

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

DATE: January 25, 2017

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Vicky Myrick, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Dave Noyes, Jim Mayhew, Bill Cheney, Greg Campbell, Rob Burhoe, Nate Forbes, Willie Goulet, Dale Merrill, Brooke Wakefield, Nelson Brown, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Privilege of Floor 1

Vicky Myrick of Lost Pass Rd. addressed the board regarding street lights in town, specifically the one at the intersection of Packards Rd and Valley Rd. The light does not work properly, it is a solar powered light, and the light goes on and off erratically. The intersection at night is very dark without this light and Vicky expressed concern for pedestrians as well as motorists. She also mentioned that there are other street lights, which are electric, that are always on and never go off, even during daylight times. She has confirmed with other residents her observations. Jim Mayhew stated that the electric company has been notified of the electric street light and are looking into the issue. He also stated that the solar light may need a new sensor and/or motion detector, and he will be contacting the company for servicing and repairs. The 2nd solar powered light, at the intersection of Lost Pass Rd and Valley Rd., has also issues and will be looked into as well. Mark commented that Public Safety Officers at night have been made aware of the situation at both locations and are watching those areas closely.

3. Service Pins Awards to Full-Time Employees

Mark addressed the board and the full time employees present, and states his appreciation to all the employees on behalf of the Town for the many years of service. In 2017 the average length of time an employee has been with the town is 11 years, and this ranges from just over a year to 40 years. Mark presents the service year pins to all the full time employees. If under 5 years, their current year is on the pin, and going forward pins will be awarded at 5, 10, 15, etc. anniversary years. Special gifts of jackets were presented to Bill Cheney (40 years) and Greg Campbell (36 years).

Bill Larsen comments that any employee who has also worked for the WV School should have those years included as their service years, and the board was in agreement with this as a part of the employee Service Pin Award Program.

4. Approval of Minutes 1/11/17 Regular Meeting

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Selectmen of 1/11/17 as presented.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

5. Department Heads Updates

• Recreation

Brooke Wakefield reports that she is planning for February vacation week (both NH & MA) and that there is a new program being offered, which is a Knockerball tournament and is “bubble suit soccer”. The suits are rented from a company who puts on the event. Other activities include ice cream social, kid’s night out, and fitness classes. She is polling people to determine if a 4-day camp for the NH week would have enough interest to run. Overall the climbing wall is going well, and plenty of staffing for both vacation weeks.

• Public Safety

Chris Hodges reports that recertification for EMS takes place this year and the staff is busy with completing their education and exams. Winter Special Olympics games are being planned and will be the 1st Sunday thru Tuesday of March this year. The athlete’s schedules have been adjusted to allow for extra time to enjoy the resort and other event venues. This is the thought to be near the 20th year the NH Winter Special Olympics have been in WV.

Mike Aronson asked about the status of the list of fire equipment necessary for a town of our size, and Mark commented he had the BOS sent an email was sent from ISO, which is recommendation list from the insurance company for public safety departments.

Chris also commented that ambulance runs to/from the ski mountain are on par for a normal season, and thus far lower than last year.

• Public Works

Jim Mayhew reports that there was a water line break on Lower Greeley Hill Rd and it was a 6”line. Water was shut off to properties for about 5 hours while repairs were made. No exact cause could be sited for the break except that it was an older cast iron pipe in a clay area, and clay itself is subject to movement. Construction work further up the road was not considered to be a factor at all. A stainless steel band clamp was put in place for the repair. Other than the break area, the pipe was in good shape. Jim stated that snow plowing and treatment of roads continues. Minor equipment repairs on the plow trucks are, or have been, done.

Well #4 project continues to go well and is on time for the completion as scheduled.

6. Calendar Review

February Dates:

- Monday, Feb 6th, 2017 at 6 or 6:15 (time to be confirmed) is the School Budget Hearing in the Multipurpose Room of the Recreation department.
- Wednesday, Feb 8th, 2017 at 6pm. Budget Hearing in the Multipurpose Room of the Recreation department.
- Wednesday, Feb 8th, 2017 at 5pm for the regular Selectmen’s meeting.

- Planning Board meeting – Thursday, February 9th, 2017 at 8am.
- Wednesday, February 22, 2017 is the regular Selectmen’s meeting in February. This is during the MA vacation week, and additional notices will go out via email and blogs to inform non-resident owners of the date.

7. New Business

• Fee Schedule – Public Hearing

Mike Aronson opens the public hearing on the Fee Schedule at 2:28pm and asks if anyone has a comment. Bill Larsen questioned which fees were being updated, and it was answered that only the banking fees for returned checks or deposits of foreign checks were proposed changes. Mike Aronson asks if the Special Police Service at \$65/hour was covering all costs by the town. Chris Hodges assured him that all costs are covered by the fee charged.

The public hearing was closed at 2:34pm and a motion was made by Bill Larsen to approve the changes and the new Administrative Fee Schedule.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

• MH-DRA Equalization Ratio Study

Mark comments that the NH-DRA ratio study is finalized and the current number for the medium ratio is 93.1% and this is what we share with the public that the assessors use to modify local property values. This translates to mean that property in Waterville Valley is selling at 6.9% under assessed value.

• Draft FY17 Budget Hearing Slides

Mark reviews the slides for the budget presentation. Major items to be noted include the property revaluation project, property/liability/worker’s compensation insurance costs, personnel costs for retirement and health insurance, and capital improvements. Other items noted to include were any department or area of the budget which contains major changes compared to previous years.

• Town Manager FY17 Goals & Objectives

The board reviewed the Town Manager’s goals and objectives. Items of the most important included the following:

1. Getting well #4 in service and finding out why well #3 failed.
2. Property revaluation project.
3. Coordinate with PSU for IT positions and internships with travel/tourism students.
4. Town Manager Blog site created.
5. Submit a re-application for the “Our Town” grant for implementation of Pedestrian Village Study recommendations for signage and way-finding.
6. Inventory and control program for town owned equipment.
7. Develop Government Citizens’ Academy
8. Coordinate 50th Anniversary celebration in summer.
9. Assess recycling program and needs.

8. Old Business

- **Review and Sign New Copy of 3rd Quarter Water & Sewer Bill**

The board signed the copy as presented of the 3rd quarter water/sewer warrant which was misplaced.

- **FY2016 Budget Update – Auditor Introduction**

Mark gave the board the option to meet with the auditor, who was busy performing the audit in the building at this time. The board didn't see any reason for a discussion. The board expressed interest in the final fund balance as of 12/31/2016 and security procedures for the handling of cash.

- **FY2017 Budget Preparation**

The FY2017 Budget Prep includes the budget hearing packet which is available at the Post Office, the Town Office, the Recreation Department, as well being posted on the website.

9. Correspondence

- Mark reviewed email correspondence from Russ Hilliard that Steve Donyon DES has received the town's letter regarding the dam and they will be discussing it further.
- Notice was received from DES that well #1 has been deactivated from the town's water system. This reduces the need for testing in the future.
- Mark reviewed emails regarding potential wording of a petitioned warrant article regarding the dog ordinance. Town counsel reviewed the proposed wording of the petition wording and provided recommendations of it legality as written. Town counsel did recommend hold a public hearing within 15 days prior to town meeting if the petitioned article is submitted. Discussion followed concerning the intent of the petition and its impact upon public and private property. Upon 2nd review, a public hearing will not be required.

10. Privilege of Floor II

None.

11. Board Concerns and Directives

Bill Larsen asked for clarification of the ski area's 50th Anniversary Dinner and the town sponsorship of the event as he has received questions from residents. Mark stated that the town is only involved as a part of the committee, but the ski area's 50th event is not sponsored by the town. This was removed from their website. The town's 50th Anniversary event will be held this summer, if the warrant article for its funding is passed at town meeting, and will be an "old Home Day" type of event with field games etc. There will be a committee to plan the event.

12. Non-public Session

None.

Margaret Turner motions to adjourn the meeting at 3:20pm.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant