

Waterford Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 11, 2023 @ 6PM  
Location: Davies Library

In attendance: Mike Barrett, Gary Allard, Rob Begin, Sue Hayes, Warner Hodgdon  
Sign in sheet attached

Call to Order – Mike Barrett called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

Modifications to Agenda - None

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Sue Hayes made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the August 28, 2023, meeting with the three corrections referenced by Marcia Martel. Gary Allard seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Change in Grand List – Errors and Omissions (Action)

- Mike Barrett read the errors and omissions letter provided to the board by the listers. Rob Begin made a motion to accept the change in the grant list. Gary Allard seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Update from the Highway Department (Informational)

- Jim Hayes provided an update from the highway department. They are a crew of three now. The roadsides have been mowed. They have been working on grading and ditching. Jim is looking for available sand. Mike and Jim will be meeting on Friday to look at some. Jim will follow-up with the homeowner on Remick road regarding the timeline of tearing down the shed. Jim doesn't believe the town will crush this year.

Repairs to Highway Department Garage (Discussion / Possible Action)

- Jim Hayes has collected quotes for the construction, electric, and concrete work. These quotes cover the tearing down and rebuilding of the garage addition including raising the roof. Jim has received one concrete bid, two electric bids, and three construction bids. The conversation centered around both the scope of work and the funding for the project. Heather Gonyaw reported that there was \$74,451.84 left in ARPA funds, \$34,832.61 in the building maintenance fund in the capital reserve account, and \$25,000 in the current budget for building maintenance. Mike Barrett will reach out to local banks for proposals on a loan in the amount of \$250,000. A special meeting will be warned when Mike has the proposals.

Approval of Driveway Permit – Mitchell (Action)

- Jim Hayes has reviewed the permit and recommends approval. Warner Hodgdon made a motion to approval the driveway permit. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**

#### ARPA Request

- Replace Flooring in Library (Discussion / Possible Action) – The grant that Kandis planned to apply for to cover the cost of the flooring has been pushed back. The library would like the floors replaced using ARPA funds. The updated quote is \$10,177.10 for the entire library, the landing, and the two bathrooms. The board tabled this request until the October meeting.

#### Budget Process (Discussion / Possible Action)

- Rob Begin explained that the budgeting process would work similar to last year in which he and Gary Allard would meet with each department head to discuss budget needs for FY '24. Those meetings will start happening in the first few weeks of October.

#### Approval of Festival Permit – Eddie's Bakery (Action)

- Warner Hodgdon made a motion to approve the festival permit with the reminder that the permit needs to be submitted at least 60-days in advance of the event. Rob Begin seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.** Deb Benoit to follow up.

#### Update from the Town Clerk's Office (Informational)

- The lobby and town office have been painted and new flooring has been installed throughout the first floor. So far there has been positive feedback. Howard Remick recognized Deb Benoit for all of her work in getting the painting done.
- Deb Benoit would like to use social media (specifically the town's Facebook account) to give more frequent updates about what is going on in the town. A post was made regarding the office closing during the floor installation and that was a positive experience.
- Deb Benoit has started collecting fuel bids for the upcoming winter. So far, we have quotes from Dead River, Fred's Energy, and Irving. Fuel quote approval will be on the October Regular Meeting agenda.

#### Update from the Fire Department (Informational)

- Colin Fucci asked that there be a moment of silence and reflection as it is 9/11.
- To-date the fire department has responded to 119 calls and are on track for around 170 calls for the entirety of the year. 70% are EMS calls with only 10 or 12 responses to the interstate.
- There are two new volunteers
- New hydrant has been installed across from the Dream Catcher farm and will be tested.
- Regarding the grading that needs to be done around the fire station – Jim said yes, the highway department can do it.
- Short conversation about the budget needs for next year and putting a repair schedule in place for the current equipment. Current equipment repairs will be cover under the \$50K in ARPA funds that were set aside for the fire department's use.

#### Approval of Municipal Planning Grant (Discussion / Possible Action)

- No application has been submitted for the municipal planning grant.

#### Cemetery Name Change – Petition Review (Discussion)

- Mike Barrett read the current wording of the petition that is being put forward by the Waterford Historical Society. The board had no issues with the petition language. Members of the historical society will get the required number of signatures and will bring it back to the board for approval to be included on the town meeting warrant.

#### ATV Survey

- Final survey was reviewed and distribution process discussed. Survey includes equal number of “pro” and “con” questions. Names are required on completed surveys to avoid duplicate survey entries. Property owners will receive one copy of the survey in the mail but copies can be made for other household members to complete. The hard copy of the survey also includes a “Q code” for electronic access to the survey. Deadline for submittal of completed surveys will be dependent on launch date.

Motion to approve ATV survey and move forward with distribution was made by Rob Begin and seconded by Sue Hayes. **Motion passed 5-0**

#### Citizen’s Concerns

- Clem Gray brought up the potential need to raise prices at the transfer station. Board agreed to review during the budget process
- Dave Morrison asked about the suggested removal of the 2nd monthly board meeting (so called “working” meeting). Board responded that if a 2nd monthly meeting was needed; a special meeting would be scheduled.
- Jennifer Smith mentioned the possibility of putting up signs related to ATV’s when a decision was made by the town on an ordinance.

#### Agenda items for next regular meeting

- Municipal grant update
- ATV survey update
- Library flooring - ARPA fund request
- Dog ordinance update
- Highway dept. update
- Fire dept. update

#### Executive Session 1 V.S.A. 312(a) – Personnel

- Motion was made by Rob Begin to enter Executive session. Motion was seconded by Sue Hayes and approved 5-0. Board entered Executive session at 8:23 PM and came out of Executive session at 8:35 PM. No action taken

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Waterford Selectboard Meeting September 11, 2023

Sign In Sheet

Name

Signature

Lem Gray  
Marcia Martel

Lem Gray  
Marcia Martel

Sueky Watson

Sueky Watson

Tom Thomas

Tom Thomas

Helen Pike

Helen Pike

Kathy Hodgeson

Kathy Hodgeson

Debbie Allard

Debbie Allard

HOWARD JONES

Howard Jones

Tom Gray

Tom Gray

Heather Gonyaw

Heather Gonyaw

Jill Gray

Jill Gray

KEVIN C GILLANDER

Kevin C Gillander

Howard Bemick

Howard W. Bemick

David Morrison

David E. Morrison

Carolyn Fleming

Carolyn Fleming

BRYANT FLEMING

Bryant Fleming

JENNIFER SMITH

Jennifer Smith

Celia Fier

Celia Fier