

Waterbury Select Board
Monday November 5, 2018
Minutes

Present: M. Metayer, M. Frier, J. Brown, select board members; S. Lotspeich, W. Shepeluk, staff; M. Leddy, Esq. of McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan, PC; A. Imhoff, ORCA;

M. Metayer called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. when a quorum of the board was present.

M. Frier moved to approve the agenda, including in the motion the addition of a discussion concerning a Housing Task Force that is contemplated in the Town Plan. J. Brown seconded the motion and it was approved 3-0.

On a motion duly made and seconded (Frier/Brown), the board unanimously voted to approved the Consent Agenda.

No members of the public were present to comment.

S. Lotspeich, Community Planner appeared to discuss the need for the select board to hold a public hearing on Draft # 3 of the Municipal Plan. He recommended a hearing be warned for December 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Steele Conference Room. **J. Brown moved to warn a public hearing on December 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Steele Conference Room to take public comments on Draft #3 of the Municipal Plan.** M. Frier seconded the motion and it was approved without dissent.

The board discussed the issue of appointing a Housing Task Force as contemplated by Draft # 3 of the Municipal Plan. S. Lotspeich pointed out the current Municipal Plan already contemplates the creation of such a task force, but to date neither the select board nor the former trustees of the former Village of Waterbury had established such a committee or made appointments to it. M. Metayer reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Planning Commission where he suggested that the select board might establish a Housing Task Force and an Energy Task Force in the late spring of 2019, seeking candidates for appointment in late April when the board makes other annual appointments to municipal boards and commissions. He reported the Planning Commission thought such a time frame would work fine for the Energy Task Force, but it was perhaps necessary to create a Housing Task Force and make appointments to it late this year or early next. M. Frier stated that he understands that Stowe is also grappling with this issue and wondered whether a joint task force with representation from both towns might be beneficial. S. Lotspeich stated that might be a problem logistically, but it would be a good idea for the two towns to share information and concepts regarding this important issue. M. Metayer suggested this issue should be included, before the end of 2018, on the agenda for a select board meeting and that interested citizens and other stakeholders concerned about housing be encouraged to participate.

S. Lotspeich, Community Planner presented information to the board concerning a Recreational Trails Program administered by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. It is a potential funding source for a pedestrian path that would connect the Waterbury Commons

neighborhood, located off the lower section of Perry Hill Road, to the town's sidewalk network that runs up Lincoln Street. The application deadline for this grant program is January 1, 2019. Lotspeich recommended the submission of a pre-application form for the grant prior to November 15th. If submitted, staff will work with the residents of Waterbury Commons and Paul Arnot, the developer of Waterbury Commons, to develop a preliminary design for the trail and a budget, which if funded by the grant would allow construction sometime in 2019. **On a motion duly made and seconded (Brown/Frier), the board voted 3-0 to authorize the submission of the pre-application form for the 2019 Recreational Trails Program to support the project as described.**

W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager, presented information to the board about the health insurance offerings for employees for the 2019 calendar year. He and the board discussed his memo dated October 31, 2018 and his recommendation for an increase of 2.85% in the health insurance allowance to employees who choose to take a health plan. He also recommended increasing the taxable stipend to \$100/month for employees eligible for health insurance who decline coverage. **J. Brown made a motion to offer the allowances and stipends for decisions about health insurance made by eligible employees as recommended by the Municipal Manager.** M. Frier seconded the motion. The board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager, recommended to the board that the discussion of the legal issue involving the town which is before the Vermont Human Rights Commission should be conducted in executive session. **M. Metayer made a motion to find that general public knowledge of the details of potential litigation involving the Town of Waterbury would clearly place the town at a substantial disadvantage.** The motion was seconded by J. Brown and was approved unanimously. **M. Metayer made a motion to enter executive session to consider potential litigation involving the charge of "Mr. Oak" and "K.O." v Town of Waterbury and related confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing legal advice to the town.** J. Brown seconded the motion and the board voted 3-0 to enter executive session, inviting W. Shepeluk and M. Leddy, Esq. to join them in discussion. The board entered the executive session at 8:05 p.m.

The board re-entered open session at 8:45 p.m., having taken no action in executive session. J. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 and M. Frier seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

William Shepeluk
Municipal Manager

Approved on: November 19, 2018