

Minutes of the Select Board
Monday, December 16, 2024
28 North Main Street and via zoom

Attendance: Alyssa Johnson, Karen Petrovic, Kane Sweeney, Ian Shea, Mike Bard, Tom Leitz, Bill Woodruff

Public Attendance: ORCA Media, Chris Viens, Bill Shepeluk, Belle McDougall & Mike Rossi – Skatepark Coalition, Lisa Scagliotti - Waterbury Roundabout

Zoom: ORCA Media, Mike Bishop, Wayne Quillin, Evan Hoffman, Sandy Sabin, Logan, Anne Imhoff

Approve Agenda: **K. Sweeney moved to approve the agenda with the request to move the Consent agenda to a future meeting. M. Bard seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Public: M. Bard made an announcement that UVM Men’s Soccer is playing the championship tonight and wished them the best of luck.

Rental Registry Postcard: T. Leitz stated draft language for the postcard was distributed at a previous meeting; staff wanted to ensure everyone is satisfied with the deadlines. Postcards will have a QR code and be mailed in February with a deadline to respond in two weeks. M. Bard stated he thought a more reasonable request is a 30-day deadline to respond. I. Shea agreed with a March 1st deadline. By consensus the board would like to add a snip on the postcard and a more detailed description of the use of the registry to the website when using the QR code landing page.

Skatepark Coalition Funding: The Board has allocated unused ARPA funding in the amount of \$20,000 to Recreation which will be sent to the Skatepark Coalition. The Board would like to know the Coalition’s plans for the financial gap and the plans for construction. The largest previous fundraiser was the Blauvelt Banks which was cancelled in 2024 because of a lack of snow. Construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2025. If necessary, they will scale down the size of the park to meet the budget. The funding the Coalition has raised does not include resurfacing the basketball court.

B. McDougall stated she does not know why pickleball would receive funding when it has never been a source of conversation for her as a Recreation Committee member. If there are additional Recreation funding options available, the Coalition would like to know that so they can appeal to receive additional Recreation funds.

Budget

Public Works Budget Discussion: The budget was discussed based on the comments in the margin where noteworthy changes took place. There was a discussion regarding the Upland Mowings Development and why the Town is responsible for any fees associated with the stormwater permit. While the Town is a co-applicant and responsible for cost sharing, this has been a good lesson regarding the Town taking over private development roads. Public Works requests the new tandem truck be purchased with consideration of driver comfort in mind. Pinnacle Ridge paving stopped on Lonesome Trail where Town trucks turn around leaving a 75’ section of road that belongs to the Town unpaved. Residences on the road would like the Town to return and pave the remaining 75’ section. There might be enough money left in a grant to pave the Elm Street sidewalk on the Beer Celler side. Public Works would like to have enough money in the budget to complete the sidewalks downtown. Downtown

Transportation Grant applications are due in mid-February. The discussion includes a flashing cross walk light by Park Row, sidewalks on Bidwell Lane, Wesley Church paving, and additional way finding signs. There is a 20% matching grant. Thanks to Bill Woodruff and Celia Clark for their work to create a budget.

Public Works Truck: The meeting packet includes a quote to purchase a chassis for the Highway department. Inventory delays mean it can take up to 18 months to receive a vehicle. The “Public Works Capital Needs Budget” includes the vehicle that is \$310,000 in total. The proposal is to use some of the 1mil in the tax stabilization fund to finance the vehicle and pay ourselves back using LOT funds. **M. Bard made a motion to authorize the purchase of a new 15-yard tandem dump truck at the cost of \$310,000 pending voter approval at the 2025 Town meeting. I. Shea seconded the motion; a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Local Options Tax (LOT): There is an error on the spreadsheet relating to the Skatepark. The basketball court will need to be resurfaced following the creation of the Skatepark. Those costs need to be added back into the plan. Discussion followed regarding the Card Access/Security System line of \$20,000. K. Petrovic requested that whatever system is implemented include a manual lock on the main office doors. The cost to add 5-6 additional cameras to the building is \$9,000. Sweeney stated he feels \$75,000 to a pickleball court in both 2024 and 2025 is not reasonable. He would like to see the Recreation Committee get public comment on such spending before a commitment is made. Consensus is the board is not enthusiastic about pickleball funding. Discussion followed to determine if the \$55,000 (\$75K from pickleball minus \$20K from basketball court/Skatepark) should be injected into the line Recreation Facility Planning. T. Leitz spoke about raising the pedestals behind the Municipal building to get them further out of the flood plain. The Municipal Building is an emergency response center when there is a disaster. The list of LOT spending will be revisited at the next meeting.

Have your Say Day Final Dates and Locations: The American Legion is available on Saturday 1/11/2025 10am and the Grange Hall is available on Monday 1/13/2025 at 7pm. Pie at the Saturday meeting would be great. Discussion followed how to facilitate the pie for breakfast; perhaps the Rotary can assist. Suggestion made to advertise through TextMyGov.

ACO Fee Structure: K. Petrovic provided a proposed fee structure to the board for their consideration. **M. Bard made a motion to approve the updated fee schedule for dog licensing. K. Sweeney seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

ARPA Funding Motion: K. Sweeney moved to allocate \$32,022.40 in unused ARPA funds, originally adopted to the highway capital fund for bridge repairs included in the 2023 adopted budget, to be moved to the recreation capital fund. These funds are to be utilized for construction of the Waterbury skatepark in the amount of \$20,000 and towards mowers for the Recreation Department in the amount of \$12,022.40. In the event the funds for the skatepark, for any reason, are not able to be expended, these funds would then be utilized towards remaining costs of mowers, and for improvements to the Town of Waterbury pool. **M. Bard seconded the motion, a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Cash Management Policy: T. Leitz is requesting a modification to the Cash Management Policy to say a return check fee is \$20 without yearly board approval. **M. Bard made a motion to amend the Cash Management Policy to include a \$20 return check fee and remove the yearly board approval. K. Sweeney seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting Agenda:

Update dates for Meeting Minutes on consent agenda

LOT Spending

Have your Say Day update

Wesley Church MOU

Section 125 Health Plan

Natural Disaster Preparedness Committee

Executive Session: K. Petrovic requested an Executive Session with the Board. **K. Sweeney moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter with Karen Petrovic invited to attend. M. Bard seconded the motion, a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

The board entered Deliberative Session for further discussion.

Adjourn: Having taken no action, the board adjourned at 9:48pm