

Waterford Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, January 11, 2016  
Town Clerk's Office

**Attendees:**

Selectmen: Brent Beck, Gary Allard, Fred Saar

Highway: Lisle Houghton

Clerk: Joanne Jurentkuff

Assistant Clerk: Jessy Pelow

Others: Jon and Denise Hindle, Helen Pike, Jen D'Agostino, Sally Ayers, Lois Williams, Janet Bingham, Roberta Smith, Roberta Gillott, Ed Allen, Howard Remick

**OPENING:** Brent opened the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Fred made the motion to approve the December 14, 2015 minutes as presented. Gary seconded the motion. All approved. The selectmen signed the orders for January, and reviewed the budget report to date.

**Citizens Concerns: Letters from Citizens:**

Denise and Jon Hindle who live on Duck Pond Road presented letters which they wrote to the Town about 3 major issues. The issues being closing the pull off near their home, trash pick-up at that pull off location over the bank and reducing the speed limit between Remick road and Route 18. The selectboard heard their concerns and will speak with the sheriff to get more patrol on that section of the road as well as talk to Shawna Clifford about a potential traffic study. The selectboard will go to the ST. Johnsbury selectboard and speak to them about the pull off and the trash pick-up. They will be back in touch with the Hindles.

Waterford History Group: Helen Pike presented a letter to the selectboard (see attached) The letter is asking the town to include in the town plan update that the village of Lower Waterford be designated as a village center. The benefits of doing this are that there may be use of grant money for the village. The selectboard will consider.

Roberta Gillott spoke in concern with the lack of information provided for the upcoming solar projects in Waterford. She believes she was lead to think that the citizens could have no part when in actuality the citizens as well as the town can take part and their voice can be heard. The selectboard discussed that the only solar project in Waterford with any concern would be the one that is potentially going up on Duck Pond Road nearest the Fire Department and that concern being the visibility from the road. Roberta stated that the Selectboard interrupted her and would not let her finish her comments. She stated that she felt the Selectboard was dismissive of her comments and not interested in what she had to say.

**Welcome to Waterford signs update:** Signs have been installed

**Budget price for equipment replacement:** Lisle said budget price for a new grader would be trade in value for the old grader and then between 130-\$150 thousand more.

**Review charge off for trucks:** Nothing at this time. Lisle will report back at next meeting.

**Landowner signoff form:** Lisle presented the selectboard with the current form he has. Gary presented information to be reviewed. No decisions were made and will discuss at next meeting.

**Other:** Lisle would like to have Class III road pavement and new box culvert on River Road as major projects for 2016. He will get back to Joanne soon with his final budget numbers.

Lisle told the Selectmen that when he bought the hay bail mulcher it was at auction, it was \$2,000.00 and something he knew would be utilized.

**Waterford Selectmen's Meeting, January 11, 2016 p.2.**

**All- Hazards Mitigation Plan update:** Paul Luciano has presented the Hazards Mitigation Plan to FEMA for review.

**Other:**

**Letter to Donna Prue** – Fred drafted a letter to Donna Prue requesting she begin making payments again and that she try to bring her account up-to-date. Brent signed the letter for the Selectboard, and we will wait until the February meeting to see if she takes any action.

**Using Town Residents as Flaggers** – Fred sent an inquiry on this topic to VLCT and received a response from Fred Satnick of the Risk Management staff. Fred advised that he is not aware of any other town in Vermont doing this and that, if Waterford proceeds, they should treat the flaggers as Town employees with all of the associated employee expense (FICA, Medicaid, Workman's Comp, training, etc.) Fred recommended that, on the advice of our insurance carrier, we not employ Town employees.

**Workman's Comp For Contractors** – Fred reviewed the VLCT newsletter and confirmed Joanne's understanding that the Town will be responsible for paying Workman's Comp premiums for any contractors hired by the Town that do not carry Workman's Comp insurance.

**Hazen Letter** – Fred reported that he had met with Debbie Hazen to discuss the letter she submitted at the December Selectboard meeting. Fred discussed the absence of design standards in the Town zoning and the Zoning Administrator's weekly inspection.

**Certificate of Highway Mileage:** No changes and the selectmen signed

**Website link request from Vermont Veterans' Home:** Selectmen approved for the Vermont Veterans Home link to be put on the website. Joanne will forward to Mike Barrett

**Heating fuel prices:** Prices are still decreasing no price locked in yet for the town.

**Resolution from Rutland on energy projects for Town Warning:** The town will participate. The selectmen signed and Joanne will email back. See attached.

**Updating Library Building restrooms:** The urinal in the men's bathroom needs to be taken out and painting in both bathrooms needs to be done. Joanne will get in touch with a plumber to take care of the urinal and painting will be discussed at a later time.

**Set pre-town meeting date & time:** Pre-town meeting is set for February 23, 2016 at 7:00p.m at Waterford School.

**Work on budget for 2016:** Budget was looked over and some corrections made. Fred made the motion to move \$18,561.24 from the compactor fund into the building fund to cover the roof and inside electrical work. Gary seconded. All approved

**Discuss Warning:** No discussion

**Calendar year vs. fiscal year for town:** Joanne discussed with the selectmen of potential year end date being the same as the school in June rather than December so it would leave more time to prepare. No decision at this time.

**Other:** The selectmen discussed and would like to have motion detector lights for the Library installed to help decrease the electricity usage.



**Waterford Selectmen's Meeting, January 11, 2016 p.3**

**NVDA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** – Fred reviewed the NVDA CEDS letter and recommended that the Town respond indicating support for the effort and noting that Waterford has no requirements.

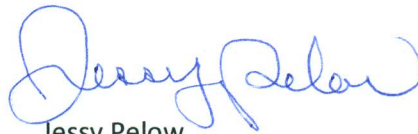
**Fire Warden Resignation** - Kevin Fontecha contacted the state about resigning.

**Road Crew Clothing Allowance** – The Town currently provides an annual clothing allowance of \$263.00 to each member of the Road Crew. Fred noted that the Road Crew always spends the funds during the year and made a motion to pay the allowance as an additional earning each April. Gary seconded. All approved.

**Outstanding Dog Fines** – Fred reported that there are currently two outstanding fines for failing to register a dog that were issued to Laurie Boynton. The fines are for 2104 and 2015 and total \$432.00. Ms. Boynton formerly lived at the Lucier property on East Village Road but is no longer at that address. Midnight, the offending dog, has been surrendered to the Victory Animal Shelter and has been adopted by someone in New Hampshire. Fred made a motion to cancel the outstanding fines. Gary seconded. All approved.

**ADJOURN:** Fred made the motion to recess until Monday January 18, 2016 at 7:30 p.m to work on the budget and the Warning. Gary seconded. All approved.

Approved:  
Date:



Jessy Pelow  
Assistant Town Clerk

December 26, 2015

Gary Allard, Selectman  
Waterford Selectboard  
Town of Waterford, VT 05819

Re: Obtaining a village center designation for Lower Waterford in the new Town Master Plan

Please find attached a copy of a letter presented December 14, 2015 to the Planning Commission by the undersigned directors of the Waterford Historical Society, urging the commission to make the historic village of Lower Waterford a designated village center (DVC) as defined by the state Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD).

As part of the master plan review process, we are next asking the Selectboard to consider this proposal for contiguous land on Lower Waterford Road, Maple Street, and Route 18, per our understanding of what the state might allow:

- 1) Lower Waterford Road south to the 1888 schoolhouse and #173 (owned by Dr. & Mrs. Russell Williams)
- 2) Maple Street (including the municipal building at #532)
- 3) Route 18, beginning with the Rabbit Hill Inn property around the mill pond, one lot west (owned by Susan and Jim Steele) and one lot east known as the historic White Village Farm (owned by Jay and Lisa Wilmoth)

Our research has found that neighboring Barnet already has a DVC. Concord is pursuing a DVC in its master plan review with the help of NVDA senior planner Irene Nagle who is also guiding the Waterford Planning Commission. Waterford has additional expertise from the town's zoning officer, Chris Brimmer, who helped Fairlee establish a DVC.

We believe a DVC for Lower Waterford would be complementary to its historic role as the center of civic, commercial, religious, and residential identity. To date we have noted:

- VTRANS' consideration to add a bike lane to Route 18, especially when it undertakes the construction of a new #6 bridge over Mad Brook. We have seen mountain bikers on Route 18, some of whom have used the municipal building as a rest stop on their itinerary.

- In 2015 the historical society participated in the statewide Archaeology Day with a well-attended walking tour of Lower Waterford and also hosted, with the Congregational Church, a Historic House & Garden Tour & Rhubarb Café that attracted 91 participants from as far away as Boston and Burlington.
- The Rabbit Hill Inn encourages guests, whether they are walking or snow shoeing to use the trails in and around the mill pond, including the VAST trail that is one of the original late 18<sup>th</sup> century east-west roads connecting Lower Waterford to St. Johnsbury and Littleton, NH. Perhaps the historical society, various stakeholders, and the town may undertake a historic markers program as was done at Greenbank's Hollow in Danville.
- The business uses for the White Village Farm have included a long-running period as a dairy operation and a more recent retail stint as a rare books shop operated by previous owner Charles Boyce.

As history documents, Lower Waterford once had two general stores along with a thriving mills-based zone around the falling water of Mad Brook. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the village expanded its commerce east to include the Countryside Restaurant, the historic Cutler farmhouse as a B&B, and Aldrich Formica (fabricators) and west to Curran's Convenience Store which also featured a gas station and the village post office.

As one of the new master plan criteria is economic development, a designated village center might encourage enterprises complementary to the Lower Waterford's historic character and draw as an international destination for outdoor enthusiasts as well as those seeking an authentic and rural American experience.

Respectfully submitted,



Board of Directors: Donna Rae Heath, Helen Pike, Roberta Smith, Lynn Troy



RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE INPUT OF VERMONT MUNICIPALITIES  
REGARDING THE SITING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN CERTIFICATE  
OF PUBLIC GOOD PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has set aggressive goals for the development of renewable energy in Vermont.

WHEREAS, as a result of these aggressive goals the number of certificate of public good (CPG) applications before the Public Service Board (PSB) has increased substantially.

WHEREAS, at best, the current CPG process provided by 30 V.S.A. §248 affords a limited and ineffectual role for Vermont municipalities, municipal planning commissions, and town selectboards. Regardless of the content, scope, or impact on a proposed renewable energy project or a municipality's efforts to have a say in the project's siting, the §248 process and the legal analysis employed by the PSB enable the PSB to disregard and/or avoid the policies and standards of the very municipality in which the renewable energy project is to be located. By focusing on regional impacts, to the exclusion of local municipal impacts, the PSB routinely ignores the input and evidence offered by Vermont municipalities. As a result, the "due consideration" of municipal viewpoints required by 30 V.S.A. §248(b)(1) has become consideration in name only.

WHEREAS, it has become clear that legislative changes are needed to afford Vermont municipalities a greater say in the approval and siting of renewable energy projects.

THEREFORE, it is RESOLVED by the undersigned Vermont municipalities, to instruct their state representatives and senators to develop amendments to the statutes that concern the siting and approval of renewable energy projects and to the procedures of the PSB in order to ensure that Vermont municipalities have a more meaningful role in the CPG process and to require compliance with appropriately-developed municipal siting standards.

---

WATERFORD

Town Name

B. B. Bach

Select Board, Chairperson

Board, Clerk

Guy P. Allam

Board member

Heurba

Board member 1-11-16-

Board member

Return to: Select Board  
181 Business Route 4  
Center Rutland, VT. 05736