

Town of Waltham
2053 Maple Street
Waltham, VT 05491

Selectboard Minutes 8-7-2023

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

Others Present: Adam Lougee, Deron Rixson, Rachel Steponaitis, Jeff Glassberg, Linda Devino and Cookie Steponaitis

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

Chris LaPete was not present therefore there was no road report.

Adam Lougee introduced himself and Deron Rixson. They were in attendance to explain that Addison County Regional Planning Commission has some additional ARPA monies and how Waltham can and should benefit from them. He explained that ACRPC will assist towns with grant writing for these funds. Some of the areas to be considered are town infrastructure, Broadband, Municipal Energy Resilience Plan, Energy improvements, storm water mitigation, and USDA Forestry planning. There was discussion about the renovations to town hall and the upcoming culvert replacement on Middlebrook Road and some minimal discussion about Vergennes infrastructure.

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

The recent Highway Safety Improvement Grant received for tree cutting in the Town's right of ways was discussed. Rhonda noted that it would be good idea to notify our residents that this will be occurring. It was decided that a notice should be put online and announced as an agenda item for next month's meeting in hopes to get as much public input as possible.

Brent and Andrew explained the next steps in the renovation of Town Hall. They plan to have the ridge beam replaced and the walls secured. After which a decision on the interior improvements will be reviewed. The hope was that we could tap into some State funding to use along with our ARPA monies to maximize efficiency of the improvements.

Cookie discussed picnic plans with the board. It was unanimously agreed to a budget of \$500. She will be distributing flyers door to door next week as a reminder to our residents.

The financials were discussed including the need to set the tax rate for next year. Andrew will be in to review numbers with Linda and hopes to finalize by Sept 11.

The pay orders for July were reviewed. Andrew moved to pay the amount of \$44,216.15. Rhonda 2nd and the amount was unanimously approved.

Correspondence was reviewed. The VTrans Small Scale Local Safety Grant and the Middlebrook Rd Structure grant were discussed. The contract with Real Capital Consulting was reviewed. The board will review these and discuss them again at the Sept meeting.

Cookie told the board of the meeting we attended with the Clerks from Vergennes, Ferrisburgh and Panton. The topic was concerning some boundary lines in question. Some of these questions date back to the early 60-70s. Penny Austin suggested a charter update to make an agreement of "As Billed" as the most efficient course of action. The Selectboard agreed.

With there being no other business to discuss, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Devino

Clerk / Treasurer