

## Waterford Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 @ 7:00PM

In-person Waterford School Gym

In Attendance: Sue Hayes, Marcia Martel, Rob Begin, Gary Allard, Mike Barrett

Attendee Sign-In Sheet Attached

Gary Allard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Modifications to the Agenda:

- Sue Hayes asked for the following items be added to the agenda:
  - Selectboard overturn 22-SUB-04
  - Update on Town Office Drawings
  - Update on the Clerk of the Boards position

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Mike made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the November 7, 2022 meeting. Sue seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

2023 Budget (Discussion / Action)

- Sue would like the town office salaries to reflect two months at the current rate and 10 months at the new potential rate.
- Fire dispatch expense was moved from the FD budget to the local budget. There was discussion as to where it should be recognized. Consensus was to have the expense stay in the local budget.
- Cut cash match portion of the two highway grants. Use highway department salary as match.
- Fire department budget needs to be reviewed again to include the payment of the truck should the taxpayers vote to purchase it. Gary asked that Marcia and Rob meet with Jeff and Will to review. Will Rivers asked if the worker's comp expense could be reviewed. Gary also suggested a review of the vehicle insurance – old truck vs. new truck.

Highway Department Update

- Jim still has questions about whether the Waterford Highway Dept. should be plowing the school parking lot since the town no longer owns it. Mike acknowledged that VCLT is aware that we are plowing the school and they are fine with it. Mike will follow up with Mark Tucker, CCSU Superintendent.
- Jim has been working on getting a quote to insulate the ceiling of the town garage. It needs at least 12 more inches. Jim is also working on collecting quote for the repairs to the addition.
- The highway department has a plan to fix the potholes and ruts in the road.
- Jim is also looking for part-time help during the winter season.

### Speed Sign – School (Action – Update Ordinance)

- Jim has received pricing for the required signs. He plans to get in touch with the State Police to confirm what he needs to order and where the signs need to be placed so that the speed limit can be enforced. The ordinance needs to be updated and then adopted by the board.

### Fire Department Update

- Will Rivers reported that the fire department responded to 14 calls during the last month – 7 were fire related and 7 were EMS. They have retro-fitted the dry hydrants to a more universal fixture to make hooking up the hoses easier. The alarm system for the firehouse is being updated. Security cameras have been purchased and will be installed. Engine was in the shop to have the hydraulic hoses fixed. A new compressor is on order from Sanel's. Grant on behalf of the FD was submitted on Thursday (12/8).

### Town Report Update

- Kathy Hodgdon reported that the contract has been signed for the printing of the town report. The auditors met with Deb and Heather and walked through the process. The printing timeline is tight. The request is that all reports be submitted to the town office by January 4<sup>th</sup>. There will not be an officers meeting. Regarding Town Meeting – no official time for the meeting was recorded in the previous meeting minutes. Rob Begin made a motion to hold town meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Marcia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Pre-town meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

### Errors / Omissions

- The listers submitted a written notice that there was an error on a parcel. As corrected it will be an increase in taxes due to the town by \$242.

### Short-term Rental (Informational)

- Public meeting is being held on Wednesday night 12/21 @ 7pm at the Davies Library.

### ARPA Fund Requests (Informational)

### Citizen's Concerns

- Mike has had a conversation regarding the cost of connecting Suitor Road, Slate Ledge Road, Knotty Lane, and Davis Lane. It would be 17 connections for a total of \$47,706. Gary wants to know how many total community members in Waterford are isolated without the option of broadband. Mike will get a list together of all households that do not have access to broadband. This topic will be on the January agenda.
- Kandis Barrett submitted a quote for repair and exterior painting of the library/town office building. The quote is in the amount of \$16,175. This item will be on the January agenda.

## Graveside Decoration/ Flag Policy

- Mike Barrett made a motion to approve and adopt the Graveside Decoration/Flag Policy. Rob Begin seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

## DRB subdivision

- The DRB made a mistake by approval 22-SUB-04. There was not enough road frontage to meet the minimal requirements. Sue Hayes made a motion to overturn the approved subdivision. Marcia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

## Clerk of the Boards

- SJA does not have any candidates. Rob does have a recent graduate that might be interested. The board would like to re-advertise in the paper, Front Porch Forum, and FB. The board will review the job description.

## Citizen's Concerns

- Jennifer Smith would like the highway department to block the road to the boat launch by using a snow bank when they are plowing. They typically plow to the power line and turn around. Great River Hydro is ok with it as a temporary fix until a gate is able to be installed. Gary let Jennifer know that the problem is that the road is a Class 3 and should be plowed all the way to the boat launch. This also means a gate could not be installed unless the road was thrown up. In order to throw up a road there would have to be a petition. 5% of registered voters and an article at Town Meeting.
- Jennifer Smith brought up the issue of tires being rolled down onto her property. She had reached out to Jim about picking them up but that isn't something the highway department does. Road Tenders are allowed to bring roadside trash and tires to the transfer station for free. Robin will give Clem a list of road tenders.
- Robin Migdelany is concerned with the number of unregistered vehicles and junk on the property at the top of Shadow Lake Road. She requested that the Zoning Administrator visit the site. Gary said he would follow up with Chris as there is a junk ordinance in Waterford.
- Dave Morrison asked about giving the FD an appropriation like the library instead of them being overseen by the selectboard. Gary explained that the FD operates under the town's tax id number and are not a separate entity as the library is.
- Brian Fleming asked if some research could be done regarding the budgets of surrounding fire departments.

## Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- ARPA requests
- Town Report

Special meeting will be held Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm for budget approval.

Rob Begin made a motion to enter Executive Session at 9:05pm with the addition of Heather Gonyaw, Chris and Jim Hayes.

Executive Session - 1 V.S.A. § 313 Personnel

The board exited executive session at 9:30pm. Marcia Martel made a motion to pay James Hayes and Shawn Goss the amount owed to them to fix the benefits discrepancy. Rob Begin seconded the motion.

Board Meeting Adjourned at 9:31 PM

DRAFT