

Waterbury Village Trustees
Wednesday January 26, 2011
Minutes

Present: E. Coffey, Village President; P. H. Flanders, L. Sayah, Trustees; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; A. Imhoff, ORCA Media; C. Lawrence, Village Clerk.

Public: N. Howell-Sherman

The meeting was called to order at 9:00a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to have a final review of the budget, discuss police department issues, and any other business that may come before the Board.

L. Sayah made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2010, December 6, 2010, December 8, 2010 and January 12, 2011 minutes. The minutes of December 8th and January 12th had been signed previously. The motion was seconded by P. H. Flanders and approved by all.

W. Shepeluk distributed a draft of the 2011 Village budget. He indicated that some expenses had been posted back to 2010 since the last review. Discussion followed with regard to the administrative service expense line item, which will not be able to be finalized until after a Joint meeting in February. Rent is an estimate as well and may be adjusted due to improvements in the Municipal Building. The amount in the budget reflects the same formula as used in the previous year.

The Police Department budget was discussed. A suggestion was made that, in lieu of a pay increase, extra money be put into the employees HSA's. This would drop the regular pay line, and decrease the social security and retirement line items. A memo was distributed by the Chief outlining other budget adjustments, including the CAD system, clothing, utilities and vehicle maintenance. The training and tuition line items were discussed and it was decided to combine these two lines to avoid any confusion. The police budget with changes discussed totaled \$384,575.

The total Village budget is \$475,890. With no changes in the Grand List, this would mean a tax rate of .1489. The PILOT and Agency Assists line item was discussed. Negotiations with the Select Board will not be finalized until after the budget is approved. The Municipal Manager indicated he has budgeted conservatively for inter-municipal payments for both the Town and the Village.

P.H. Flanders made a motion to put \$750 in the General Government flex spending line item for \$500 to be deposited into the Municipal Manager's HSA and \$250 to be deposited into the Village Clerk/Treasurer's HSA in recognition for work done for the Village. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and approved by all.

P. H. Flanders made a motion to approve the budget as presented with adjustments made during the meeting. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and approved by all.

Discussion followed with regard to purchasing a new cruiser. Chief Feccia presented some information on different estimates he had received. He recommended the purchase of a 4WD Tahoe to replace the 2006 Expedition. The cost is \$27,352, plus the cost to fully equip the vehicle and purchase a warranty. The total estimated cost is \$40,000. E. Coffey indicated money has been spent on the Expedition so it should be in good shape. He asked if it would be possible to get by another year without a new vehicle.

There is currently \$77,000 in the CIP which could be used to purchase the vehicle. More discussion was held about the vehicle maintenance (\$1,300 year-to-date) and the low mileage. If the vehicle is kept for another year, the vehicle maintenance line item would have to be increased. By consensus of the Trustees it was decided to not purchase a new vehicle at this time, and to increase the vehicle maintenance to \$7,500.

E. Coffey stated he had received a call from a South Main street resident indicating that the State Police had been called to the residence on two consecutive Sunday evenings. He asked the Chief if the Village police were on duty those evenings. The Chief indicated that shifts were scheduled from 4:00p.m. to 2:00a.m., and that he would investigate why Village police did not respond.

E. Coffey asked the Municipal Manager about a memo he had given the Manager last week with respect to a report given to the Trustees at the January 12th meeting. A heated discussion followed with regard to the process of memo distribution and discussing Board business at legally warned meetings. P. H. Flanders was upset that he had not seen the memo prior to the meeting even though it was signed on behalf of a majority of the Board of Trustees. The Manager expressed frustration with regard to the process by which the memo was delivered and indicated that he has no problem with answering questions and providing the Board with the information they request. He felt he was placed in an unfair situation as the memo was not a legal action of the entire Board of Trustees. Continued discussion was held about whether or not a letter sent by a police officer to an employee at GMCR was written on police letterhead. The officer later went to the HR Department at GMCR on a personal matter and the Village police were dispatched to GMCR. The Manager had given the Trustees a report of his findings at the January 12th meeting.

P. H. Flanders moved that based on the information already given and the discussion today this issue be dropped unless any new information comes to light. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah. The Municipal Manager reiterated that he had no intentions of brushing anything under the table, and that he fully disclosed in his initial report the information he had gained through interviews with the parties. He indicated that if he felt there was any impropriety with regard to any employees he would apprise the Trustees. The motion passed 2-0, with E. Coffey abstaining.

A request was received from the Stowe Street Arts Festival Committee Chair, Jack Carter, requesting that Stowe Street be closed to vehicular traffic from Main Street to Railroad and Union Streets as well as Bidwell Lane to the exit of the TDBank parking lot from 10:00a.m. on Friday July 15th to 5:30p.m. on Saturday July 16th. P. H. Flanders made a motion to approve the use of the Stowe Street area as provided in the memo. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and approved by all.

A joint meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 22nd to discuss the DRB, Flood Maps, and possibly inter-municipal payments. P. H. Flanders is unable to make the meeting. The Trustees feel that all three should be present to discuss the inter-municipal payments and suggested a February 23rd meeting date. S. Lotspeich will be asked to follow up with the Select Board and Planning Commission.

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L. Sayah made a motion to approve the Warning for the Annual Meeting of the Village of Waterbury on March 2, 2011. The motion was seconded by P. H. Flanders and approved by all.

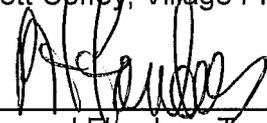
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13a.m.

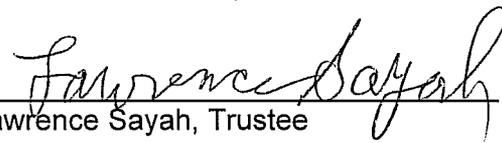
Respectfully submitted,

Carla Lawrence, Village Clerk

Approved on: March 4, 2011


Everett Coffey, Village President


P. Howard Flanders, Trustee


Lawrence Sayah, Trustee