

Town of Waltham
2053 Maple Street
Waltham, VT 05491

Selectboard Minutes 12-4-2023

Members Present: Andrew Martin, Brent Newton-Chair and Rhonda Williams

Others Present: Chris LaPete, Linda Devino, Cookie Steponaitis

Brent Newton called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Chris LaPete discussed the condition of Route 66. How all the rain has damaged the road as well as some damage from ATVs. He noted a large tree branch hanging that needs to be removed. This led to discussion of tree trimming. Andrew said Teachers Tree Service will start the trimming process 12-5-23. They will address the overhangs and larger trees. The Board told Chris to go ahead with cutting the little trees in the ditches/ROW. There was discussion of the Highway Safety Improvement grant we were awarded for tree cutting, we are still waiting to hear from the National Environmental Policy Act. Chris asked about future paving. Andrew said we need to apply for a paving grant. He also thought we should do a Request for Proposal for paving. Chris feels we need to hurry up and line someone up or it won't happen in 2024. Andrew felt we should also apply for a ditching grant.

Andrew moved to approve the November minutes as written. Rhonda 2nd and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Andrew explained what he learned at the Panton SB meeting with County Fire and Emergency service crews. Basically the Towns' feel recruitment is the key to bettering the services. Andrew suggested that the smaller departments should work together for better buying power. Justin Soter who was at that meeting will attend our January meeting for more info.

Brent presented the board with a proposed new speed ordinance. Essentially it will change all Waltham Roads to 35mph unless otherwise marked. He also suggested adding additional speed signs around town. Andrew moved to replace the current Article 4 of our Traffic Ordinance with this new verbiage. Rhonda 2nd and it was unanimously agreed. The Ordinance will be voted on next month.

Linda told the Board of the 3 quotes she got to replace our copier as the current lease is ending. After comparing the 3, it was decided to go with the Symquest quote.

Linda told the board where we were financially after paying the ANWSD. She also showed the board what ARPA monies we used this calendar year. It was agreed to move that amount from the reserve account back into the general account.

Pay orders were then reviewed. Andrew moved to approve the \$889,621.58. Rhonda 2nd and the amount was unanimously approved.

Cookie asked the board if we could advertise in the Addison Independent's year end annual Chronology. The Board approved the cost of the ad.

Old and new business was discussed. Topics included attendees for January's meeting, 9-11 addresses, Parking in Waltham, and the PEL study in Vergennes. No formal action was taken.

With there being no other business to discuss, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Devino

Clerk / Treasurer