

Waterbury Select Board
July 16, 2018
7:00
Minutes

Present: C. Viens, Chairperson; M. Metayer, N. Fish, M. Frier, and J. Brown, Select Board; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; D. Fowler, N. Nadeau, Staff; A. Imhoff, ORCA; and H. Murray, Public.

Chairperson Viens called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

The Board considered the agenda. Shepeluk asked that the Board consider adding the discussion of another parking issue, as well as a request for a liquor license for outdoor consumption at a softball tournament to the agenda. **M. Metayer made a motion to approve the agenda with the two requested additions. The motion was seconded by N. Fish and was approved unanimously.**

C. Viens extended a public “thank you” to Marc Metayer for the “roll out of the new police services being provided by the State Police under our contract”. He noted many in the public were appreciative of the service delivered to date.

The Board took up the consent agenda which included only minutes of the July 2nd meeting. **On a motion made and duly seconded (Metayer/Fish) the board voted to approve the consent agenda 5-0.**

No public was in attendance.

The Board considered a request from Leo Foy of the Dog River Brewery in Berlin for a license to sell beer from a tent on Saturday August 4th at Dascomb P. Rowe Field as part of the men’s league softball tournament. After some discussion the Board gave tentative approval, tasking staff to work out the details. The Board understands the Town Clerk has the authority to issue the permit.

The Municipal Manager introduced Nick Nadeau, the newly appoint Recreation Director to the Board. He also informed the board the Deb Fowler would be leaving the full-time employ of the Town on Friday July 20th. He spoke of the good work that Deb has done in her two plus years of service. The Bboard expressed appreciation for Deb’s work and wished Nick “good luck filling Deb’s shoes”. There was a brief discussion about an organized group of pickle-ball players who have been unwilling to pay a fee for use of the tennis courts. D. Fowler explained that she modified the fee that would be charged to match the fees paid by other adult recreation leagues, but the players still refused to pay. The Select Board asked staff to continue to pursue collection of the fees and agreed with Staff’s suggestion that the court may have to be locked to limit the groups’ access to the courts.

W. Shepeluk discussed with the board the need for an audit of the 2017 financial statements. William Yacavoni, CPA is no longer able to do the work. An RFP was circulated to three firms

a month ago. Only Sullivan Powers of Montpelier responded with a quote. The price proposed was \$22,000. The Manager recommended the acceptance of the quote for the 2017 audit, subject to his review of the proposed technical standards for the scope of work. He also recommended not signing on for 4 additional years, but to consider a broader RFP later this year for a term of service of up to five years. After some discussion, N. Fish made a motion to accept the Manager's recommendation. M. Frier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Manager revisited the discussion of July 2nd concerning the 2018 tax rates. At the time the rates were set he was not certain the education tax rates took into consideration the consolidation of the Harwood Union District and as such the education rates agreed upon were approved "as no higher than \$1.6183 for the homestead rate and \$1.6013 for the non-residential rate. After checking in with the School District's Superintendent and Business Manager, he is confirming those rates were properly set.

The Manager brought to the attention of the Board an issue concerning parking at the Newton Baker Park on Stowe Street. The parking lot is generally filled every afternoon and evening even though the park is empty of people. The lot may be being used as a parking area for a local restaurant or as a park and ride lot. The Manager asked if the Board wanted to consider regulating the parking at that lot. He reported no complaints have been received from users of the park who are unable to find a parking space. By consent, the Board declined to take any action and will wait to see if complaints are received before giving consideration to regulating the parking.

The Manager informed the Board that someone has erected a "rope line" in the highway right-of-way on Sweet Rd near the Hunger Mountain trail head parking lot. Signs have been installed along the rope line, but contain mixed messages. One message is that parking along the road creates a dangerous congestion where emergency vehicles may not pass. Other signs appear to indicate that some of the spots along the road may be reserved for parking. The Manager is taking steps to clear the right of way. It may be prudent in the future to consider regulating parking along that stretch of road.

Marc Metayer reported to the Board about the start of the police contract with the Vermont State Police. We are about two weeks into the contract now and the feedback from the public and the State Police has been positive. Mark Frier asked if a notice could be placed on the town's website directing the public to call 229-9191 if they have a need to speak to or meet with one of the troopers assigned to the Waterbury detail. This is important as there is no police station or office in Waterbury where the public can walk in to meet a trooper or to discuss an issue with the police.

M. Frier moved to adjourn at 8:40pm. It was seconded by M. Metayer and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William Shepeluk, Municipal Manager

Approved: July 30, 2018