

**TOWN OF WATERVILLE VALLEY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: April 12, 2017

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Reggie Breeckner, Rich Rita, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. Privilege of Floor 1

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of 3/22/17 Regular Meeting, and 3/31/17 Workshop.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Selectmen of 3/22/17 as amended.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the Selectmen of 3/31/17 as presented.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

The board reviewed the financial statement and all departments are tracking well for this point in the year. There were no major concerns noted or discussed.

5. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Mark Decoteau reports in the absence of Brooke Wakefield, that the Easter Egg hunt will be on Saturday 4/15/17 in Town Square and the Fishing Derby will be on Memorial Day Weekend. The recreation department will be closed during the NH school vacation week, 4/23-30, for annual maintenance at the building. The first 50th Anniversary Committee meeting and it went well. Committee members present include Cindy Powell, Tom Gross, Brooke Wakefield, Nelson Brown and Sharon Charron. The date for the 50th Anniversary Celebration will be August 12th.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that it has been typically quiet lately. There was a search/rescue last night off of the Welch/Dickey hiking loop, with no injuries, however the hikers lost the trail due to snow still on the trail. WV-DPS crew was able to locate them and escorted them down the trail.

The board asked about a recent dog incident where a bite occurred and asked for an update. Chris comments that the owner was notified (dog was with a handler and leashed at the time, but not with the owner) and a cited for the offense along with the mandatory \$100 fine. The board comments that the dog is a repeat offender, and asked if it can be muzzled when in public. Chris stated that according to the law, he cannot require the animal to be muzzled, and there is only 1 documented incident involving this dog. If there are more incidents with this dog further steps can be taken, one of which would involve bringing the owner to court. The court could order the dog destroyed, though not a popular decision, but more typically is a requirement to muzzle the animal. Briefly discussed was the rumor regarding not allowing dogs in public buildings, i.e. post office, recreation department, town offices, etc. This will not take place and the board wanted it clarified for the record. Mike Aronson asks a banner still on the side of a town square building for the Mexican restaurant for their opening, and they will be reminded it needs to come down if it is still in place.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that his crew is transitioning to spring and are doing end of the winter season maintenance to equipment and transfer station buildings. Road load limits are now in place for all town roads. Deliveries are being coordinated on a case by case basis or have been postponed until the load limit is lifted. Jim comments he has been working on the town road condition inventory and this will be presented to the Planning Board at their meeting tomorrow for future planning and the capital improvement plan. He has also been working on lists for the condition of sewer manholes and other water/sewer structures to determine and prioritize needed maintenance. Also discussed was the condition of Tripoli Rd. and West Branch Rd. bridge, and Mark confirmed that the Forest Service will be doing work on both of these to fill pot holes, replace culverts, and grade the road. USFS will give the town notice on the timing of the work in these areas. There will also be work done to thin the brush around Corcoran's Pond, specifically to the bridge area but also around the entire pond perimeter, as it is getting overgrown. The town has a 20' easement around the pond itself, and Bill Cantlin was contacted regarding any cutting done which exceeds the 20" easement onto his land. Mark explained that the town owns to the high water mark in the pond, and then the easement begins. There is also a view easement, which allows the town to be able to remove/control any vegetative growth which would impair the view of the mountain or town square from Valley Rd. All machinery and employees are doing well.

6. Calendar Review

The next regular Selectmen's meeting will be Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 3pm.

The following meeting is on May 10, 2017 at 3pm.

7. New Business

- **1st Quarter 2017 Water /Sewer Bill Warrant**

The 2017 1st quarter water/sewer warrant is presented and signed by the board. Mark confirmed when asked that accounts with a history of outstanding balances have been making regular payments to become current.

- **Health Trust July, 2017 Rate Adjustment**

Mark informs the board that Health Trust has provided an update to their rates effective 7/1/17 and the increase is .03% opposed to the guaranteed maximum of 8.3% which equates to a reduction of \$8,296 in costs for this year. This is only half of the percentage increase as it is only for half of the year (July through December). The plans that the town offers to employees and retirees were reviewed by the board, including the percentage paid by employee and the town.

- **Bid for Surplus Generator**

Mark recaps the history of the surplus generators and how they were acquired by the town. The generators were unable to be operational in accordance with current building codes after being evaluated by electricians. The town has received a bid to purchase the generators. Discussion included whether the town could sell them or do they need to be returned as government surplus equipment and Chris Hodges will get these answers. Additionally, if we are able to sell them the board asked if the buyer would indemnify the town against anything damage occurring if they are used. It was thought that the individual who place the bid would use them as scrap metal.

A motion was made by Bill Larsen to give Mark Decoteau the authority to accept the bid from Brad Puffer of Puffer Industries for \$300 contingent upon 1) the government not wanting the generators back, 2) getting indemnification from the buyer against any damages occurring from use, and 3) that they are being sold as scrap.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The previous motion by Mike Aronson and seconded by Margaret Turner was withdrawn. It was similar in nature, but it did not include the word scrap.

- **Request for Interest Abatement – E. Sayre**

Mark Decoteau presents the request from the Sayre's for forgiveness of the interest on the property tax bill lien notice. The Sayre's have never been late in the past with their payments and claim they never received the bill, and it must have been lost in the mail.

A motion was made by Mike Aronson to approve the Sayre's request for forgiveness of interest.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **RSA 261:153 – Fees for Registration Permits**

Mark Decoteau explains the RSA in which fees can be established through vehicle registration processes to add \$5 (proposed to increase to \$10 through a bill shortly if passes) to be used for road repairs capital reserves. This would need to be voted into effect at Town Meeting. The BOS was not really in favor of the fees as they will not generate enough dollars, could not be tax deductible, and tabled the item for now.

- **Northern Border Regional Commission Grant Letter of Intent**

Mark updates the board regarding the NEA grant funding likely going away due to federal funding changes. With this in mind, he is seeking out alternative funding opportunities. The NBRC provides grant opportunities for northern communities and he is seeking permission to submit a letter of intent to apply for a grant. The board was in agreement to submit a grant letter

of intent to NBRC. The panel of the NBRC is comprised of the Governor's of each state of NH, ME, VT and NY along with the NBRC committee and the grants are for community and economic development infrastructure projects. Discussion followed if this created a conflict for Governor Sununu with his Waterville Valley connections. The item will be tabled for now, but the letter of intent will be sent in by April 30th. The grant application is due upon June 2nd, with a decision returned by 8/31/17. Mike Aronson will contact Governor Sununu and ask if an application from Waterville Valley will create a conflict for him.

Mike Aronson motioned to send the letter of intent for the grant application to the NRRC.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

8. Old Business

- **Homeland Security Grant Award Acceptance**

Homeland Security has awarded WV-DPS with a grant for the purchase of warm zone equipment for first responders and public safety officers. The amount of the grant is \$5,941.91.

A motion was made by Margaret Turner to accept the Homeland Security Grant for \$5,941.91 for the purchase of warm zone equipment.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

9. Correspondence

- **NEA Notice on Grant Application**

Mark reviewed the letter from NEA regarding the grant funds availability and all decisions have been placed on hold pending final federal budget approval. The NEA is currently operating under a FY17 Continuing Resolution at this time, and while the funds might be available in the future, at this time that is still uncertain.

- **2017 Local Officials Workshop**

Mark informs the board of the upcoming Local Officials Workshops dates and locations offered through the NH Municipal Associations. The closest location is Sugar Hill on May 4th. Also mentioned was the annual Chamber of Commerce golf tournament at Owl's Nest on May 24th.

10. Privilege of Floor II

None.

12. Board Concerns and Directives

None.

13. Non-public Session

- **Discussion of Conservation Commission**

The board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) along with Town Manager Mark Decoteau and Sharon Charron. The Motion was made and seconded and with a roll call vote: Selectman Aronson – aye, Selectman Turner – aye, Selectman Larsen – aye, and the Board went into Non-Public Session at 3:50pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:14pm.

Mike Aronson motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:15pm.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant