

Town of Waltham
2053 Maple Street
Waltham, VT 05491

Selectboard Minutes 7-10-2023

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

Others Present: Chris LaPete, Linda Devino, Cookie Steponaitis, Tim & Lizbeth Ryan and John Lent

Brent Newton called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Chris LaPete explained to the board his progress on Route 66. He has completed the requirements for our Better Roads Grant. He let the board know of two culverts that need to be replaced and he also told the board of his meeting with Alan May from the State Agency of Transportation. Alan feels the paved area of Route 66 should be repaved as the road is crumbling.

Andrew has been in touch with Addison County Regional Planning Commission and is looking into additional ARPA funds to help with the culvert replacements. He also learned that our new access permit fits within their guidelines.

With the discussion of Route 66 Tim commented on the no parking ordinance. He was concerned with some of the restrictions. After further discussion with the board, he agreed with the gist of the ordinance. It was unanimously agreed to implement the ordinance as written.

Waltham Parking ordinance; Route 66

No parking shall be allowed on either side of Route 66. The so called "Buck Mountain Trail Head" is the only allowed parking on Route 66. Residents and property owners on Route 66 shall be permitted to park on Route 66 while performing maintenance to their property. Contractors working for property owners on Route 66 shall be allowed to park in the roadway for a reasonable amount of time for the purpose of loading or unloading. If parking is required on Route 66 or within the town right of way for more than 30 minutes, the property owner must notify the Town of Waltham in advance. Parking on Route 66 for the purpose of land access or hiking is strictly prohibited and violators will be towed by a contracted towing company.

The tree cutting and ditching that has been recently completed on Route 66 was discussed. Chris explained why it has been done. Tim felt it would allow motorists to drive even faster and suggested trimming of trees instead of cutting them down.

Liz then began discussing the parking area and her plans with the Buck Mt Trailhead. She is working with Middlebury Area Land Trust to protect and preserve the area. Because it has been

in use for so many years the trailhead has become a “common law” access. There was discussion between the Ryans, Brent Newton and John Lent about how to keep people from wandering onto private property. Between working with MALT and together with the adjoining property owners it is the hopes of all that the trail can continue to be safely utilized.

The June minutes were reviewed. Andrew moved to approve them Rhonda 2nd and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Discussion about upcoming renovations to town hall began. Brent said Multy Builders will be here tomorrow (7-11-23) to begin the project.

End of the year financials were discussed. No formal action taken.

The pay orders for June were reviewed. Rhonda moved to pay the amount of \$24,441.16. Brent 2nd and the amount was unanimously approved.

The proposals received from Real Capital Consulting for reappraisal were discussed. It was decided that it would be best for Waltham to have the standard appraisal. Brent moved to accept that proposal. Rhonda 2nd and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Correspondence was reviewed – no Action.

Cookie reported the results of our Grievance hearing. She also noted that per State statute we need to do a bi-annual review our check list with a meeting of the Board of Civil Authority. It was decided to hold a BCA meeting Aug 7 at 6:45pm.

With there being no other business to discuss, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Devino

Clerk / Treasurer