

MUNICIPAL DISPATCH

THE TOWN OF WATERBURY'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Better Connections
in Waterbury Center

Take the Survey!

THANK YOU

**KAREN
PETROVIC**Town Clerk & Treasurer
Extraordinaire

In 10+ years with the Town and then also EFUD, Karen has been an invaluable asset supporting municipal functions and serving the residents of Waterbury. We wish her all the best in her new position with the State.

Thank you, Karen, for everything!

Highlights inside:

- ☑ **Randall Meadow Project** – partial grant award & bond preparation
- ☑ **Call for exhibitors** – Applications available to artists, historians, and storytellers for 2026 exhibits.
- ☑ **ADU construction assistance grants** – Apply for up to \$30,000 to grow workforce housing.
- ☑ **Committee & Board Vacancies** – local decisions start with local voices.

NEW COMMITTEE TO STUDY TOWN MEETING

Selectboard acts on public feedback, seeks to increase citizen engagement

The Waterbury Selectboard voted on December 22 to authorize the creation of the Waterbury Town Meeting Study Committee to “explore ways to improve the quality and quantity of citizen engagement in public decision-making at the annual Waterbury Town Meeting through a year-long deliberative study.”

Proposed by selectboard member Roger Clapp, the committee’s formation is a response to public feedback at last year’s Town Meeting, where citizens voiced strong opinions about the function of Town Meeting Day, the challenges of decreasing attendance, and the benefits of voting in person versus by Australian ballot.

Clapp has recruited the expertise of both Susan Clark, a local authority on town meeting and civic engagement, and long-time Town Meeting

Moderator Rebecca Ellis to help inform and guide the committee’s work. Membership on the committee is open to all Waterbury citizens through an application process meant to ensure a diversity of viewpoints and experiences. The final committee will be comprised of 13 members appointed by the selectboard.

To apply for the committee, please visit the following page on the town website:

<https://www.waterburyvt.com/boards/waterbury-town-meeting-study-committee>

Or scan the QR code:

**Deadline to apply:
January 9, 2026**

Contact roger.clapp@waterburyvt.com with questions.

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

1st and 3rd Mondays *
6:30 p.m. and on Zoom

* 5th Mondays when applicable.

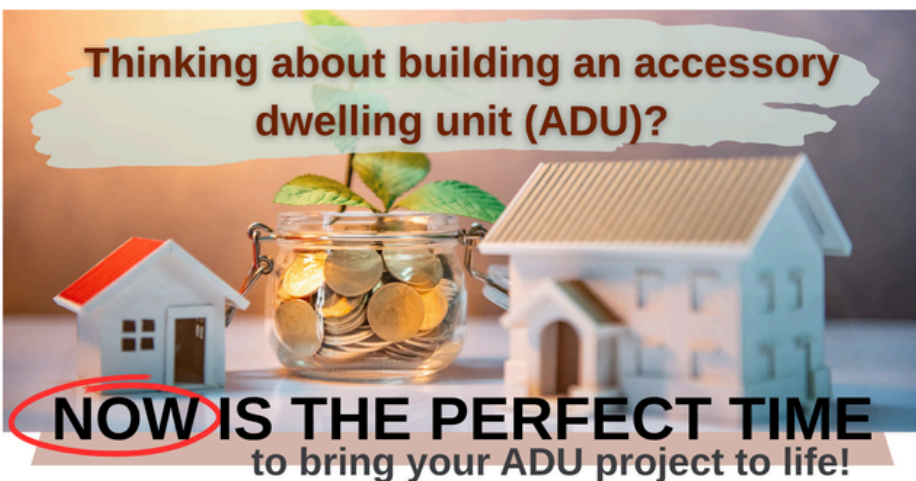
EFUD MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday
4:30 p.m. and on Zoom

See calendar for link to agendas and Zoom meetings. Want meeting agendas sent directly to your inbox? Click below:



SUBSCRIBE

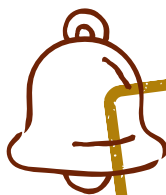


Waterbury property owners can now apply for **assistance grants** of up to **\$30,000** to help build an ADU on their property.



APPLY NOW
deadline: 01/31/2026

<https://www.waterburyvt.com/boards/housing-task-force/>



UPDATE

RANDALL MEADOW

Grant overview:

The Town applied for Community Development Block (CDBG) Grant Disaster Recovery funding in the amount of \$4.3 million to implement the planned flood mitigation project of removing approximately 100,000 cubic yards of dirt from Randall Meadow, located between Randall St. and the Winooski River. The excavation is expected to create more storage for floodwaters, reducing the impact of flooding along Main St.

Grant status:

In the second week of December, the Town received notice that it was awarded \$2 million for the project. The remaining \$2.3 million would have to be raised through some other means.

Next steps:

The conditions of the CDBG grant require the Town to secure funding for the remainder of the project (\$2.3 million) before any grant money would be disbursed. At their December 22 meeting, the Selectboard voted to authorize Municipal Manager Tom Leitz to enter into an agreement with counsel to prepare the necessary financing documents and legal notices related to bond issuance and a vote on Town Meeting Day.

Implications & other considerations:

Provided the bond is approved by the voters, the CDBG grant can be the first payer on all eligible expenses; the debt would not need to be issued right away. In the meantime, the Town will continue to apply for additional grants. Additional grant money to complete the project would *reduce* the amount of debt issued; *the bond will be used only to fill the funding gap*. If the bond vote fails, the town's ability to utilize the CDBG grant funds and complete the project grows more complicated, if not impossible.



CALL FOR EXHIBITORS

Are you an artist, historian, or have a story to tell?

The Town is looking for exhibits to be displayed in the Steele Community Room at the Municipal Complex. Applications are being accepted now for 2026. For guidelines, an exhibit map, and the application, visit [THIS LINK](#) or scan the QR code.

Please direct questions to Laura Parette, laura@lauraparette.com.



Better Connections:



Help shape how Waterbury Center moves

Waterbury has received a Better Connections grant from VTtrans to **expand opportunities for walking, biking, and community vitality in Waterbury Center**—and we want your input.

This project focuses on **making it safer and easier to travel between favorite local destinations**, including Waterbury Center State Park, Hope Davey Park, Cold Hollow Cider Mill, the Grange Hall Cultural Center, and other nearby gathering places.

We've partnered with transportation consulting firm Stantec and have already hosted brainstorming sessions, focus groups, and a public walking tour. **Now it's time to hear from even more people who live, work, and spend time in Waterbury Center.**

Please take our **5-minute online survey** and share your ideas: <https://engagestantec.com/WaterburyCenter> or scan the QR code.



Our goal is at least 200 responses, and every voice helps shape the future of the area.

Thank you for being part of this community-driven effort! Questions? Contact Duncan McDougall, duncan@clifonline.org.

HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE

COMMITTEE & BOARD VACANCIES

Tree Board | Recreation Committee
Development Review Board | Conservation Commission

Serving on a town committee is a meaningful way to:

- **Have a voice** in local decisions
- **Share** your skills and perspective
- **Learn** how local government works
- **Strengthen** your connection to the community

Learn more at
waterburyvt.com

You don't need prior experience—just **curiosity, commitment, and a willingness to collaborate**. Diverse viewpoints make better decisions, and we welcome residents of all backgrounds.



Send your interest in joining to Municipal Manager, Tom Leitz: tleitz@waterburyvt.com

THIS *January* AT A GLANCE: *

TO VIEW THE VERY FULL
LIBRARY AND RECREATION
CALENDARS, SCAN OR CLICK:



[Public Library](#)



[Recreation](#)

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | *1 <i>New Year's Day</i> | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6:30 p.m. <u>Selectboard</u> 5 | 6 | 5 p.m. NDPC 7 6:30 p.m. DRB | 6 p.m. <u>VT250</u> 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 5 p.m. <u>Library</u> 12 6 p.m. Planning | 6 p.m. <u>Conservation</u> 13 | 4 p.m. <u>Cemetery</u> 14 4:30 p.m. EFUD | 6 p.m. Housing <u>Task Force</u> 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| <i>MLK Jr.</i> *19 <i>Day</i> | 6:30 p.m. <u>Selectboard</u> 20 | 21 6:30 p.m. DRB | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 5 p.m. <u>NDPC</u> 26 6 p.m. Planning | 6:30 p.m. <u>Recreation</u> 27 | 28 | 5:30 p.m. <u>WHS/Winterfest</u> <u>program</u> 29 | 30 | 31 | |

* Schedule is subject to change and will be updated on the website calendar accordingly.

* Municipal Offices will be closed on Thurs., Jan. 1, & Mon. Jan. 19 in recognition of holidays.