussed adopting this as a formal position paper and whether to deliver it the Administration either verbally or written, or both.

The State has invested in this community since they started converting the buildings in the 1970s. The complex is central to the greater Waterbury community, and people move to the Waterbury area because of jobs at the complex.

W. Shepeluk suggested converting the talking points of the position paper into a resolution. It would behoove the Town and Village to have lobbyists working on its behalf to be the eyes and ears of Waterbury during the legislative session. Lawyers may be contracted in the short term as well, to stay at the forefront of this issue.

It will be a challenge to pay for the legal services. W. Shepeluk suggested using the UDAG funds on behalf of the Town and Village to help defray the cost as this is an economic development issue for the entire community and is within the realm of the use for the funds. After a brief discussion, N. Howell-Sherman made a motion to authorize the Municipal Manager to spend Village of Waterbury UDAG funds on behalf of the Town and Village to pay for the services of lawyers, lobbyists, and other professionals as necessary to advocate for and to encourage the State to develop and implement a plan to return to the Waterbury State Complex all employees who were displaced by the named storm Irene. When \$25,000 is spent on such services the Manager will discuss with the Trustees any continued spending from the UDAG fund. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and passed unanimously.

T. Stevens stated that the State Treasurer and other Government officials have offered to make themselves available for discussions.

It was decided to convert the talking points in the position paper to a letter to be delivered to administration, and then do a resolution, if necessary. B. Butler made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the letter on behalf of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by J. Grenier and passed unanimously. N. Howell-Sherman made a motion to authorize the Village President to sign the letter on behalf of the Trustees. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Lawrence, Town Clerk

Approved: September 26, 2011