

Minutes of the Select Board
Monday September 16, 2024
28 North Main Street and via zoom

Attendance: Kane Sweeney, Alyssa Johnson, Ian Shea, Tom Leitz, Karen Petrovic, Roger Clapp, Katarina Lisaius

Public Attendance: Al Lewis, Owen Sette-Ducati, Chris Viens, Justin Blackman, ORCA Media, Mame McKee, Evan Hoffman, Lisa Scagliotti - Waterbury Roundabout, Marni Martens, Carol Baitz

ZOOM: ORCA Media, Sandy Sabin, Pegeen Mulhern, Evan Hoffman, Amy Marshall-Carney, Joe Camaratta, Jonathan Griffin, Anne Imhoff, Doug Gleason

R. Clapp called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Approve Agenda: M. Bard moved to approve the agenda as written. I. Shea seconded the motion. K. Sweeney asked to table the Consent Agenda until September 30th. A. Johnson seconded the amendment. A vote was held and passed unanimously. A vote was held on the amended agenda and passed unanimously.

Public: J. Blackman representing the Waterbury Senior Center asked the board to consider reallocating the ARPA funding previously awarded to the Senior Center to upgrade the stove hood. Discussion followed regarding the property owner's inability to authorize renovations for 5 years. The request is to allow the Senior Center to use the money to purchase a new range. R. Clapp stated this will need to be considered at a warned meeting.

A. Lewis thanked the Board for the recognition he received on Thursday for his 42 years of dedication and commitment to the Rotary.

C. Viens asked if the Town has officially begun the reappraisal process. T. Leitz stated we have not formally begun property inspections but will begin shortly with property owner warnings.

There will be a staff pancake breakfast on Friday November 15th

R. Clapp acknowledged the email from Will Robens stating they have received Sheriff support for the Leaf Peepers race this fall to ensure they adhere to the safety plan that was previously approved by the board

River of Lights Parade and Safety Plan: M. McKee and C. Baitz spoke to the board about the River of Lights parade scheduled for December 7, 2024. The plan represents the same proposal as last year except for the names of individuals who will be providing traffic support at each intersection. The theme of this year's parade is Critters and Creatures. M. Bard has offered to ask the Rotary and R. Clapp has offered to ask Winterfest for support with traffic controllers. **K. Sweeney moved to accept the River of Lights safety plan for 2024. I. Shea seconded the motion.** K. Lisaius stating the planning process has been ongoing with some changes being entertained. **A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Input Process for feedback on Development of Woody Ave: T. Leitz stated there is still work to be done before outreach begins. A portion of the lot is in Land and Water Conservation and preserved for Recreation. This must be considered in the development process. Staff is requesting more time to develop a plan for the needed conservation. Staff recommends holding public meetings between October 15th and November 15th and would like personal invitations to the abutters and neighborhood. A. Johnson is asking staff to create a timeline for the needed steps.

Housing Trust Fund: K. Sweeney stated along with the correspondence from Downstreet and others the intent of the funds would be purposed as:

- a.) Constructions of ADU's
- b.) Increasing funding to current projects and programs such as VHIP with payback at the time of a sale
- c.) Affordability clause similar to Woodstock
- d.) Funding infrastructure to aid in development of new housing
- e.) Matching funds for large projects such as a non-profit wanting to build additional housing units in Waterbury.

K. Sweeney strongly believes in the Montpelier and Woodstock Housing Trust models. Using Downstreet would allow for a vetting process to take place outside of Town Staff and legal work that is necessary by a contracted attorney at a cost savings. There is no immediate con because the fund would be managed based on the guidelines established by the Select Board.

J. Camaratta suggested the Select Board create an objective they can use as a guideline to assist in determining where the funds are spent.

Local Options Tax (LOT) Allocation: T. Leitz presented the Board with a memo attached detailing his thoughts for using the unbudgeted 2024 LOT.

K. Sweeney made a motion to allocate \$159,285 of 2024 Local Options Tax revenue to settle the debt to Community National Bank, Highway Grader, and the Fire Vehicle. M. Bard seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.

I. Shea made a motion to allocate \$70,000 of 2024 Local Options Tax revenue to pave Guptil Road from Dr. Murray's Bridge to Thatcher Brook Road. K. Sweeney seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.

Adopt Specific Questions for the Rental Registry: T. Leitz presented a draft list of questions for the board to consider for the Rental Registry. It is not stated on this draft but staff has said they will work to find a way to redact contact information such as cell phone numbers and email addresses. A. Johnson advocated a mailing to all property owners to ensure outreach is thorough. **M. Bard made a motion to adopt the questions as presented. I. Shea seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

VELCO Power Pole Blush Hill Road: T. Leitz presented the background of the VELCO power pole on Blush Hill Road that has failed and needs to be replaced as an emergency. VELCO was approved for a temporary repair that includes three additional wooden poles. The Blush Hill residents most impacted by the appearance of these temporary poles would like to see the final decision state "restore the current aesthetic condition to the extent possible". **K. Sweeney moved to authorize the Town Manager to send the presented letter to the Public Utility Commission. A. Johnson seconded the motion; a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting Agenda:

Change consent agenda to include Sept 9 minutes with Sept 16

Senior Center ARPA

Outreach Plan for Woody Ave

Housing Trust Fund

add to Parking Lot: Rental Registry Outreach and Hope Davey Park

Executive Session: none needed

Adjourn: A. Johnson moved to adjourn at 9:00pm. K. Sweeney seconded the motion. A vote was held and passed unanimously.

DRAFT