

**Minutes for Waterboro Board of Selectmen Meeting
September 19 2023, at Waterboro Town Hall
~~5:30 p.m. Executive Session~~ 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting**

The Executive Session that was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. was cancelled.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Selectmen Attendees: Dennis Abbott, Dwayne Woodsome, David Chauvette, Gary Fecteau, and Jon Bell.

Other Attendees: Matt Bors, Jason Champion, Duane Fay, David Lowe, Glenn Seehagen, and Laura Lowe

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS: - none.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS: - none.

4. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA: The below listed were deleted from the agenda

- a. Executive Session - deleted
- b. Item 5b – deleted
- c. Item 9a - deleted

5. APPOINTMENT:

a. Contract Deputy – Duane Fay

Duane Fay came before the Board with an update. He passed out handouts to the Board of the following information:

During the past couple of years, the York County Sheriff's Office has made a strong commitment to strengthening our specialty units in order to not only better serve our citizens, but other police agencies in southern Maine.

We have often accomplished this by applying for grants so as not to use taxpayers' money to fund the positions. One of the programs spearheaded by our agency is our Peer Leadership program which was started with a grant provided by the National Alliance of Mental Illness. Our Peer Leadership program ensures our deputies are provided with the necessary mental health resources to be successful at their job and outside of work. We recognize that deputies will make better decisions when provided with proper mental health options. We are now starting to introduce this program to deputies' families as well.

The Stanton Foundation provided the York County Sheriff's Office funding to start a K-9 program. This grant fully paid for the K-9, to outfit the cruiser, all the equipment needed, a K-9 kennel at the deputy's residence, and three years' worth of food and veterinary bills. The grant even paid overtime to backfill our patrol when the K-9 team was away at training. The K-9 team has been very successful and is often called on by surrounding agencies.

Caring Unlimited provided a grant to fully fund a Domestic Violence investigator. This grant allowed us to hire a full-time detective that is responsible for investigating and following up on domestic violence-related crimes. This detective works hand in hand with Caring Unlimited to ensure domestic violence victims are provided with the necessary resources to get help for them and their families.

The Maine Department of Public Safety is providing funding for a York County Deputy to work as a task force officer with the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. As we all know our state is experiencing an opioid epidemic that has affected thousands of Maine families. This position allows us to hold those responsible for trafficking drugs in our communities and to follow up on drug overdose deaths that we investigate.

In 2023, the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety provided the York County Sheriff's Office with \$37,401 in grant money to conduct special patrols to enforce impaired driving, speed, and distracted drivers. Deputies were assigned four-hour blocks to focus on problem areas called in by citizens or areas with high rates of motor vehicle crashes.

Also in 2023, the York County Sheriff's Office received a Byrne Grant that assisted in paying for equipment to start an accident reconstruction unit. We now have one accident Reconstructionist and two mappers. We expect to have a second Reconstructionist soon. This unit will assist our deputies and other local departments in reconstructing fatal or serious motor vehicle crashes.

Our Honor Guard Team continues the proud tradition of representing our agency at parades, ceremonies, sporting events, and funerals. We have also recently sent two members to a FEMA training facility in Alabama to spearhead a regional field force team. This regional unit would be specially trained to deal with safely dispersing and handling large crowds of people. Our agency recognized the need for this after recent events across our country in which some police agencies were not prepared for large unruly crowds of people that were responsible for acts of violence or criminal mischief to businesses and property.

Listed below are all the traffic details we conducted in Waterboro during the past year:

Speed Enforcement

12-8-2022- 4 speed summonses, 10 warnings, 14 cars stopped
12-28-2022- 9 speed summonses, 1 warning, 10 cars stopped
1-25-2023- 3 speed summonses, 4 warnings, 7 cars stopped
2-14-2023- 4 speed summonses, 9 warnings, 14 cars stopped
3-9-2023- 3 speed summonses, 10 warnings, 13 cars stopped (one drug summons)
6-25-2023- 6 speed summonses, 0 warnings, 6 cars stopped
7-12-2023- 5 speed summonses, 0 warnings, 8 cars stopped
7-31-2023- 8 speed summonses, 4 warnings, 12 cars stopped

Distracted Driving

12-2-2022- 8 summonses, 1 warning, 10 cars stopped
1-23-2023- 0 summonses, 0 warnings, 10 cars stopped
1-17-2023- 7 summonses, 0 warnings, 10 cars stopped
3-12-2023- 0 summonses, 1 warning, 3 cars stopped
3-21-2023- 0 summonses, 0 warnings, 9 cars stopped
4-4-2023- 5 summonses, 3 warnings, 9 cars stopped

Impaired Driving

2-14-2023- 12 stops, no OUI arrests
3-16-23- 14 stops, no OUI arrests
3-17-2023- 12 stops, no OUI arrests

There were no questions from the Board for the Contract Deputy.

b. Todd Smith – Rec Director with Update on Blues Festival & Rec Dept.

This item was deleted from the agenda but David Lowe, I.t. Manager and Blues Festival Manager gave the report of the festival to the Board. The festival was well attended and ran smoothly. We had a great line up with himself and the Voo Doo Clowns doing the Pre-show jam, Bonnie Edwards & the Practical Cats as the opening act, Memphis Lightning, and headliner Altered Five Blues Band. The whole show is now showing on src-tv.org. Next year we have secured Albert Cummings as the headliner and the festival will be August 17, 2024.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - none.

7. CORRESPONDENCE – Available Upone Request:

- a. Contract Deputy Reports
- b. Dept. of Ecology – Submerged Freshwater Plant Identification

8. REPORTS & STAFF INITIATIVES:

a. Selectmen's reports:

Dwayne Woodsome – He had a few complaints this past weekend but they are taken care of. He thanked the Public Works Department for being on call Friday night & Saturday for the expected hurricane.

b. Town Administrator Matt Bors report:

General Information:

- The old GMC 1 ton has been posted on Municibid for sale, this is a service that is commonly used by municipalities to sell surplus equipment.
- TIF District- We had no new growth for last year within the designated TIF district, however when the assessor had to make the town wide adjustment the % change within the district unfortunately was not captured, we have spoken with the Maine Revenue Services which advised that this is fine since no projects were planned within the district and to move forward next year.
- Staffing: We have one out with COVID, Julie is out on medical leave, and Heidi will be out shortly for maternity leave.
- Little Ossipee Lake- Dan Albert from LOLA would like to meet with the board to discuss action for next summer's boating and use of the lake.
- We understand the normal monthly expense reports are currently incorrect:

- TRIO is still working on a script to upload the GL from payroll, so the payroll lines are incorrect since Aug. 14th.
- Carry forward accounts can't be updated without reconciled accounts (this is in progress by RHR)
- Point and Pay (Credit cards) have been deposited; however they have not been journaled as of yet within TRIO.
- Other journal entries need to be completed as well.. which we have not been able to complete at this point.

Previously we had a workshop to discuss the longevity with employees. Laura Fish generated a worksheet for your review. At this point, I believe based on the figures we could adjust and implement this for our staff. IN my opinion it is critical that we acknowledge the length of service of those working for the Town of Waterboro either part time or fulltime.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discuss/vote Re: Additional Employee

This item was deleted from the agenda.

b. Discuss/vote regarding longevity benefits

Previously we had a workshop to discuss the longevity with employees. Laura Fish generated a worksheet for your review. At this point, I believe based on the figures we could adjust and implement this for our staff. IN my opinion it is critical that we acknowledge the length of service of those working for the Town of Waterboro either part time or fulltime.

Vote: Gary Fecteau made a motion regarding Longevity Benefits, to enact the proposed longevity benefits within our current budget. David Chauvette seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 – 0.

Matt Bors stated that he will have the changes to the Personnel Policy for this change for the Board at the next meeting.

c. Discuss/vote on abatement from Assessor Shirley Bartlett

Assessor Shirley Bartlett has requested the Board to vote on allowing an abatement for a missed homestead exemption from last year.

Vote: Dwayne Woodsome made a motion that Map 43 lot 842 be abated to Shirley Bartlett's recommendation. Gary Fecteau seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 – 0.

Chairman Abbott reminded everyone that if you live in your house in Waterboro as your primary residence then you are entitled to the Homestead exemption which is \$25,000 off the top of the

valuation. If you have not claimed this yet, please do. Once this is done it is done and you do not have to file again for it.

10. OLD BUSINESS: - none.

11. OTHER:

a. Discuss/vote to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 meeting.

Vote: Dwayne Woodsome made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 meeting. David Chauvette seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 – 0.

Dennis Abbott stated that David Lowe has just added to the website the new Real Estate Portal where property valuations can be found. It is on the website under the Information Center and on the Assessor's Department page.

He also reminded everyone that tonight is the first meeting of the Charter Commission which will be held here at the Town Hall in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

12. PENDING DECISIONS: - none.

13. WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

Update Personnel Policy regarding Longevity Benefits changes

14. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Dan Albert to be scheduled for the agenda regarding LOLA

15. ITEMS NEEDING SIGNATURE:

a. Abatement

The Board signed the abatement

16. ADJOURN:

Vote: Dwayne Woodsome was so moved to adjourn the meeting. David Chauvette seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 – 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.