

Joint Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board & Village Trustees
February 12, 2018
Steele Community Room ~ 28 North Main Street

Present: D. Schneider, M. Metayer, J. Brown, M. Frier, Select Board; L. Sayah and N. Sherman, Trustees; W. Shepeluk, Municipal Manager; B. Farr, Long Term Community Recovery Director and Transportation Liaison; D. Fowler, Recreation Director; A. Imhoff, ORCA Media; and C. Lawrence, Town Clerk.

Public: Ben Rose, Irene Recovery Director; Lauren Oates, State Hazard Mitigation Officer; Christine Carmichael, UVM Postdoctoral Researcher.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

APPROVE AGENDA

M. Metayer made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by M. Frier and passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

M. Metayer made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, including the minutes of the January 29th meeting and liquor licenses for Black Back Pub, Quinland Farms, and Prohibition Pig. The motion was seconded by J. Brown and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC

There was no public comment.

FLOODPLAIN RECONSTRUCTION HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT TO BE CLOSED BY THE STATE

B. Farr introduced the topic and explained that a hazard mitigation grant had been awarded after Tropical Storm Irene for a floodplain restoration project at a "choke point" along the Winooski River that falls on a parcel in Duxbury. L. Oates and B. Rose explained that the project was estimated to reduce the 100-year flood level by 10"-12" in the Village of Waterbury. This potential lowering of the base flood elevation would also reduce flood insurance rates for properties under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in the floodplain due to increased floodplain storage. The project did not come to fruition as there were issues with gaining permission from the property owner to access the parcel.

L. Oates further explained that in 2013, the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Vermont Emergency Management and the Towns of Waterbury, Moretown and Duxbury applied for the FEMA funds. The federal grant was \$3.4 million. Phase 1 was awarded in 2014 for engineering work on the property. After working with the homeowner for several years to commit to the project with no success, Vermont Emergency Management recommended that the application be withdrawn. B. Rose reiterated that the property owner is committed to not participating in flood mitigation so the application should be withdrawn.

W. Shepeluk asked if there is a timeframe to de-obligate the funding. L. Oates responded that mid 2020 is the timeframe, but the impetus to return the funding is to respect the wishes of the homeowner. A brief discussion was held with regard to the timeframe in which to return the funding.

M. Metayer made a motion to keep the grant open with the hope that progress can be made on the project with the landowner over time. The motion was seconded by M. Frier and passed unanimously. N. Sherman made a like motion on behalf of the Village Trustees. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and passed unanimously. W. Shepeluk will send a letter to the property owner outlining this action with a copy to B. Rose.

ADOPTION OF HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

B. Farr explained that FEMA requires an update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan every 5 years. The Floodplain Management Working Group has been working over the past few years on the priorities for the updated plan. The Plan has been reviewed by the State and sent off to FEMA for their review, and it is now at the point for Town and Village to approve. B. Farr presented a Certificate of Adoption that when approved will be forwarded to VEMS and then sent on to FEMA. FEMA will then approve the plan as of a certain date for a period of 5 years. M. Metayer made a motion to approve the Certificate of Adoption for the 2017 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by J. Brown and passed unanimously. N. Sherman made a like motion on behalf of the Village. The motion was seconded by L. Sayah and passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A VDCP PLANNING GRANT FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER


B. Farr discussed an application for a Planning Grant for a feasibility study on a community center. Several organizations have expressed interest the need for a community center. The grant opportunity is available through the Vermont Community Development Program. The grant would be for a feasibility study for a community center to include an updated pool, commercial kitchen, meeting space, etc. Revitalizing Waterbury will be a working partner on the project. D. Schneider indicated he would like to see examples of community centers in similar sized communities in Vermont. It is proposed to apply for a \$45,000 grant, with in-kind project administration of \$4,500 and a Town match of \$6,750; for a total project cost of \$56,250. The estimated cost of the feasibility study is \$51,750. M. Frier made a motion to support the application for the planning grant for a feasibility study on a community center. The motion was seconded by J. Brown and passed unanimously.

The Trustees adjourned at 7:45pm.

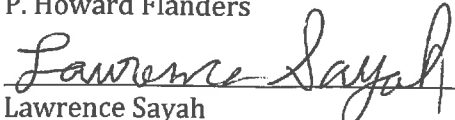
Respectfully submitted,

C. Lawrence, Village Clerk


Approved on February 14, 2018



P. Howard Flanders



Lawrence Sayah



Natalie Sherman