

**Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board
January 15th, 2018
Steele Community Room ~ 28 North Main Street**

Present: C. Viens, D. Schneider, M. Metayer, J. Brown, M. Frier, Select Board; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; S. Lotspeich, Community Planner; D. Fowler, Recreation Director, A. Imhoff, ORCA Media; and C. Lawrence, Town Clerk.

Public: M. Hughes, Waterbury Record; B. Minter.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

APPROVE AGENDA

M. Frier asked to add a discussion on 51 South Main and a discussion about the Special Town Meeting on January 23rd. D. Schneider asked to add a proclamation discussion. M. Metayer made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by J. Brown and passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

J. Brown made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, including the minutes of the January 8th and January 10th meetings and liquor licenses for Maplewood Convenience Store, Hen of the Wood, Michaels on the Hill and Sunflower Natural Foods. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC

There was no public comment.

WINTERFEST – BILL MINTER

B. Minter was present to discuss Winterfest which will take place starting January 26th. He distributed a schedule of events and thanked the Recreation Director and Highway Department for their help. He stated that there will be a vehicle procession to follow the fire truck to the kickoff bonfire on Friday evening. B. Minter reviewed some of the other activities.

W. Shepeluk asked for details on the ribbon cutting ceremony, and whether or not cutting a cannabis or hops ribbon was being considered. He wanted the Board to be aware as the ceremony is on Town property. D. Schneider stated that it should be generic as it is a family event. The Board concurred that these ideas were inappropriate. B. Minter stated he would take this information back to the committee.

PROCLAMATION

D. Schneider asked the Board to consider a proclamation, as follows:

“We, as Select Board members of the Town of Waterbury, hereby issue this proclamation of condemnation of the racist and vulgar language used by our country’s current President, Donald J. Trump, in January 2018 in referring to Haiti, El Salvador, and African nations as ‘s***hole countries’ in policy discussions on immigration reform.” D. Schneider’s motivation for asking for the proclamation is that the Board represents the Town of Waterbury and would never refer to segments of the community in that manner. M. Frier made a motion to approve the Select Board proclamation. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer. A brief discussion was held. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0 with C. Viens abstaining. C. Viens abstained because of his disgust as to things that are happening in Washington.

51 SOUTH MAIN STREET

M. Frier read the minutes from the Joint Meeting where the RFP’s were reviewed, and through talking with Select Board members understood that the Trustees were not interested in selling the property to the Town as they felt it was a double spend. He does not agree with that math and explained his

reasoning why. W. Shepeluk explained that the offer of zero percent interest on the UDAG borrowing was not sufficient and explained the Trustees perspective on the offer. The Town's proposal to the Village was no different than what the Village intended to do with the property. The Trustees liked the second proposal and may continue discussion with the person who submitted the RFP. M. Frier suggested a discussion about parking at some point after Town Meeting.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – JANUARY 23, 2018

M. Frier wanted to discuss the chatter on Front Porch Forum as to the timing of the Special Meeting. He understands the reasoning is that the State needs to know sooner than March 6th if the Town will fund for resident troopers in preparing their fiscal year budget, but that it should be clarified on Front Porch Forum. M. Metayer responded that a couple of preliminary pieces have been in the Waterbury Record. There will be an op-ed piece in the Waterbury Record on Thursday and he will be placing some information in the next week in the Front Porch Forum. The postings should also explain why the vote must take place from the floor as opposed to a ballot question. Waterbury has always handled public questions from the floor and it would take an article at Town Meeting to change this process.

MANAGER'S ITEMS

Recreation Budget

W. Shepeluk previously distributed the Recreation budget to the Board. He reviewed the pool budget that is up 7% from last year; however revenues for the pool were higher. D. Fowler was present to explain several of the programs during 2017 and W. Shepeluk explained the revenue line items. He then explained the Recreation Administration budget.

W. Shepeluk explained that the salary line item is higher than last year. The reason is that D. Fowler will be leaving in early July. Another Director will be hired by the first of June so there is some overlap.

W. Shepeluk stated there is some uncertainty in the Recreation Programs budget, due to new minimum wage laws. There is no exemption for seasonal workers. A discussion was held with regard to revenues versus expenses and how to close the gap and potentially run programs in the black. D. Fowler explained that there are some programs like science, that a premium can be charged; but other programs like day camp that should be run at cost. A discussion was held with regard to day camp fees and reviewing them at a future date, and the future vision of recreation. The limitation of the facilities is a huge issue. The net cost of the Recreation budget is up 3.7%.

Planning & Zoning Budgets

S. Lotspeich was present to discuss the Planning and Zoning budgets and reviewed some of the work that he and the Zoning Administrator perform. S. Lotspeich explained several of the expense line items in the budget.

S. Lotspeich then reviewed the special projects on tap for 2018, including the zoning re-write, Greeter for the Waterbury Reservoir, Canopy for Trees Urban Forestry Grant project, Colbyville Pedestrian facilities, and Green Mountain Byway Corridor Management Plan.

J. Brown expressed interest in committing more money to the Conservation Commission. W. Shepeluk responded that the Commission can put together a budget and ask for additional funding.

M. Frier asked how the fees compare to other communities. S. Lotspeich stated he hasn't done a review of fees recently, but the Town does not charge impact fees as some other Towns do. It may be a benefit to not have high fees in terms of development, but a review can be done. S. Lotspeich will also look into impact fees.

Green Mountain By-Way Letter of Support

S. Lotspeich distributed a letter of support for the expansion of the Green Mountain Byway to include the towns and villages with Cambridge, Johnson, Hyde Park, and Morristown. The letter will go to John Zicconi with the Vermont Transportation Board. M. Frier made a motion to authorize the Municipal Manager to sign the letter of support for the expansion of the Green Mountain Byway. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer and passed unanimously.

Other

W. Shepeluk distributed information on several of the smaller funds. He then reviewed the Reappraisal fund. There is currently \$42, 000 in the reappraisal fund which will ultimately be used towards a town wide reappraisal.

W. Shepeluk reviewed the Tax Stabilization fund. The balance sheet currently shows \$508,000 in the Edward Jones portfolio. The fund balance is \$972,444.

W. Shepeluk reviewed the Calkins fund. This fund is used to make distributions to the Good Neighbor Fund. There will be an article on the Town Meeting Warning to transfer the fund to the Good Neighbor Fund.

W. Shepeluk then reviewed the Cemetery Fund. They did quite well with their investment portfolio during 2017. The fund balance is almost \$520,000.

There being no further Select Board business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Lawrence, Town Clerk

Approved on: January 22, 2018