

Waterford Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 @ 7:00PM
In-person Waterford School Gym

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by Gary Allard

Modifications to the agenda – none

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Mike Barrett made a motion to approve the January 24, 2023 meeting minutes. Marcia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Lunenburg Girl Scout Troop – Cookie Sales Permission

- Girl Scout Troop – Bella Simons (Lunenburg) asked permission to sell cookies at Town Meeting. \$5/box. Marcia Martel made a motion to allow the sale at Town Meeting. Rob Begin seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Highway Department Update:

- Waterline pipe under the floor of the shop is broken. The town garage has no water at the moment. Someone coming in Thursday to dig it up.
- Marcia asked if there had been any further bids submitted for repairs – Jim has two quotes – waiting for third. Air quality test was completed. Lab hasn't completed the results.

Town Office Update / Town Meeting Update

- The town office will be hosting a free community spaghetti dinner before Town Meeting on March 7th. Food will be served between 4:45 and 5:45 PM. The Davies Library will be providing coffee and dessert by donation.

Update from the Delinquent Tax Collector –

- Gib Trenholme provided the board with three snapshots (last February to December 31, 2022). He indicated that 72% of delinquent tax has been collected. Marcia asked how many years a tax payer needs to be delinquent before tax sale – Gib's policy is two years. Rob asked what the normal monthly hours were – Gib said October has a lot of hours and it lessens as the year goes on and is minimal by September.

Fire Department Update –

- Colin Fucci, Fire Chief gave an update – There are six officers - Colin, Will, Jeff, Jim, TG, Ryan. This combination represents 45 years of service to Waterford.
- 20 calls in the month of January.
- Grants – 4 have been applied for.
- One new member in the month of January – Kevin Mitchell.

- Total volunteer – 25. Commitment is phenomenal.
- Howard Remick asked if we bill out for haz mat clean up. Approved policy that needs to be re-evaluated. Howard suggests that Colin call Fairfax to find out how they do it.

Liquor License for RHI

- Marcia Martel made a motion to approve the liquor license for RHI. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Sign Certificate of No Appeal

- No pending appeals for grievance for the year 2022. Selectboard signed.

ARPA Funds Request –

- Additional Broadband Opportunities – Mike Barrett provided updates that included interest from NEK Broadband to continue their buildout. Waterford could see 100% connectivity within the next 12 months. Request for ARPA funds tabled at this time.
- Library / Town Office – the board reviewed the two bids. Marcia Martel made a motion to accept the bid from White Dog Contracting in the amount of \$11,840. Sue Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
- Rob Begin made a motion to earmark \$50,000 in ARPA funds for equipment purchases for the fire department. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Boat Launch Security and Update Great River Hydro

- Sue and Rob met with a representative from Great River Hydro. The focus is on security and deterrents. There was conversation about installing solar lighting and changing the hours of operation from sunrise to sunset. Sue Hayes proposed \$500 in ARPA money to pay for half cameras/lighting.
- Rob Begin noted that the issues at the boat launch were not a Waterford only issue – issues at all boat launches.
- Howard Remick brought up the fact that the turnout near his house has stuff dumped and nothing has happened. Deb Allard voiced concern about spending ARPA funds when Great River Hydro has plenty of money. Jennifer Smith agreed that the town shouldn't spend money but that the Town should be involved.
- Further suggestions from the community included more patrolling at Dam, and near Howard's place, sign that reminds people that they are disturbing the neighbor, carry in/carry out signs, adding signage about rules, creating a neighborhood watch. No action was taken.

Cemetery Entry Policy –

- Sue Hayes rewrote the policy based on feedback received from VCLT. That revised document was given to Warner. Suggestions by VCLT were more

geared towards routine maintenance. Warner wanted it by project with the owners giving written notification if they wanted the work stopped.

- Legal counsel should review but Sue asks that the board review it and have this item on the next meeting agenda.
- Mowing bid needed.
- Helen Pike offered a point of clarification. The cemeteries are not on private property. Access to the cemetery is but the Town owns the cemeteries. Sue will correct the wording and resend to the update to the board.

Citizens' Concerns –

- Green Up Day - Robin Migdelany asked if she could chair Green Up. The Board agreed.
- Short Term Rental hearing tomorrow night (02.15.2023).
- Dog registrations are being taken now. New this year, community members can pay online.

February 28th – Pre-town meeting 6PM

Town Meeting is on March 7 at 6PM. Reorganization of the board will be March 14th.

Next Working meeting – road ordinances.

Listers will be doing visits – yearly check-ups.

Town Report – on website – town office, school, transfer station.

Executive session –

- Rob Begin made a motion to enter Executive session with an invitation to Heather Gonyaw to attend. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. Board entered executive session at 8:27PM.
- The board exited executive session at 9:15PM. Mike Barrett made a motion to provide pay increases to employees at 3%. Marcia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-1.
- Mike Barrett made a motion to pay Jim Hayes \$1,000 as a bonus. Rob Begin seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-1 with Sue Hayes abstaining from the vote.

Marica Martel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20PM. Rob Begin seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.