

Minutes of the Emergency Meeting  
of members of Waterbury Select Board

Friday, July 28, 2023

Present: Select Board members Roger Clapp, Dani Kehlmann, Alyssa Johnson

Municipal Manager Tom Leitz (via phone), Bill Shepeluk, Liz Schlegel, Tom Drake

The chair opened the meeting at 8:36 am and acknowledged that the meeting hadn't been warned and that he would submit minutes for review by the full Board in advance of the next warned meeting on Monday, July 31.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide a debrief from the Waterbury Volunteer Flood Recovery Team established at the emergency Select Board meeting on July 11th under the leadership of Dani Kehlmann, Alyssa Johnson and Liz Schlegel and prepare for a transition in team leadership.

Liz Schlegel provided a short assessment, stating the Waterbury flood recovery efforts were a week or more ahead of most other towns in the region with strong support from over 1100 well-coordinated volunteers and municipal officials notably Public Works Director Bill Woodruff and Bob Butler who has been coordinating waste removal. She has just received a 211 report from the State on Waterbury residents reporting flood impacts and will use that to update data she's been recording on the Waterbury Grand list. She expects that her earlier estimate of 170 Waterbury households impacted by the flood will be reduced. She announced that she will be leaving on vacation with her family this afternoon. While her employer the Alchemist Foundation has been supporting her coordination of relief efforts in Waterbury, she will be redirecting her efforts to Lamoille County upon her return.

Dani Kehlmann and Alyssa Johnson have also contributed long hours to relief coordination and will be returning their full-time jobs next week. The team recommended hiring Tom Drake to step in as Flood Recovery Coordinator and that will be on the agenda for the meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Over the weekend, volunteers will be directed to other towns with more immediate needs on Saturday and then a refocused effort in Waterbury on Sunday. On Saturday, Dani will be coordinating efforts in the Steele Room which is serving as the operations center for the volunteer relief effort. She will be generating a status update on recovery needs in Waterbury and directing volunteers to assist other towns. Alyssa will be leading coordination efforts on Sunday with a focus on mold prevention in impacted households. The group recommended postponing a clean up of the Cross Vermont Trail and impacted riparian areas until dumpsters could be strategically positioned.

The group adjourned at 9:50 am with the next Select Board meeting scheduled for Monday, July 31 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Clapp, Chair