

**Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board
February 19th, 2019
28 North Main Street**

Present: C. Viens, M. Metayer, N. Fish, and M. Frier (at 7:55pm), Select Board; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; Anne Imhoff, ORCA Media; and C. Lawrence, Town Clerk.

Public: Lt. White, VSP (via phone) and Trooper Joe Szarjko, VSP; Jeff Kilgore, Town Moderator; Mike Hedges, Allan Thompson and Joan Beard, Conservation Commission; Herschell Murray, Everett Coffey, and Attorney Mick Leddy.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

M. Metayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28th meeting; liquor licenses for Cold Hollow Cider Mill, Butler Street Pizza, Village Market, Prohibition Pig, America Legion, Thai Smile Restaurant, Fastop, Champlain Farms, Kinney's, Cabot Foods, and Oak Hill Corporation; a Festival Permit for NQID on June 29th; and to re-sign the Certificate of Highway Mileage. The motion was seconded by N. Fish and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC

E. Coffey expressed a desire to have parking enforcement at the start of Winooski Street, near the area of Hender's Bakery.

DISCUSSION WITH VERMONT STATE POLICE

Lt. Dave White of the VSP joined the meeting by phone. The Board received statistics on police calls for January and the period July through December. Lt. White stated that the program is working very well for everyone involved and the partnership is great between the VSP and Town of Waterbury. C. Viens asked about the close ratio of calls made by Resident Troopers and Middlesex Troopers in the Town. Lt. White responded that many calls come in during the weekend and times when the day shift Trooper is not working. The Resident Troopers do take some of the burden off the troopers in Middlesex. M. Metayer brought the Board's attention to a graph showing workload trend from July to December. The VSP performs different activities than the former Village police, and do not track calls specific to the Village and Town, just the Town in general. Discussion was held with regard to who receives the revenue on the various types of tickets.

Lt. White explained that there are other Towns that are interested in this type of partnership, but they have to be wary of not understaffing the barracks with too many contracts of this nature. W. Shepeluk asked Trooper Szarjko how many hours of his 40 hour shift he is actually in Waterbury. Trooper Szarjko responded that he is physically in Waterbury most of those hours. When the Resident Troopers are tied up, the Troopers from Middlesex still cover the Town. Trooper Szarjko informed the Board that he is working on intelligence based policing and the Resident Troopers will host community meetings at the Fire Station twice a month.

DISCUSS MOWING OF INVASIVE SPECIES – CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Members of the Conservation Commission were present to discuss the spread of invasive species. M. Hedges stated that where he lives, he battles at least a half a dozen invasive species, with wild chervil being the most invasive. The plants spread by seed and the Town typically mows after the plant has gone to seed.

M. Hedges stated that these invasive plants are taking over environments that other plants used to live, and there are a number of reasons why the Town should manage these plants. W. Shepeluk stated that there are 3 weeks of roadside mowing scheduled in 2019, versus just one. He distributed a document from the Highway Supervisor with various options for mowers and mowing equipment. M. Hedges would like the Town to hold the invasive plants off before they do more damage. The Conservation Commission can work with the Town to determine the hotspots. A. Thompson stated that they will work with the Public Works Director on the issue.

TOWN MEETING AND MOTIONS – JEFF KILGORE

J. Kilgore was present to brief the Board on Town Meeting Day. J. Kilgore reminded members of the Board to think about what they say before they say it and stick to the issues that are being discussed as a result of the motion on the floor. He stated that it is important for the Select Board to recognize that Town Meeting is for the residents of the Town to ask questions and hear answers. Questions that residents have are often rhetorical and do not need answers.

W. Shepeluk asked if it was appropriate to ask residents if they have any general topics to discuss during the mid meeting break as many people leave before the last article of Other Business. C. Viens would like to have the discussion at Town meeting as to how to address our failing infrastructure. J. Kilgore suggested that the most appropriate place to discuss is under Article 20. A motion can be made to suspend the rules and move article 20 up in the meeting. W. Shepeluk stated it could also be discussed under Article 4 and this issue was included in the Select Board report. Discussion continued as to how to handle Article 20. The consensus was to leave Article 20 in place.

The Board then assigned the various motions for Town Meeting.

MANAGER'S ITEMS

Consider Grant Agreement Resolution for CDBG Planning Grant for Community Center Feasibility Study

W. Shepeluk asked the Board to authorize the approval of a grant agreement. M. Frier made a motion to authorize the approval of the CDBG Planning Grant for the Community Center Feasibility Study. The motion was seconded by M. Metayer and passed by a vote of 3 – 1.

Northstar Fireworks Contract

W. Shepeluk asked for authorization to sign the fireworks contract for NQID. The funding is included in the budget. M. Metayer made a motion authorizing the Municipal Manager to sign the Northstar fireworks contract. The motion was seconded by N. Fish and passed unanimously.

WASI Trustee

W. Shepeluk previously distributed the new by-laws for WASI. A Trustee can be appointed by the Town and the best timing is in March as their annual meeting is in April. Staff will advertise.

Pending Legal Issue

At 8:45pm, W. Shepeluk 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 M. Frier and passed 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. The motion was seconded by M. Frier and passed unanimously. The Board invited W. Shepeluk and M. Leddy to join them.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:05pm with no action taken

There being no further Select Board business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Lawrence, Town Clerk

Approved on: March 4, 2019