

**WATERVILLE VALLEY, NH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Town Offices Lower Meeting Room**

DATE: January 14, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Larsen, Mike Aronson, Margaret Turner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Decoteau, Tom Quackenbush, Jim Mayhew, Chris Hodges, Dave Noyes, Brooke Wakefield, Reggie Breeckner, Randy Breeckner, Sharon Charron.

1. The public meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.

2. Privilege of the Floor I

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2014 and December 24, 2014

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of 12/10/14 as amended.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

The minutes of 12/24/14 will be presented for review at the next meeting on 1/28/15. There was a brief discussion regarding the events which lead up to the meeting, and transpired afterwards.

4. Financial Update

5. Department Head Updates

- **Recreation Department**

Brooke Wakefield, the new recreation director reported that she is getting settled in her new position and meeting people. She is gathering information and suggestions for future programming, as well as evaluating the current fee structures for programs and rentals for residents, guests, and property owners. Otherwise, it is business as normal.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the new ambulance will be arriving next week and should be in service by the afternoon of 1/21/15. EMS and Fire calls have been about 50% of the same time last year. Bill Larsen commented that the WVSR employees needed to be reminded that snowmobile usage on the tubing hill is only for operations and not for recreational use.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that all is well, with no major problems. Bill Larsen comments that there are 2 big potholes on the decking of the depot camp bridge. Jim is aware, and there is not much which can be done at this time until spring. Mike Aronson asked about any improvement with private plow drivers for plowing etiquette this winter. Jim replied, that it has improved but it's

not perfect. Additionally, there are 6 dumpsters which have been repaired and returned to locations in town.

6. Calendar

1/19-20/15, Mon-Tues the Town financial audit is scheduled.

1/28/15, Wed. at 3pm is the next regular Selectman's meeting.

1/29/15, Thurs at 8am Zoning Public Hearing with Planning Board.

2/4/15, Wed. at 6pm is the Town Budget Hearing in Rec Dept multipurpose room.

2/9/15, Mon. at 6:15pm is the School District Budget Hearing in Rec Dept multipurpose room.

3/10/15, Tues. Town Meeting Day. Voting is from 11am-3pm, and Deliberative session at 3pm.

7. New Business

- **Review and Sign Water and Sewer Warrant 4th Qtr FY2014**

Mark stated that our water meter reader is not onsite yet, and the one we are borrowing from the vendor is not working properly. Mark requested that the board vote to allow the town to use the averages for the commercial properties for billing the 4th qtr 2014. The average will be from the last two 4th quarters. The same method of averages will also be used for billing the 1st qtr of 2015, as there will not be a baseline reading to start the 1st qtr of 2015. Starting the 2nd qtr of 2015, the actual readings and the averages will be compared, and the lesser of the two amounts will be charged. This method is only for commercial accounts. The residential accounts will be billed as normal. The BOS signs the warrant as presented.

- **Ice Arena Public Skate Times**

Mark has spoken with Fred Gendron of the Hockey Academy regarding scheduling public skate times. Over vacation week, there were no issues, but during the New Year's week there was not enough time allowed for public skating. It was a longer than usual vacation period due to when the holiday fell. Fred will make sure than there is ample public skate times scheduled going forward.

- **FY2014 End of Year Abatements**

Bill Larsen motions to accept the FY2014 Abatement request due to an administrative error for Peter A. Economou in the amount of \$82.42.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

- **Requests from Curious George Observatory**

The Rey Center informed the Town that a tarp will be temporarily placed over the dome to reduce leaks until work can be done to repair the leaking shutters.

8. Old Business

- **Dog Ordinance Proposed Changes**

Chris Hodges and Dave Noyes report on the work on the proposed changes. They researched other towns' ordinances as part of their work. The meanings of "at large", "accompanied", "voice control", and "responsible party" have been properly defined as part of the ordinance. Included under the voice control is a 10 foot rule, which allows a dog to be off leash but, upon approach the dog needs to remain no closer than 10' of any person without their consent. This places the burden upon the owner to be able to recall the dog and eliminates any friendly and responsible interactions as violations. Discussion on dogs being accompanied by a handler

included dogs which are hunting or training who are not in sight of their owner/handler, but their location is known to their owner/handler, and this is allowed as proposed.

Bill Larsen asked that the ordinance include the provision that when 25 or more people are present, that a dog must be leashed, with the only exception being an event or competition for dogs. The BOS review the proposal in full and made suggestions. Revisions will be made with the comments made here noted, and the proposal will be re-presented at the next selectman's meeting for review.

Chris Hodges stated that the opinion of Public Safety is that there is no need to change the current ordinance. Dave Noyes concurred by stating officers will not be actively looking for violations and that the public needs to call public safety for assistance if violations are occurring.

Dog registrations for non-resident's dogs was also discussed. It was a suggestion to encourage non-residents to supply the town with their dog's info (license number of home town, phone numbers, breed/physical description, dog name) to assist public safety if dog is lost or found. This would be a gateway also for informing non-resident property owners of the dog ordinance.

- **TY2015 Budget Review and Approval for Public Hearing**

Mark summarizes the emergency generator situation and need thereof to the Board. Currently the Dept. of Public Safety/Town Office complex cannot be reconnected to the current generator due to system deficiencies. A new generator for the complex is needed to correct. A proposal for an 80KW is presented at a cost of \$88K, of which \$44k would qualify for a matching 50/50 grant through the State of NH. An 80KW generator would provide all needed power to heating and DPS systems (air compressor, vehicle exhaust, fire bay overhead doors, and communications equipment) with a 20% reserve for future requirements. A smaller generator of 40KW would provide only enough power for heat & communications, and actually cost the town more at a price of \$58K due to not qualifying for match grant through the state, which requires that the entire building to be powered. Discussion followed concerning the recommended generator size, grant requirements, the need for generator overall. The complex is currently tied into the treatment plant generator for only minimal power, and must be removed from this connection by July 2015 as the connection is not grounded and not to code. The BOS decided to include as part of budget hearing to get public feedback.

Mark summarizes the proposed budget to present to the public hearing. Total budget to be raised by taxes is 2.9 million, which represents a 5.5% increase. The majority of this increase is due to debt service principal and interest payments. Cash capital expenses, capital reserves, unexpended fund balance for FY2014, grant funding, specific department changes, and proposed special warrant articles are all reviewed.

Bill Larsen motions to move the proposed budget as presented forward to a public hearing on 2/4/15.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

- **Capital Budget Encumbrances**

The following Capital Budget accounts and their balances are reviewed and acted on as follows:

	<u>Balance 12/31/14</u>	<u>Action</u>
Corcoran Pond Maintenance	\$ 42,065.02	Encumbered to FY2015
Maintenance Vehicle Lift	\$ 6,201.29	Encumbered to FY2015
Tecumseh Road Sidewalks	\$ 15,000.00	Encumbered to FY2015
Street Light Replacement	\$ 5,499.00	Encumbered to FY2015
Water/WWTP Emergency Repair	\$ 50,093.96	Encumbered to FY2015
Federal Property Acquisition	\$ 19,512.50	Encumbered to FY2015
Town Car/Utility Vehicle	\$ 24,000.00	Encumbered to FY2015
Ambulance Replacement	\$120,519.00	Encumbered to FY2015
Grinder Pump Replacement	\$ 75,000.00	Encumbered to FY2015
Pedestrian Village Study	\$ 14,396.16	Encumbered to FY2015
Town Hall Safety Improvements	\$ 0.00	CLOSE
Town Building Engineering/Design	\$ 0.00	CLOSE
Recreation Building Improvements	\$ 0.00	CLOSE
WVRA Reserve Acct.	\$ 0.00	CLOSE
1-Ton Dump Truck Replacement	\$ 0.00	CLOSE
Sidewalk Tractor	\$ 0.00	CLOSE

Additionally \$10K of the Federal Equipment Acquisition Fund will be presented as a warrant article to be put towards the new generator cost for DPS/Town Hall to bring that balance to \$9,512.50.

Bill Larsen motions to encumber capital funds as listed above (less \$10K) for generator proposal. Margaret Turner: 2nds.
The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

- **Review Special Warrant Articles for 2015 Town Meeting**

The special warrant articles are reviewed as follows:

1. Paving of Noon Peak & Jennings Peak Rd. Funding from fund balance (\$75K) and new taxes (\$80K) totaling \$155K.
2. Grant match for Speed Board for Valley Rd. (school area/crossing) for Public Safety. Funding from new taxes \$9K.
3. Generator purchase/installation for DPS/Town Hall. Funding from State Grant (\$44K) and new taxes (\$44K) totaling \$88K.
4. Authority to enter into 3 year lease of power cot for ambulance for 1st year of lease. Funding from new taxes for \$14K.
5. Additional support for Rey Center for 1 year. Funding from new taxes totaling \$25K.

9. Correspondence

None.

10. Privilege of the Floor II

None.

11. Board Concerns & Directive

Proper posting of budget hearing date of 2/4/15, town positions up for re-election at town meeting was discussed.

13. Non-Public Session

The 3 BOS members go into non-public session to review a domicile request and a personnel matter at 5:10pm

They come out of non-public at 5:20pm.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the domicile request of John Fox.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the contract for the Town Manager.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Bill Larsen motions to adjourn the meeting.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 5:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Charron
Town Clerk Assistant
Town of Waterville Valley