



WATERFORD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

4th Quarter Minutes 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Stup at 6.32pm 16th December 2024, at the Waterford Old School.

The meeting was opened with the reading of the WCA Mission Statement:
The mission of the Waterford Citizens Association is to foster community action, to further the common good and general welfare of the community, to secure improvements, to preserve its unique history as a Historic Landmark, and to maintain the Waterford Area as a desirable and attractive community in which to live.

Minutes: Secretary Fiona Sullivan presented the minutes for the 3rd Quarter 2023 meeting as posted on the WCA website and referenced in the meeting announcement emailed to all members. A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Jeff Bean and seconded by Mark Sullivan; motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Mike Stup opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming, the December Meeting is historically one of fellowship in the holiday season.

Mike introduced Deputy Gerber informed that during the high visibility traffic enforcement period over 3 days 67 traffic stops were made that resulted in 70 citations, 18 warnings and 2 impoundments.

Paul Rasta: Is the extra \$200 fine for residential violations is enforced?

Deputy Gerber confirmed that this has to be upheld by the judge when the case goes to trial.

Nancy Doane: at what point the cameras coming into the village record the speed of the passing cars>

Deputy Gerber did not know the exact answer to this question.

Jeff Bean: Next time can it be done in the morning?

Deputy Gerber advised that this could be looked into but that there are several reasons why the evening is better including the safety of the officers taking part.

Peggy Bednarik: There is a state police car that comes through the village regularly at the same of day with the siren and lights going what can be done about this?

Deputy Gerber advised that this would need to be referred to the state police.

Matt: Is there anything that can be done about the about the amount of truck traffic on 2nd Street.

Deputy Gerber advised that it is necessary to follow the vehicle for the whole route from point A to point B to confirm that there is no through road violation.

Deputy Gerber then asked the meeting if the village would like more such events.

This suggestion was approved by all those present who were very enthusiastic about additional enforcement.

Mike Stup: The data collected from this event will used in discussions with DTCL regarding safety and traffic calming measures.

Fiona Sullivan: It is becoming increasingly difficult to raise the money for the fireworks display and as it is necessary to sign a contract and pay a deposit in Dec or Jan to lock in a date we are committing the WCA to funds that we don't know if it will be possible to raise. The cost keeps going up every year but it is the same group of people that donate so we are more and more from a small number.

Ed: In the 60s and 70s there was someone living in the village who knew how to make fireworks and it was held on 2nd Street, mostly done very low key with no fire marshal involvement. This evolved into what we today which is a \$7,500 + annual financial commitment where the money cannot come from general funds or be subsidized without member approval. The WCA Board has spoken on this issue and decided that it does not wish to pay for the firework display.

Nick: Because it is so difficult to raise the funding before signing the contract it is time to think of new ways to celebrate 4th July, is it really necessary to have events over 3 days.

Nancy: We should forgo the fireworks for 2025.

Jeff: Is it possible to have the firework company provide us with a display for a set amount say \$5,000.

Fiona: We could ask but it is an all day commitment for the contractor and the fire marshal as once the fireworks are set up they have to be attended until the moment they go off. We cannot charge people to watch the fireworks as this would also mean that we would be charged by the fire marshal department. Unknown additional costs and effort for the small number of people who are prepared to volunteer.

Sarah: Very happy that we are moving on from having a display. The sheep and pets in the village are traumatized each year, we should see this as a positive step.

Nick: Motion proposed that the WCA does not fund or organize a firework display for 4th July 2025 celebrations>

Paul: WCA Board should create a committee to come up with an alternative plan.

Mike: Motion WCA will not organize a firework display in 2025 and the Events Committee will come up with a new plan for 4th July Celebrations to be approved in Q1.

Sharyn: Seconded

The motion was approved by all those present.

Mike: Over the last few years it has been possible to build up a healthy surplus of WCA funds and in the last two years we have given \$500 each to Hamilton Fire Station and Hunger Relief.

Mike: Motion to approve 2 donations of \$500 each to Loudoun Hunger and Hamilton Fire Dept>

Tom: Seconded

The Motion was approved by all those present.

Nancy: Boyd at DTCl is moving on, we have had a real ally their and are going to meet with the interim replacement.

Mike: DTCl is going to issue an RFP for engineering review. So far there is no agreement on any design elements. Chris wood will take a look at the RFP wording to make sure that it includes community input.

Once the RFP is published we have asked that the top three candidates come out and meet the community to ensure that we have input.

There are lots of ideas and concepts but no design as yet. There was a walk around this morning with DTCl surveyors who will create a storm water management overlay.

Nick: Would hope that the WCA expresses its own opinion on how to proceed and that we do not work mutually with the Foundation. A lot of the information that goes to the WCA and the Foundation does not get to the membership for approval.

Nancy: A lot of people in the community who are not members of the WCA and will not have a vote will try and influence the Board of Supervisors. We need to get our house in order and work together.

Mike: The intention is that we a more formal structure we need to do more work outside of the 4 meetings a year to involve and inform people.

Mark: To see the benefits of unity and collaboration we just need to look at the outcome of the transmission line work.

Casey: Fireside farm has purchased 42 acres in Waterford for vegetable production. They are passionate about quality and ultimately would like to have a stand in the village to sell produce.

Mike: Motion to adjourn meeting.

Jeff: Seconded.

The motion was approved by all those present.

Meeting adjourned at 7.39pm

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