

Waterbury Select Board
Monday October 7, 2019
Minutes

Present: C. Viens, M. Frier, N. Fish, M. Bard, J Brown (7:08), select board members; W. Shepeluk, staff; G. Dillon, fire chief; A. Imhoff, ORCA; B. Andrus, H. Dalley, M. Whalen, J. Whalen, K. Krier; S. Fishman, N. Fishman, B. Minter, all members of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

M. Bard made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by N. Fish. C. Viens stated that he would like to discuss the topic of road salt at the end of the meeting. The board voted to approve the agenda, as amended, 4-0.

The board took up the Consent Agenda. M. Bard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and N. Fish seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0.

No comments were made by the public about issue not already on the agenda.

The board took up the issue of traffic, speeding and signage on Guptil Rd. Several members of the public, including, but not limited to M. Whalen, K. Krier, H. Dalley, S. Fishman, N. Fishman and B. Andrus expressed concern about vehicles traveling too fast and disregarding traffic control signs on Guptil Rd. Several expressed frustration that the measures promised by the town, including the installation of a feedback electronic speed limit sign have not come to pass. M. Frier asked for an update on those issue from the municipal manager. (J. Brown arrived at 7:08). W. Shepeluk stated that at the town's request the C.V. Regional Planning Commission had conducted traffic counts and a speed survey in 2018. The results of the counts and surveys have been shared with the board and no changes to the speed limits were recommended. The information was also shared with VTrans and the feedback radar sign has been incorporated into a High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR) project to be administered and implemented by VTrans. The project was programmed for implementation in 2019, but has since been pushed back to 2020. J. Brown asked the manager if the town installed the feedback radar sign now, could it be reimbursed by VTrans. After some discussion M. Frier made a motion to direct the manager to contact VTRANS to find out if the HRRR project will reimburse the town if the town installs the feedback radar sign. M. Bard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Shepeluk also said that he would look into the possibility of installing of portable speed bumps between the post office and the Waterbury Center Green. The manager was asked to report back when information was available.

The manager presented the third quarter income/expense budget report for the three operating funds. In general, the budget for the three funds were tracking in step with the calendar. There were a few questions about some variances that appeared to be excessive. The manager explained that most overspending, especially in the recreation budgets, was offset by underspending in some instances or by revenues that were higher than budgeted. Shepeluk also mentioned that some reported overspending (Contractor line in Hwy Fund) was a result of posting an expense to the wrong expense line and that he intended to correct those mis-postings.

The board considered the possibility of warning a special town meeting to seek authority to purchase and finance two new fire. Gary Dillon, fire chief, was present and explained that two pump trucks, both purchased in 2000 and set for replacement next year require repairs that will be very costly. One truck has a bad engine and its repair will be in the \$20,000 - \$25,000 range. The second truck has developed a serious leak in its 750 gallon water tank. The chief told the board that one new truck is available and can be delivered in relatively short order. The dealer bought it as a demonstration truck, used to generate sales. The dealer is willing to sell it to Waterbury FD for approximately \$465,000 if the town acts now. The manager recommended buying this truck now as the savings will be at least \$50,000 compared to a truck that is ordered after town meeting next year. The savings likely will be even more as price increases in the base vehicle costs are expected. Chief Dillon suggested a second truck be ordered now as well. It is the one the dealer is purchasing to replace the "demo" truck he is hoping to sell us, as described above. The manager presented a draft warning for the special town meeting with an article asking the voters for authority to borrow up to \$950,000 to finance the two trucks. The board indicated a willingness to have the meeting. J. Brown then made a motion to buy one fire pump truck for a sum not to exceed \$465,000. M. Bard seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Before the board agreed to call the special town meeting, however, the manager expressed some concern that borrowing at a later date, after a purchase was already without voter approval for financing might be problematic. He recommended waiting on the purchase and calling a town meeting until he had the chance to discuss the procedure for such authorization with Paul Giuliani, the town's bond counsel. The board agreed to wait on the purchase and directed the manager to get the information necessary that would be discussed at a special select board meeting to be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday afternoon.

The board passed over the agenda items pertaining to the roadside mower and the parking ordinance.

C. Viens reported that the State of New York has held some forums to discuss the issue of winter highway maintenance and the use of salt. He would report more when he had additional information.

The board agreed to hold its next regular meeting on November 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The board stated it would hold a special select board meeting on Thursday October 10, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Steele Room at the Municipal Center.

M. Bard moved to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. It was seconded by J. Brown and approved unanimously.

Approved on Nov. 4, 2019