

## Waterford Selectboard Working Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 11 @ 6:00PM

Davies Library

In Attendance: Gary Allard, Mike Barrett, Warner Hodgdon, Sue Hayes, Rob Begin. Attendance list attached.

Mike Barrett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### Modifications to Agenda

- Add Citizens Concerns

### Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Sue Hayes made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 11, 2023. Rob Begin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### New Fire Truck Proposal

- Fire Chief Colin Fucci requested to replace the existing tanker truck. He noted the truck is 22 years old, and the life expectancy of a tanker truck is 20 years. They have received 4 different vendor requests. The total cost of a new tanker truck is \$500,000. After using the money the fire department has set aside for this purchase, they would need an estimated loan of \$325,000 over 7 years. The resulting payment due annually would be equal to the current purchase fund allocation that is accounted for in the budget. Aside from the new tanker truck, the next big item that will need to be replaced is an engine in 2031. Colin noted that when a new tanker truck wasn't able to be purchased last year, it cost \$70,000 to make the old truck usable.
- Gary Allard referred to the Purchasing Policy and noted that the Selectboard does not have the authority to authorize this purchase because proper public notification procedures were not followed.
- Mike Barrett was unhappy to hear that the Fire Department's work toward the purchase of a new fire truck would be dismissed by the Selectboard, effectively making the Fire Department wait another year to approach the Town for funding. He left the meeting.
- Warner Hodgdon and Sue Hayes will meet with the Fire Truck Committee this week to review what they've done up to this point, look at the bids, and go through the Purchase Policy. They will determine if a town warrant to purchase a fire truck can be added to Town Meeting before the 12/29/23 deadline. They will report what they found during the Working Meeting on 12/18/2023.

## Final Review of 2024 Town Budget

- Town Treasurer Heather Gonyaw answered questions from the Selectboard and citizens.
- The municipal budget has a total increase of 14.5%.
- Fire Chief Colin Fucci noted to Heather that the amount listed for health care may be overstated. Heather will investigate it further and report back during the Working Meeting on 12/18/2023.
- Gary Allard and Rob Begin will meet with Heather sometime this week to review possible ways to decrease the budget. They will present the final draft at the Working Meeting on 12/18/2023.

## Review Plans for Blue Cross Blue Shield (Discussion/Action)

- A resolution was not reached. The discussion will be continued next year.

## ATV Survey Update (Discussion)

- Sue Hayes inputted all manual responses, and she will work on attaining the data of the electronic responses and report back during the Working Meeting on 12/18/2023. Once the data is collected and analyzed, a town warrant concerning ATVs will be added to Town Meeting with wording reflective of the survey majority opinion.
- Sue observed while processing the responses that an estimated majority voted for no amendment to be made.

## Petition for Historical Cemetery Name Change (Discussion/Action)

- Town Clerk Deb Benoit has the official petition with all the signatures and it will be added to the Town Meeting.

## Final Draft of Dog Ordinance (Discussion/Action)

- Corrections were made to sections 7 C and D.
- Warner Hodgdon motioned to accept the ordinance as corrected. Sue Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

## Highway Department (Discussion/Action)

- Jim Hayes reported that he has run into problems with Smith Road. There is only a small section of the road under Waterford's jurisdiction, and the rest is a private road in Barnet. Because it is a private road, the town of Barnet does not include it in their routes. Jim has received complaints from the residents of the road that it is not being taken care of, but he notes that public funds are not authorized to be used to care for private roads. Jim asked the board how he should proceed. Rob Begin suggested writing a letter to the Barnet Town Clerk so we can begin working out a solution. Sue Hayes will work with Town Clerk Deb Benoit and Jim to draft the letter.

- Jim asked about mold mediation for the town garage. He noted that the mold issue can't be solved without fixing the leaking roof as well. Gary Allard suggests working with a 'band-aid repair' within the budget until they can secure enough money for the full job.
- Sue Hayes and Rob Begin will meet with Jim to discuss what needs to be done and they will present to the board in a future meeting.

#### Green Up Vermont Appropriation Request (Discussion/Action)

- The fee for Green Up Vermont is \$100 and it used to come from the Selectboard budget, but it was discontinued in 2020. Sue Hayes made a motion to reinstitute paying the fee from the Selectboard budget. Gary Allard seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

#### Citizens' Concerns

- Citizen asked about the short-term rental amendment bylaw. Selectboard members answered his questions. Sue Hayes will work with Planning Commission Chair Howard Remick in the new year to draft a Short Term Rental licensing proposal for the Selectboard to approve or disapprove.

#### Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Final Review of Livestock Ordinance
- Final Review of 2024 Town Budget
- Fire Truck Update
- ATV Survey Update

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

- Warner Hodgdon made a motion to enter Executive Session. Gary Allard seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 and the group entered executive session at 7:30 PM.
- The group exited Executive Session at 8:04 PM. No action was taken.

#### Adjourn

- Rob Begin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sue Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Waterford Selectboard Meeting December 11, 2023

Sign In Sheet

Name

Signature

Howard Remick

Howard Remick

~~Ji Hayes~~

Ji Hayes

Debra Benoit

Debra Benoit

Marcia Martel

Marcia Martel

Kathy Hodgdon

Kathy Hodgdon

Cherise Cray

Cherise Cray

Herbert Nuttr

Herbert Nuttr

Deborah Caldwell

Deborah Caldwell

William Jones

William Jones

Kean Migdelo

Kean Migdelo

Suey Watson

Suey Watson

Tom Thomas

Tom Thomas

BRYANT FLEMING

Bryant Fleming

Paul Gray

Paul Gray

Kurt Billig

Kurt Billig

~~Kurt Billig~~

~~Kurt Billig~~

Jasper Billig

Jasper Billig

EIKE Billig

EIKE Billig

David E. Morrison

David E. Morrison

KEVIN GILLAND

Kevin Gilland

Jennifer Smith

Jennifer Smith

Roger Leroux

Roger Leroux

Craig Fucci

Craig Fucci

Jacob Fucci

Jacob Fucci