

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
VILLAGE OF WATERBURY  
MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

P. H. Flanders welcomed everyone to the last Annual Meeting of the Village of Waterbury. He pointed out that the history of the Village is on the cover of the Annual Report and a detailed history is included within the report. The Village will have been in existence from December 20, 1882 to June 30, 2018, if the charter amendments are approved by Legislature. The last Annual Report is dedicated to all the officials who served the Village of Waterbury over the past 135 years, 6 months and 11 days.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

The inhabitants of the Village of Waterbury who are legal voters in Village Meetings are hereby notified and warned to meet at the gymnasium of the Thatcher Brook Primary School in the Village of Waterbury on Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. in the evening to act on the following matters:

**ARTICLE 1:** To act on the reports of the officers of the Village of Waterbury.

G. Birmingham made a motion to accept the reports of the officers of the Village of Waterbury as printed in the Village Report. The motion was seconded. R. Grace asked if the total assets of \$1,663,076 in the UDAG fund included the loan on the Stimson and Graves building. W. Shepeluk responded that a loan of \$202,500 is out of the UDAG fund. R. Grace asked about management of these loans and whether the loans are limited to businesses within the Village of Waterbury. P. H. Flanders stated that there are no federal rules, but the Trustees ask that the funds be loaned within the limits of the Village. Once the Utility District is initiated, the area may be broadened, and the funds will be used for the benefit of the District. W. Shepeluk explained that the assets in the UDAG fund and Tax Stabilization fund will be assets of the Utility District.

R. Grace asked for rules to be developed as to how the UDAG funds are used. W. Shepeluk stated that there is currently a policy in place that states the funds need to be used within the Village limits. It might be possible in the future to loan funds to customers outside of the District but these customers will not be voting members of the District.

E. Coffey asked who the owner currently is of the Stimson and Graves building. The building is owned by Waterbury Housing Limited Partnership. E. Coffey stated that when the property changed hands, the original loan to the Village should have been paid and a new loan given to the successor owner.

K. Grace stated that at the 2016 Annual Meeting, \$50,000 was approved to demolish 51 South Main Street. She asked where this funding was in the budget. She also asked the amount of insurance the Village received on the property. P. H. Flanders stated that the demolition of the building will be explored after Village Meeting. W. Shepeluk stated that voters also approved the option to borrow for the demolition, and the \$50,000 is in the budget for the demolition. The Village previously received \$348,000 in insurance proceeds and placed the money in the Tax Stabilization fund which is now valued at \$471,694 as of December 31, 2017. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2:** To elect by Australian ballot, the following Village officers: Clerk for 1 year, Treasurer for 1 year, Village President for 1 year, Trustee for 2 years, and Water & Sewer Commissioner for 3 years.

**NOTE: THE POLLS FOR VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ON ARTICLE 2 WILL BE OPEN FROM SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON TO SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON AT THE WATERBURY MUNICIPAL OFFICE, AT 28 NORTH MAIN STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF WATERBURY.**

**ARTICLE 3:** To set the compensation of Village officers for the ensuing year.

J. Willard made a motion to set the compensation of Village officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Village President	\$850
Trustees	\$600 each
Water & Sewer Commissioners	\$600 each

The motion was seconded. P. H. Flanders stated that the compensation is for 6 months. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Village will authorize the Trustees to borrow a sum of money by note, for a period not to exceed five years, to make improvements to the water system.

R. Finucane made a motion to pass over this Article. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Village will authorize the Trustees to borrow a sum of money by note, for a period not to exceed five years, to make improvements to the wastewater system.

C. Parks made a motion to authorize the Trustees to borrow up to \$275,000 by note for a period not to exceed 5 years on terms agreeable to the Trustees to pay for improvements and equipment for the wastewater department. The motion was seconded.

W. Shepeluk brought the voters attention to the sewer budget on page 27. With the addition of the \$275,000, the total revenues will be \$1,062,635 and expenses total \$1,127,045. W. Shepeluk explained that it is important to replace a sewer main on Elm Street at a cost of \$215,000. He gave a brief description of the project. The remainder of the expenses includes \$10,000 for a hot water flushing system in the treatment plant, \$35,000 for engineering expenses and \$8,000 for new equipment. The motion was passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Village will vote sums of money for payments of debts and expenses for the Village in 2018 and provide for the financing of said debts and expenses using monies available in the Village's Tax Stabilization Fund.

L. Sayah made a motion that the Village appropriate the following sums of money for the interests of its inhabitants, for the prosecution and defense of the common rights and for necessary debts and expenses: \$110,185 for the general fund expenses, to be funded as specified in the budget as adopted, making a final transfer to or from the Village's Tax Stabilization Fund

to zero out the fund balance remaining in the General Fund as of June 30, 2018. The motion was seconded.

N. Sherman brought the voters attention to the Manager's report on page 8, where he detailed 2017 expenses and the 2018 budget. The Village benefited from higher revenues than expected due to higher than expected payment for the State PILOT program and an increase in revenues for the sale of police equipment. On the flip side, there was less revenue from traffic and parking tickets. Expenditures for 2017 were within the budget, spending \$1,000 less than the budget of \$396,000.

For 2018, the Trustees are requesting approval to adopt a budget of \$110,185 to cover the final 6 months of the operations of the Village. Expenses include the payment of remaining obligations and building maintenance. In 2018, there will be no revenue from property taxes so the budget will be funded by other projected revenues of \$21,550, a \$75,000 transfer from the Tax Stabilization fund, and the use of the 2017 fund balance. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 7:** To do any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

T. Stevens gave an update on the status of the charter change (Bill H716). He explained that Vermont is a Dillon's Rule State, meaning that the Legislature decides what the municipality can and cannot do. The Government Operations Committee will start considering the charter change bill next Wednesday morning. T. Stevens believes the testimony will be difficult as Municipalities do not often give up their Village or police department. There may be amendments made to the bill. The expectation is that it will go through the House, and then to the Senate who typically rubber stamps the House's work on charter changes.

M. Koen asked if any voters should attend the testimony. T. Stevens stated anyone is welcome, but the main testimony will be taken from W. Shepeluk and P. H. Flanders.

R. Clapp asked if the Governor has to sign off on the bill. T. Stevens responded that it would become effective on July 1, 2018 after the Governor signs the bill.

P. H. Flanders updated the voters on 51 South Main Street. The Trustees received two Requests for Proposals, one from Chris Parsons and one from the Town. The Trustees were not interested in the Town's offer to purchase the property for \$200,000 using a loan from the Village UDAG fund at no interest. C. Parsons offered \$125,000 for the property to construct a commercial building. He was interested in sharing the parking spaces after hours.

The Trustees are looking into the real cost of removing hazardous materials. Recyclers are also interested in removing some of the building. The Trustees may continue negotiations with Chris Parsons. Discussion continued on parking concerns within the Village of Waterbury.

G. Dillon asked if there were a set number of parking spaces. P. H. Flanders stated that this would have to be negotiated and laid out. M. Koen stated that the Village has to be careful not to obligate too much for too long, and that the Village needs to find the right balance. R. Grace asked if there has been any consideration to have a commercial appraisal on the property.

## **ARTICLE 2 RESULTS**

With 54 votes cast by Australian Ballot, the results of Article 2 are as follows:

VILLAGE PRESIDENT (1 year term)

P. Howard 'Skip' Flanders	43
Write-ins	1
Blanks	10

VILLAGE CLERK (1 year term)

Carla Lawrence	54
Write-ins	0
Blanks	0

VILLAGE TREASURER (1 year term)

Carla Lawrence	54
Write-ins	0
Blanks	0

VILLAGE TRUSTEE (2 year term)

Lawrence 'Lefty' Sayah	47
Write-ins	0
Blanks	7

WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONER (3 year term)

P. Howard 'Skip' Flanders	43
Write-ins	1
Blanks	10

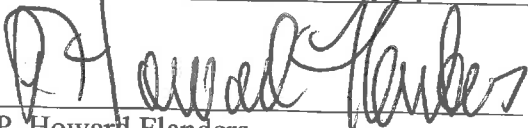
R. Grace commended the Board and stated that the Trustees have done an outstanding job for the people of the Village of Waterbury. K. Grace acknowledged the Village Manager and stated he is an excellent money manager who has not received enough credit. A. Imhoff concurred that the Municipal Manager has done a wonderful job in getting the Town and Village finances in order.

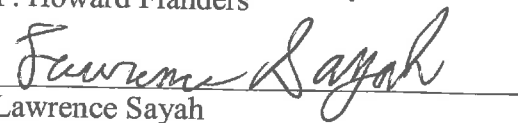
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.


Respectfully submitted,

Carla Lawrence, Village Clerk

Approved on: March 28, 2018

  
P. Howard Flanders

  
Lawrence Sayah

  
Natalie Sherman