

1 **TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT**
2 **Selectboard Meeting Minutes**
3 **Monday, October 10, 2022**
4 **Draft**
5

6 **I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Christine Sullivan. The
7 meeting was held in person at the Waitsfield Town Offices and remotely via Zoom.
8 Members Present: Chach Curtis, Jordan Gonda, Fred Messer, Christine Sullivan (Chair)
9 Staff Present: Annie Decker-Dell’Isola, Town Administrator; JB Weir, Zoning Administrator
10 Others Present: Jon Ashley (Dubois & King), Bob Cook (Cemetery Commission), Tom
11 Ferguson, George Gabaree (Cemetery Commission), Anthony Italiano (MRVTV), Dexter
12 Lefavour, Alice Peal (Planning Commission), Mark Peal (Cemetery Commission),
13

14 **II. Regular Business.**

15
16 **1. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items per 1 VSA**
17 **312(d)(3)(A).**

18 No adjustments were made to the agenda.
19

20 **2. Public Forum.**

21 Dexter Lefavour introduced himself as a candidate for the Vermont Senate
22

23 **3. Consider request from Waitsfield Cemetery Trustees.**

24 Bob Cook provided some background information behind this request, noting that the Trust is
25 finding it difficult to meet the perpetual care costs of the current calendar year. The market value
26 of the investments of the Trust is less than the total funds invested. He explained that there are
27 statutory limits on spending in that only income may be expended, not the investment itself.
28 There was a question whether this is the correct interpretation of the statute, and whether legal
29 advice had confirmed this. Mr. Cook indicated that often income from the Trust is reinvested.
30 There was not full clarity on what should be considered the cost basis of the fund, which was
31 established over 100 years ago. Mr. Cook referred to several statutory sections regarding
32 management of Trust funds and management of cemeteries and related funding.
33

34 It was agreed to consult with Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and follow up with the
35 Town’s attorney if necessary. Mark Peal indicated that the Commission will be able to continue
36 covering perpetual care expenses until this is resolved.
37

38 **4. 60% Report Update from Wastewater & Water Feasibility Study Committee.**

39 a. Dubois & King to present 60% Report Findings

40 Ms. Peal introduced Jon Ashley of Dubois & King; Mr. Curtis reminded the group that the
41 overall impacts on public health and housing are the drivers of this project, and that this is a
42 preliminary report of potential solutions, the costs of those solutions will be outlined in the report
43 to be provided later this year.
44

45 Mr. Ashley provided an overview of the 60% Report, which is available on the Town’s website;
46 the slides from his presentation will also be posted to the site. He covered the following aspects
47 of the report:

- 48 • Purpose of the study
- 49 • The area encompassed by the study
- 50 • Town Plan references
- 51 • Importance of drinking water protection, water quality protection, and potential
- 52 replacement of aging septic systems
- 53 • Currently available funding, including ARPA funding and other opportunities for both
- 54 planning and construction
- 55 • Economic benefits such as housing, compact development, infill, and elimination of
- 56 private homeowner septic repair costs
- 57 • Data related to septic system ages, well shield conflicts, private lot replacement
- 58 limitations
- 59 • Current and projected capacity needs, for the entire study area and portions thereof
- 60 • Soil conditions in the study area
- 61 • Potential alternatives to be pursued:
- 62 ○ Connection of lots to the water system
- 63 ○ Increased capacity of existing wastewater systems
- 64 ○ A new large-capacity system
- 65 ○ Extension of the water system to the south
- 66 ○ Clustered wastewater disposal sites with advanced pretreatment
- 67 • The upcoming schedule/timeline for completion of the study and related work

68

69 b. Update from WWWC on outreach and next steps

70 Ms. Peal announced that a community meeting has been planned for October 26, to be held at the

71 Village Meeting House. She also pointed out the connection between this work and the

72 upcoming bylaw modernization work the PC is undertaking.

73

74 **5. Consider adopting FY24 Budget Goals & Calendar.**

75 Ms. Decker-Dell'Isola pointed out that the one change from the previous iteration reviewed is

76 the addition of consideration of long-term community needs.

77

78 **MOTION:** *Mr. Messer made a motion to adopt the FY24 Budget Goals and Priorities as*

79 *amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gonda. All voted in favor.*

80

81 **6. Consent Agenda.**

82

83 **MOTION:** *A motion to approve the consent agenda, consisting of the items listed below, passed*

84 *unanimously.*

- 85
- 86 • Approval of the Minutes of September 26, 2022.
 - 87 • Bills Payable and Treasurer's Warrants.
 - 88 • Amendment to 9/26 Zoning Fee Waiver request.

89

90 **7. Selectboard Roundtable**

91 Members confirmed their plans to attend the upcoming housing summit.

92 **8. Town Administrator's Updates**

93 Ms. Decker-Dell'Isola highlighted items from her written report. It was agreed that the volunteer
94 waiver and associated policy should be revisited at an upcoming meeting.

95 **III. Other Business**

96 **1. Correspondence/reports received** were reviewed.

97 **IV. Adjourn**

98 The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

99 Respectfully submitted,
100 Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary