



MINUTES
REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
Regular Meeting
February 1, 2021

RTM Moderator Thomas Dembek called the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Greg Attanasio, Michael Bono, Jennifer Bracciale, April Cairns, Timothy Condon, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Steven Elci, Timothy Fioravanti, Miriam Furey-Wagner, Nick Gauthier, Paul Goldstein, Kathleen Kohl, David Lersch, Valerie Metivier, Richard Morgan, Richard Muckle, Liam O'Leary, Theodore Olynciw, Sally Ritchie, Michael Rocchetti, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, Baird Welch-Collins.

ABSENT: Robert Swansen.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J Brule.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectwoman Jody Nazarchyk; Selectman Elizabeth Sabilia; Chair of the Board of Finance Ronald R. Fedor; Chair of the Board of Education Craig Merriman.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk David L. Campo; Town Attorney Robert Avena.

AGENDA ITEM C – December 7, 2020 Minutes & January 4, 2021 Minutes

MODERATOR Dembek noted that the years were incorrect on the Agenda and it was determined to be a typo. See corrected dates above.

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Welch-Collins, to accept the minutes with the following corrections to the December 7, 2020 Minutes: Driscoll made the motion, seconded by Welch-Collins to nominate Cathy Patterson to the Personnel Review Board under CALL ITEM 2.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Waterford Resident Michele Dibuono regarding safety concerns on Niantic River Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

A letter from members of the Niantic Community Church was accepted as public comment and church member Paul Helvig spoke in reference to the letter. (See Attachment)

Waterford Resident Christopher Jones spoke in regard to transparency and the importance of diversity on town board and committees.

Waterford Resident Michele Dibuono spoke regarding safety, ADA and a long term redesign of Niantic River Road.

AGENDA ITEM F –None

AGENDA ITEM G – RTM Member Thomas Dembek updated the body on the progress of the Waterford Municipal Complex.

CALL ITEM 1 – Volunteer Fire Services Stipend Program Presentation

PRESENTATION: Director of Fire Services Bruce Miller

A written and oral report was submitted concerning the stipend program. Discussion ensued

CALL ITEM 2 – Waterford Town Beach Fees

PRESENTATION: Chairman of the Public Health, Recreation & Environment Standing Committee of the RTM Jennifer Bracciale

MOTION by Welch-Collins, seconded by Bono, to accept a recommendation from the Public Health, Recreation & Environment Standing Committee and from the Parks and Recreation Commission, pending its January 26, 2021 meeting, to approve proposed Waterford Town Beach parking fees.

MOTION by Bracciale, seconded by Driscoll to request a friendly amendment to clarify that the original motion will accept the recommendation of the Public Health, Recreation & Environment Standing Committee. (See Attachment)

Welch-Collins and Bono agreed

MOTION by Gauthier, seconded by Welch-Collins, to amend the motion to eliminate the fee for all bikers and walkers.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

MOTION by Goldstein, seconded by Welch-Collins, to move the question.

VOTING IN FAVOR to move the question: Unanimous

MOTION PASSED

VOTING IN FAVOR to eliminate walker and biker fee: Furey-Wagner, Gauthier, Welch-Collins

VOTING AGAINST: Attanasio, Bono, Bracciale, Cairns, Condon, Dembek, Driscoll, Elci, Fioravanti,

Goldstein, Kohl, Lersch, Metivier, Morgan, Muckle, O'Leary, Olynciw, Ritchie, Rocchetti, Steward-Gelinas

MOTION FAILED: 20-3

ORIGINAL MOTION with the friendly amendment. (See Attachment)

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous with one member against. (Gauthier)

CALL ITEM 3 – Budget Schedule

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Welch-Collins, to approve the budget schedule as presented.

(See Attachment)

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 4: Ethics Commission Regular Member

MOTION by Goldstein, seconded by Muckle, to reappoint Steve Garvin as a regular member on the Ethics Commission (Term 02/01/2021 – 02/06/2023)

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Welch-Collins, to reappoint Martin Zeldis as a regular member of the Ethics Commission. (Term 02/01/2021 – 02/06/2023)

VOTING IN FAVOR OF BOTH NOMINEES: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 5 – Ethics Commission Alternate Member

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Gauthier, to reappoint Elizabeth Ritter as an alternate member to the Ethics Commission. (Term 02/01/2021 – 02/06/2023)

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

Town Clerk David Campo informed the body that he was in receipt of a BOE Teachers Contract and that a special meeting would need to be scheduled.

MOTION by Goldstein, seconded by Steward-Gelinas, to schedule a Special Meeting on Monday February 22, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

MOTION by Goldstein, seconded by Welch-Collins, to assign to the Finance, Wage, & Personnel Standing Committee "Salaries of Elected Officials".

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

MOTION by Gauthier, seconded by Ritchie, to assign the "appraisal of a sidewalk ordinance and associated safety issues".

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

MOTION by Welch-Collins, seconded by Steward-Gelinas, to adjourn at 8:49 P.M.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



David L. Campo, CCTC
Town Clerk

1/18/2021

We ask that the following be read into the public record:

To the Waterford RTM Education Standing Committee,

We are writing to thank you for the conversation held during your December 1, 2020 meeting. It addressed some of the concerns we raised in the letter we sent to you in September (please see attachment). During your meeting, we were pleased to hear Superintendent Giard clearly describe the initial steps taken by the school district and the long-range goals it has adopted. Additionally, First Selectman Brule shared what steps he is considering based on what Superintendent Giard and the BOE develop. Those presentations and the conversation that followed were important first steps in identifying actions the RTM can take to educate its members and review town policies and practices.

Considering the requests made in September, we again ask that the Education Standing Committee not only hear what other Waterford officials and agencies are doing, but also consider what steps the entire RTM needs to take. We maintain that, as elected representatives of the people of Waterford, it is the RTM's responsibility to ensure that all boards, committees, and employees are equitable and knowledgeable. As the town's governing body, your actions can have a far-reaching impact on increasing equitable practices, rewriting and developing policies that support our increasingly diverse community, and preventing racially biased actions by town employees and officials. We can do better in providing living, working and learning opportunities for everyone in our town.

We ask the Education Standing Committee to assure that all town employees, elected officials and members of town boards and commissions receive initial and updated training around diversity, equity and inclusion. This training must not be a one-time event but an ongoing and embedded part of the organizational culture that's grounded in the specific needs of our community.

There is no question that discussions of justice and inclusivity are often as difficult as they are important. However, we are expecting that our elected representatives will rise to this challenge and create a space for our community to discuss these vital issues.

Waterford Members of Niantic Community Church,

Paul Helvig, contact person at plhelvig@sbcglobal.net or 860-447-9657, District 2

Linda Helvig, District 2

Jane Milardo, District 3

Mike Guarini, District 3

Jerry Holmberg, District 2

Margaret Holmberg, District 2

Sue Smith, District 4

Mary Childs, District 2

Ocean Pellett, District 4

Juanita Durham, District 1

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
JAN 19 AM 8:34

TOWN OF WATERFORD
PROPOSED BEACH FEE INCREASES
WATERFORD RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION 1/21/20

Updated by TC 02/04/2021 with 02/01/2021 RTM approved fees

	CURRENT FEE	2/25/20 COMMISSION PROPOSED FEE INCLUDING TAX	COMMISSION WATERFORD'S PORTION OF FEE	TAX	RTM Approved & RTM PUBLIC HEALTH, RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT PROPOSED FEE 1/14/21 (INCLUDES TAX)	RTM WATERFORD'S PORTION OF FEE	TAX	1/26/2021 COMM. PROPOSED INC. TAX
Beach Sticker Fees								
Resident First	\$ 20.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 20.69	\$ 1.31	\$ 25.00	\$ 23.51	\$ 1.49	\$ 25.00
Resident Additional	\$ 10.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.34	\$ 0.66	\$ 11.00			\$ 11.00
Non-Resident	\$ 100.00	\$ 107.00	\$ 100.61	\$ 6.39	\$ 125.00	\$ 117.54	\$ 7.46	\$ 125.00
Waterford Senior(65+)	\$ 10.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.34	\$ 0.66	\$ 11.00			\$ 11.00
Resident Walker/Biker Pass	\$ 2.00				\$ 2.00			
Non-Resident Walker/Biker Pass	\$ 10.00				\$ 10.00			
Waterford Disabled Veteran	FREE				FREE			
Daily Parking Fees								
Resident Weekday	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.82	\$ 0.18	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.88	\$ 0.12	\$ 3.00
Resident Weekend/Holiday	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 5.64	\$ 0.36	\$ 6.00			\$ 6.00
Waterford Senior	FREE				FREE			
Non-Resident Weekday	\$ 20.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 20.69	\$ 1.31	\$ 25.00	\$ 23.51	\$ 1.49	\$ 25.00
Non-Resident Weekend/Holiday	\$ 30.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 30.09	\$ 1.91	\$ 35.00	\$ 32.91	\$ 2.09	\$ 35.00
Non-Resident Picnic Weekday	\$ 7.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 7.52	\$ 0.48	\$ 8.00			\$ 8.00
Non-Resident Picnic Weekend/Holiday	\$ 10.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.34	\$ 0.66	\$ 11.00			\$ 11.00
Resident Walker/Biker	\$ 1.00				\$ 1.00			
Resident Senior	FREE				FREE			
Non-Resident Walker/Biker	\$ 5.00				\$ 5.00			

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING BUDGET HEARINGS

FY 2021-22

Town Hall Auditorium

7:00 P.M.

MONDAY MAY 3

Board of Education

TUESDAY MAY 4

Ethics Commission

Conservation of Health

Public Health Nursing

Social Services Grants/Review

Registrar of Voters

Tax Collector

Youth & Family Services Bureau

Recreation & Parks Commission

Board of Assessment Appeals

Assessor

Contingency

Debt Service

Insurance

Town Clerk

Representative Town Meeting

WEDNESDAY MAY 5

Zoning Board of Appeals

Economic Development Commission

Conservation Commission

Planning and Zoning Commission

Flood and Erosion Control Board

Building Department

Building Maintenance

Community Use of Schools

Fire Services

Board of Selectmen

Public Works

THURSDAY MAY 6

Retirement Commission

Waterford Public library

Senior Citizens Commission

Finance Department

Human Resources Department

Board of Finance

Legal Department

Emergency Management

Board of Police Commissioners

Information Technology

Current Year Capital Improvements

Transfers to Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund

FINAL ACTION

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
MAY 3 2021
2021 FEB -3 PM 2:53
JAN 11 2021