

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
VILLAGE OF WATERBURY
MARCH 2nd, 2016**

The inhabitants of the Village of Waterbury who are legal voters in Village Meetings are hereby notified and warned to meet at the gymnasium of the Thatcher Brook Primary School in the Village of Waterbury on Wednesday March 2nd, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. in the evening to act on the following matters:

ARTICLE 1: To act on the reports of the officers of the Village of Waterbury.

John Sherman move to accept the reports of the officers of the Village of Waterbury as printed in the Village Report. The motion was seconded. P. Howard Flanders explained the cover of the Village Report. He described the good relationship that the Village had with Commissioner Obuchowski and the Department of Buildings and General Services and the cooperative effort in bringing the State employees back to Waterbury.

Everett Coffey stated that there is no list of offenses in the Police report and asked how many DUI's there were during 2015. Chief Joby Feccia did not have that information available. P. Howard Flanders asked if there were any objections to Municipal Manager William Shepeluk and Police Chief Feccia speaking at the meeting as they are not Village residents. There were no objections.

J. Feccia stated that it was an oversight, and he does not recall the number of DUI offenses during 2015. E. Coffey expressed concerns about speeding on Main Street and Winooski Street, and that it is not impressive to see both cruisers at the station not cleaned off in the winter time.

Gordon Miller expressed frustration that the Trustees were silent about the recreation programs and the Recreation Director position. P. H. Flanders stated that the recreation programs are a Town function. G. Miller responded that several programs are an asset to the Village, and he was frustrated by the lack of Trustee involvement.

Marcy Pelkey asked about income from the Police traffic tickets and parking tickets, and stated that the amount budgeted does not match the amounts of revenue received. She asked if the budget for 2016 should be adjusted. W. Shepeluk stated that with regard to number of stops made during 2015, there were 546 traffic stops. The police issued 196 traffic tickets of which 123 were speeding tickets, and there were two DUI's. As far as the revenue for traffic tickets, the agency writing the ticket does not receive all of the revenue as the State keeps a service charge.

W. Shepeluk stated that parking tickets generate local revenue. Parking tickets issued in 2015 numbered 49, with 106 issued during the prior year. The decline was due to fewer part-time officer shifts. Part-time shifts are only used now if an officer is on vacation, sick, or at training.

The parking ticket amount of \$2,000 budgeted in the 2016 budget reflects hiring a civilian employee to do parking enforcement.

Gary Dillon asked for more thought in the scheduling, as there were 2 officers working on Christmas Eve and no one on duty on New Year's Eve.

Jane Willard asked for more information on the civilian parking enforcement officer. P. H. Flanders asked to table the question until when the budget is discussed. J. Willard stated that she felt these shifts could be covered by officers and at the same time provide more community involvement.

W. Shepeluk stated that there was a parking study committee that worked during 2015 and they determined that parking in the Village is not adequate. There is difficulty in having a shrinking police force perform parking enforcement. Parking tickets have declined as there is often only one officer on duty. The parking committee recommended that there should be consideration given to hiring an

enforcement officer. If the budget is approved, the hope is to hire someone who is flexible with their time and can work different time shifts. The employee would issue tickets and record the information as to whether it is paid or not.

J. Willard asked if the amount of income received would pay for this position. W. Shepeluk stated that the fine amount has been increased from \$10 to \$25 to attempt to generate additional revenue. It is uncertain if the income will fund the position.

Liz Stevens asked why there is a Village as there is already a vibrant downtown and it is not necessary to have two governing boards. She would like the Trustees to give this some consideration. P. H. Flanders stated that the Village has voted to merge numerous times and the Town has voted the merger down. S. Dillon asked if the Village could disband. P. H. Flanders stated that it is complicated due to the disposition of Village assets. P. H. Flanders suggested having this discussion at a future time, with the involvement of the Town.

Tom Stevens called the question. It was moved and seconded to limit debate. The motion to limit debate passed by voice vote. Article 1 passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by Australian ballot, the following Village officers: Clerk for 1 year, Treasurer for 1 year, Village President for 1 year, Trustee for 2 years, and Water & Sewer Commissioner for 3 years.

NOTE: THE POLLS FOR VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ON ARTICLE 2 WILL BE OPEN FROM SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON TO SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON AT THE WATERBURY MUNICIPAL OFFICE, AT 28 NORTH MAIN STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF WATERBURY.

ARTICLE 3: To set the compensation of Village officers for the ensuing year.

Jan Gendreau made a motion to set the compensation of Village officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Village President	\$1,700
Trustees	\$1,200 each
Water & Sewer Commissioners	\$1,000 each

The motion was seconded. E. Coffey asked if this was the same rate of pay as last year. P. H. Flanders responded in the affirmative. The motion passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: To see what action the Village will take with reference to fixing the date of the tax warrant and to set a date or dates when taxes on such property shall become due and payable and to specify the time of acceptance, the method of delivery, and to see whether the same shall be paid with or without discount and to provide for interest and penalty on such taxes as are not paid when due.

L. Sayah made a motion that the tax warrant on real property be dated July 1, 2016, and that taxes be due in two installments, with the first installment due and payable on August 12, 2016, and the second installment be due and payable on November 18, 2016, that each installment be paid in hand at the Municipal Office by 4:30pm on the due date, without discount and that interest be charged at the maximum allowed by statute, not to exceed one and one-half percent per month or portion thereof on each installment, and a late penalty of eight percent be charged as allowed by statute on taxes not paid when due. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Village will authorize the Trustees to borrow a sum of money by note, for a period not to exceed five years, to make improvements to the wastewater system.

N. Sherman made a motion to authorize the Trustees to borrow up to \$100,000 by note for a period not to exceed 5 years on terms agreeable to the trustees to pay for improvements and equipment for the wastewater department. The motion was seconded.

E. Coffey asked if some of these funds would be used on piping on the Crossroad, and if the amount could have been incorporated into the phosphorus project. W. Shepeluk responded that the funds could not be incorporated into the phosphorus project. He stated that there is a big gap between the income and revenues as shown on 34 and 35 of the Annual Report. Increased revenues are expected from the State as employees return to the Village. The funds may be used for an aeration system and plant upgrade, if needed. Last year the voters authorized the Trustees to borrow up to \$175,000 and the borrowing was not needed.

Anne Imhoff asked about increase in the budget for the plant and process maintenance line item. W. Shepeluk responded that the phosphorus upgrade requires more maintenance which causes additional expenses.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Village will vote sums of money for payment of debts and expenses for the Village with the same to be expressed either in specific dollar amounts or as a rate of tax on a dollar of the Grand List, and if by specific dollar amounts to authorize the Trustees to set the necessary tax rate and to lodge warrants therefore in the office of the Village Clerk.

N. Sherman made a motion that the Village appropriate the following sums of money for the interests of its inhabitants, for the prosecution and defense of the common rights, and for necessary expenses: \$416,915 for general fund expenses, and that the Village raise \$328,035 in taxes for general fund spending. The motion was seconded.

N. Sherman stated that the 2015 expenses closely followed the budget with the exception of legal fees. The legal fee line item was overspent by over \$32,000 due to the Hubacz lawsuit. The suit wrapped up in July and the 2016 budget is \$12,000.

N. Sherman then reviewed the 2016 budgeted expense and stated that there are not a lot of changes from 2015. It continues to reflect 2 full-time police officers with coverage on weekends by the State Police. There are two new expenses in 2016, including an increase in the professional and consulting services to \$33,310 to pay for a parking study. The data will give information on the potential uses on 51 South Main Street. The remainder of this line item helps to pay for the Economic Development Director. The second new line item is an addition of \$9,360 to hire a parking enforcement officer at ten hours per week with a flexible schedule. The motion passed by a hand vote of 19 to 8.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the voters will appropriate a sum of money to pay for the demolition and removal of the building from the lot at 51 S. Main Street and to authorize the Trustees to borrow such sum by note, for a period not to exceed five years, if the Trustees deem the borrowing to be in the best interest of the Village.

L. Sayah made a motion that the Village appropriate up to \$50,000 to pay for the demolition and removal of the building from the lot at 51 S. Main Street and authorize the Trustees to borrow such sum by note for a period not to exceed five years if the Trustees deem the borrowing to be in the best interest of the Village. The motion was seconded.

L. Sayah stated that there have been no offers on the lot. The Trustees feel it is the best solution for the Trustees to own the property until the Main Street reconstruction is done to use the lot for parking. The funds would be used to demolish the building.

Anne Imhoff asked if the \$50,000 would include paving. L. Sayah stated that there is no estimate for the cost of paving.

E. Coffey asked if the estimate included filling the basement. L. Sayah stated that if the building was removed, the basement would have to be filled. E. Coffey expressed concern that the building is considered a historic home, and asked why nothing is being done to build something there with a parking garage underneath. He feels the property should be marketed better. He would like to see a marketing committee formed to work with a developer. He encouraged the voters to not support the article.

Kathleen Daye moved to amend the motion by including 'but before making arrangements for the demolition of the building, the Village shall consider giving the building to someone who will have the building moved to their property'. She expressed interest in reusing and recycling the building. The motion to amend was seconded and failed by a vote of 13 – 10.

E. Coffey made a motion to amend to delay the action of the original motion until a marketing committee of 5 (not including the Economic Development Director) and the Economic Development Director develop a study by mid-July. The motion was seconded. Marcella Pelkey asked if there was timeline for the demolition. L. Sayah responded that the Trustees would like the funds set aside for potential demolition and did not yet have a timeline. W. Shepeluk asked about the purpose of a marketing study, as the Village voters have voted twice to not sell the property and questioned going through the process of marketing it if there is no intent to sell the building. The amendment to the motion failed by a show of hands.

Kathleen Daye asked how the Trustees decided that the building should be demolished. Many residents voted against selling the building and feel it may have a future use. P. H. Flanders stated that the estimate to restore the building was over \$400,000 and it is not reasonable to spend that money on restoration. N. Sherman stated that the building is a hazard, and that it is too costly for the Municipality to handle. Taking the building down may open up a vision for a developer, and the property can be used for parking in the meantime. P. H. Flanders stated that a discussion will be held with historic preservation and the Development Review Board to take the building down.

E. Coffey stated the goal is not destroy the building. N. Sherman asked what the thought was for the marketing review, would someone from the real estate field look at the property. E. Coffey reiterated the desire to delay spending \$50,000 until more study can be done and recommended voting down the motion.

The original motion that the Village appropriate up to \$50,000 to pay for the demolition and removal of the building from the lot at 51 S. Main Street and authorize the Trustees to borrow such sum by note for a period not to exceed five years if the Trustees deem the borrowing to be in the best interest of the Village passed by a vote of 24 – 10.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT (1 year term)	
P. Howard "Skip" Flanders	72
Write-ins	3
Blanks	16

VILLAGE CLERK (1 year term)	
Carla Lawrence	89
Write-ins	0
Blanks	2

VILLAGE TREASURER (1 year term)	
Carla Lawrence	89
Write-ins	0
Blanks	2

VILLAGE TRUSTEE (2 year term)	
Lawrence 'Lefty' Sayah	78
Write-ins	1
Blanks	12

WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONER (3 year term)	
Cynthia Parks, P. E.	86
Write-ins	0
Blanks	5

ARTICLE 8: To do any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

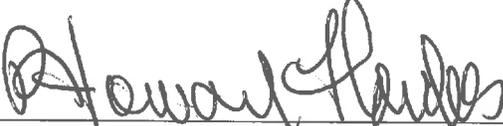
There was no other business that came before the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Lawrence, Village Clerk

Dated at Waterbury, Vermont the 9th day of March 2016.



P. Howard Flanders, Village President



Lawrence Sayah, Trustee



Natalie J. Sherman, Trustee