

**Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board
& Notice of Public Hearing
December 3rd, 2018
28 North Main Street**

Present: C. Viens, M. Metayer, J. Brown, N. Fish and M. Frier, Select Board; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; S. Lotspeich, Community Planner; B. Farr, Transportation Liaison; N. Nadeau, Recreation Director; A. Imhoff, ORCA Media; and C. Lawrence, Town Clerk.

Planning Commission: Mary Koen and Ken Belliveau.

Public: Glenn Andersen, Josh O’Gorman (Waterbury Record), Alyssa Johnson, Dana Allen and Amanda McKay.

The Public Hearing for Draft #3 of the Municipal Plan update commenced at 7:00pm.

S. Lotspeich was present and stated that the Planning Commission took public comment on October 15th and that this is the second required public hearing held by the Select Board. S. Lotspeich stated that the plan was updated for a local energy plan section and forest fragmentation. The plan also reflects that the Village of Waterbury no longer exists as a municipality. Much of the plan did not go through a major rewrite, however some corrections were made. A major rewrite was done in 2013. The plan has an eight year life with a check-in with the regional planning commission at the four year mark.

C. Viens brought up the subject of a carbon tax. K. Belliveau stated that there was no discussion on the institution of a carbon tax.

C. Viens expressed concern about the Shutesville Hill corridor and potential for development. S. Lotspeich stated that the Conservation Commission is part of a coalition and will work individually with landowners about conservation. Private land owners with an interest are in the best position to be stewards of the land.

A. Imhoff stated that the housing section shows two residential care homes. There is now only one as Maple Hill is closing.

G. Andersen lives on Sweet Road and brought some notes from his neighbor Debbie Mulvey that included concerns about Shutesville Hill corridor, pet stewardship and verbiage about the Village. He expressed that the maps of the corridor dissect his property and that they are inaccurate. G. Anderson also expressed concerns with water extraction from the watershed. He expressed dissatisfaction with the plan being rubber stamped and put into effect and stated displeasure with wind farms.

W. Shepeluk clarified how the Edward Farrar Utility District came into being and that its water and wastewater systems are not “for profit” operations as Andersen stated. The utility district is a Vermont Municipal Corporation—a municipality whose governing board is elected by the voters who reside in the district. W. Shepeluk also clarified that the Municipal Plan is adopted and becomes effective on a vote by the select board and it will not be sent to voters in March, as Andersen suggested.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:48pm.

S. Lotspeich explained that the current Municipal Plan is due to expire on December 9th. The Planning Commission went through due public process and encouraged the Board to adopt Draft #3. W. Shepeluk stated that if the plan is approved, it can then be amended in the future. B. Farr stated that the plan is more than a guidance document. It is necessary to have a plan in effect for grant funding. M. Metayer made a motion to adopt the plan as represented in Draft #3 dated November 5th, 2018. The motion was seconded by M. Frier and passed unanimously.

Select Board Business

APPROVE AGENDA

N. Fish made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer and passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

M. Metayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19th meeting and a liquor license and outside consumption permit for Pigasus, LLC. The motion was seconded by J. Brown and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC

There was no public comment.

DISCUSSION – VOREC GRANT – FIELDS AND FACILITIES

A proposed grant application was presented at the last meeting. The grant program is a pilot with \$100,000 available with one or two grants to be awarded. S. Lotspeich distributed a project description and reviewed the project elements and detailed budget. The total budget is \$64,600 and the amount of funding requested is \$50,000, leaving a local match of \$14,600. W. Shepeluk stated that if the grant is awarded, the local share would be able to be included in the budget. If the grant is not approved, some of the work will need to be done anyway and the cost to the town will be higher.

D. Allen gave additional details on the trails and connectivity piece of the grant. He described a proposed link of trails from Killington to Stowe with a hut to hut network and a goal to connect the village with Little River State Park. He emphasized the importance of receiving funding for this initiative.

J. Brown made a motion to authorize the Municipal Manager to sign the grant application and to put \$14,600 in the budget as a local cash match. The motion was seconded by M. Frier. C. Viens asked if the grant funding would be in jeopardy if the local match is not approved by voters. W. Shepeluk responded that the Town is trying to be competitive by offering a local match. There are portions of the project that will need to be completed regardless of whether or not the grant is awarded. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER THE MUNICIPAL POLICIES AND CODES (MP-1) REQUIREMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT

B. Farr was present and asked that the Board approve the Municipal Policies and Codes (Form MP-1) for the Community Center Feasibility Study Grant. The grant is for \$35,000. It was noted that the form has been updated and is required for all grant funding, not just the Community Center Feasibility Study Grant. M. Frier made a motion to adopt the Municipal Policies and Codes Requirement as presented for the Town of Waterbury. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer and passed with C. Viens abstaining.

MANAGER'S ITEMS

Amendment to Solar Agreement for Sweet Field Solar Array

W. Shepeluk presented a minor amendment to the Solar Agreement for the Sweet Field Solar Array. The amendment shifts the way that payments are made. J. Brown made a motion to authorize the Municipal Manager to sign the amendment. The motion was seconded by N. Fish and passed unanimously.

Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing – Short Term Rental Housing Research

W. Shepeluk reported that Vermont’s Department of Tourism & Marketing is considering contracting with a consulting firm for a “short term rental housing research project”. The State’s main interest is to get statewide information to understand how many of these short term rental properties are operating and to gather information about collection of the State’s rooms tax. Some consideration had been given to asking some towns to participate to gather information important to local government. While “local options tax revenue” may be of interest to some communities, a bigger issue might be the effect of these short term units on the overall housing market, especially workforce rental housing. Shepeluk asked the board if it might be interested in gathering some of this information, perhaps developing a scope of work for a consultant and a budget for such a study based on information that might be gleaned from the state’s report once it is complete. By consensus, the Board agreed.

There being no further Select Board business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Lawrence, Town Clerk

Approved on: