

**Waterbury Village Board of Trustees Meeting
Main Street Fire Station
October 23, 2013**

Attendees: P. Howard Flanders, Village President; Lawrence Sayah and Natalie Howell-Sherman, Trustees; William Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; Joby Feccia, Police Chief; and Denise McCarty, Board Secretary

*This meeting was not video-taped.

Public Attendees: Miranda Orso, Waterbury Record; Darren Winham; Anne Imhoff; Brian Linder; Camille Mason; Officer Anthony Mazzilli.

Call to Order: P. Howard Flanders called the meeting of the Village Trustees to order at 4:30 pm.

Public – no public comments.

Darren Winham– Report on RFP Process for 51 South Main Street

Darren Winham, Economic Development Director, reported that two proposals had been received, despite a large distribution effort. The first proposal, submitted by O'Brien Property Management, offered a price of \$95,000. They would like to take the building down and make it into a parking lot, offering automated parking. The second proposal, submitted by Gristmill Builders, offered a purchase price of \$10. Their design offered a three-story, mixed use of retail and residential, with a similar design to the Steele Block. D. Winham suggested meeting with a representative from each company to discuss investment dollars. It was noted that there was feedback that addressing parking was cumbersome to some of those with interest in responding, and therefore did not respond to the RFP. W. Shepeluk asked about the possibility of subdividing the property and dedicating an easement to the back property. It might be more attractive to buyers if the subdivision is already complete, providing distinct choices to purchase the front and/or back lot. With any interest specifically for the front, the Village can consider public parking options for the back. The DRB would need to be involved. Discussion followed as to the benefit of who would receive the tax dollars if the property was added to the tax rolls. P. Howard Flanders suggested setting up a meeting once a decision is made. **No action taken at this time.**

Darren Winham - Wi-Fi in Rusty Parker Park

Darren Winham would like to put Wi-Fi in Rusty Parker Park possibly on an existing pole in the park. Discussion followed as to where it would be located. W. Shepeluk stated that as long as the changes in the Park do not impede on Waterbury Rotary Association's existing work, design, and vision of the park that they have invested thus far, it would be fine. **L. Sayah motioned to approve putting Wi-Fi in Rusty Parker Park pending approval by the Waterbury Rotary. N. Howell-Sherman seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.**

Discussion of Possible Police Options for 2014 Budget

W. Shepeluk gave an overview of police staffing since October 2011 and the hiring update of a third full time officer. Chief Feccia recommended in previous meetings that five full time officers would be necessary to staff the police department and a full time administrative assistant. The police department recently hired an administrative assistant but she has already given her notice. He also discussed the impact of how the operating costs have an impact on the budget, and how the police force provides services to the Town of Waterbury and the school district and neither contribute for police services. The Trustees expressed concern for the cost of the police budget on the Village taxpayers. A large number of Village properties that are in the flood plain are facing substantial increase in flood insurance and the bond that may be passed for the municipal complex. The trustees need to investigate all the options to providing police services. Discussion followed regarding possibly having the police department only working specific shifts which would leave

certain hours uncovered. Those uncovered hours would be covered by the Vermont State Police as they are the default for police response. The Village Manager and Skip Flanders reported on a meeting they had with Lt White of the VSP regarding services available from the VSP of covering for when the Village police are not on duty (similar to service provided to the Town), to supplement Village Police coverage. The VSP can offer to contract for coverage at a rate of \$58/hour for a specified number of hours, but without specifying specified hours. Anne Imhoff asked if we have any data indicating when we are getting high traffic calls. This data would help determine when the police should work. Another option would be to hire more part time officers. Public comment: more police presence in the Village would be appreciated. No action was taken at this time.

The Trustees discussed setting up a meeting with the Waterbury-Duxbury School Board to discuss the possibility of the School District contributing some funds toward the cost of police service. The chief should be prepared to show what service they currently provide and the cost. The possibility of providing similar service to Crossett Brook School could also be considered even though it is in Duxbury.

Minutes

The minutes of October 9th meeting were reviewed. L. Sayah motioned to accept the meeting minutes as presented. N. Howell Sherman seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Other Business

Speed Limit Reduction on Guptil Road

W. Shepeluk stated that a town resident is circulating a petition to request to reduce the speed limit on Guptil Road. However, there needs to be a traffic study first in order for a change to occur to the existing speed limit. The Town has requested to set up two traffic counters near Guptil Road to record vehicle traffic and speed of cars on Guptil Road for the next few weeks. No action was needed on this item.

Adjourn

L. Sayah motioned to adjourn the Meeting of the Village Trustees at 6:20p.m. N. Howell-Sherman seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise McCarty
Board Secretary

Approved on: Nov 6 2013

P. Howard Flanders
P. Howard Flanders

Lawrence Sayah
Lawrence Sayah

Natalie Howell-Sherman
Natalie Howell-Sherman