

Waterford Board of Selectmen Meeting

Monday May 11, 2020

ZOOM (Virtual Meeting)

7:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

- Members in Attendance: William Piper, Fred Saar, and Gary Allard
- Others in Attendance: Mike Barrett, Lisle Houghton, Bill Willis, Marcia Martel, Howard Remick, Mike Keach, Lou Brach, Steve Eddy, Jessy Pelow, and Abigail Bernier
- Meeting Called to Order: Gary called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM
- Modification of Agenda: Jessy added “Designation of On-Site Health Officer” under “New Business”.
- Approval of Minutes: Bill motioned to approve the April 13th, 2020 minutes. Fred seconded the motion; all were in favor.
- Budget Report: The transfer station is breaking even.
- Citizens’ Concerns: Fire Department needs a schedule for the Route 18 construction. Fred received the schedule from VTrans.
- Town Board Representative: Howard Remick stated that the Board of Listers are on track. Mike Keach set NEMRC up for remote access. They were to hold a conference call with the head of reappraisal on Wednesday (May 13, 2020). The state of Vermont selected a new software vendor for all towns to control the Grand List. It will be Acciomatic rather than NEMRC. Changes will not take place until the reappraisal is finished. The reappraisal should be finished around 2021.
- Highway:
 - Sand & Salt Update: They have not had to use sand or salt in a few weeks. They are now stocking up for next winter.
 - Replacement Truck Update: There are no firm numbers for a replacement truck yet. Fred will reach out to Western Star to get a quote on a plow truck like the last one the town had.
 - Key to Fence: The key to the fence is broken. Lisle will reach out to someone for repair.
 - Interstate Bridge: Shawna referred questions to the bridge crew. Lisle has yet to hear back from them.
 - Other:
- Old Business:
 - Broadband Update: The organization had a meeting on April 30th, 2020. The CUD board met on May 8th, 2020 and will meet every second Thursday. The executive committee will meet every Friday from 3:00 – 4:00 PM via ZOOM. The Department of Public Service has drafted an emergency broadband action plan that will come out within the next week or so. The CUD got a \$30K grant for further feasibility studies. It will be a couple of years before there is full broadband access in the Northeast Kingdom.
 - Animal License Update: There are about 30 – 40 outstanding animal licenses which can be paid for through the mail. Bill motioned to give outstanding applicants two weeks to

make payments with fines going into effect June 1st, 2020. Fred seconded the motion; all were in favor.

- Cemetery Mapping: There is no news on cemetery mapping right now. This will be moved to next month's agenda.
- PDF's for Handbooks: Gary reached out to the VT Leagues about PDFs for handbooks. They were supposed to send copies, but Jessy and Steve not received them yet. Gary wants current PDFs for all employee positions and will be reaching out again.
- Copier: A repairman will be sent out to inspect the copier in the town office before any decisions are made.
- Fire Regionalization: The project is coming along. All towns wish to go with MRI so the NVDA will be making up a contract.
- New Business:
 - Cushman's Bridge: The town constable reached out to Bill with concerns about heavy traffic (lawn chairs on the bridge, kids running around unattended, etc.) becoming hazardous at Cushman's Bridge. Bill is going to speak to the game warden and sheriff to see what actions can be taken.
 - Oil for Town Buildings: Gary informed the other board members that oil is cheap right now do it would be a good idea to look into pre-ordering oil for the winter. The earliest you can pre-order through the Dead River Company is May 18th. Steve said he would get a quote from Fred's Energy as well.
 - FEMA: There will be a watershed meeting on May 26th. Anyone interested in attending should reach out to Fred for more information.
 - Designation of On-Site Health Officer: Jessy and Steve can appoint an on-site health officer for their office.
- Executive Session: The selectmen entered executive session at 8:39 PM and exited at 8:54 PM. Bill motions to hold a special select board meeting on May 27th at 6:30 PM via ZOOM to discuss the employee handbook. Fred seconded the motion; all were in favor.
- Adjourn: Fred motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. Bill seconded the motion; all were in favor.