

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

DATE: June 24, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike Aronson and Bill Larsen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Margaret Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Decoteau, Rob Burhoe, Jim Mayhew, Chris Hodges, Sharon Charron, Wendi Rathgeber, Vicky Myrick, Harry Notowitz and Bryan Sopko.

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

2. Privilege of the Floor I

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of 6/10/15

The minutes of 6/10/15 are tabled until the next BOS meeting for approval.

4. Financial Update

Mark reports that no departments are unexpectedly overspent. Recreation continues to do well on revenues, which are at 27% collected for the year. Historically at this point in the year, we've been at 6-10%. The increase is in part due to early season registrations for camps. For expenditures, the TAN have been paid down, with only \$200 in interest paid. The TAN is still open if we need to use it through November. Property tax payments are being received and processed daily and we are at the normal amount received for collections.

5. Department Head Updates

- **Recreation Department**
- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the DPS lost their annual kickball game with the WV Elementary School making losses for 3 straight years. We need to recruit some ringers, or kickers, for next year's game. The Central NH SOU (Special Operations Unit) recently conducted training at Osceola Vista campground and it went well. July 4th parade is at 11am and the fireworks are scheduled for 9/9:30pm.

The BOS asks for any comments from the public regarding lowering the speed limit to 25mph. The comments heard are as follows:

- Vicky Myrick, of Lost Pass Rd: Questions if this is something which could be just for the summer months? She suggests 6/14 through 10/14 as the time period for when bicycles and pedestrians are most active on roads and sidewalks. Chair Aronson responds that in winter many people are at bus stops and there is just as much traffic on roadways. Chris Hodges also states that the difference between 25 and 30 mph results in a time difference of only 17 seconds between the WV

library and Tripoli Rd. Hodges also stressed that there is room for discretion for public safety officers to use for enforcement based upon time of year, road conditions, amount of traffic, weekend vs. weekdays with respect to school days and/or vacation periods.

- Richard Rita comments that 2 different speed limits based upon times of year would be confusing to people. He believes that 25mph will be fine, and that 25mph will catch driver's attention and prompt them to slow down.
- Vicky Myrick also comments that guests who ride bikes in town need to be more informed on the rules of the roads/sidewalks. Mike Aronson replied that getting the bike shop staff involved in communicating the rules to guests was very important.
- Harry Notowitz comments that distracted drivers in general are more likely to speed through town. Also in winter, people do opt to walk in the streets when the sidewalks are slippery. Wendi Rathgeber concurred.

Bill Larsen motions to adopt the 25mph speed limit town wide for a 4 month trial period beginning August 1, 2015. This will be reviewed upon December 1st.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Bill Larsen made the additional comment that the Tripoli Road on the backside towards West Branch road will be an area to monitor closely as people drive too fast there presently, and it is already posted as 25mph.

• **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that the water line replacement in Windsor Hill is ongoing and that the pipe when removed looked better than expected, but it did have corrosion in some spots. One area in particular was in a location that was very vulnerable to breaking in the near future.

Mark clarifies that DRA has approved the request for the use of the additional grant money (\$306,958) to be used. Rural Development is aware of their decision, and we are waiting for their decision.

Mark presents an updated list of the homes with backflow preventers. Some homes were removed from the list after initial inspections as they are not a hazard as defined by state regulations. 2 properties failed and will need replacement valves installed. Some properties have RPZ valves but they are no reasons for them have them, so testing is not required. Additionally requests will be made to the state to remove the properties that have valves and are not needed. 11 properties still need to be inspected to determine they valve type in place and if regular testing is required. We have been given an extension to August 1st to complete these requirements. Mark will draft a letter to these property owners asking for access to their homes, and also state that many homes have been removed from the list who have already been inspected, and it is highly probable that other homes will be removed as well.

The tractor accident is still under investigation by the safety committee to determine its cause. The employee is recovering from the accident after developing an infection at the site of the wound.

6. Calendar

Next regular meeting is on Wed., 7/15/15 at 3pm.

The meeting on 7/22/15 is uncertain at this time.

7. New Business

- **Application for Federal/State Forest Land Reimbursement**

This is an annual application for reimbursement for forest lands in Waterville Valley.

Mike Aronson motions to sign the application for the Forest Lands Reimbursement.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Assessing Question – Inns of Waterville Valley**

Mark briefs the BOS on the question posed by the Inns of WV association president regarding the assessment of their timeshare units (19 units in total). The association president requested individual assessment amounts for each of the 19 units, however the units are not assessed individually by the town, but rather building is assessed as a single owner, that being the association. The method used to determine the assessments for each unit was discussed, and it was thought that the percentages used in the past originally came from the condo documents which indicated the square footages of each unit. The breakdown of percentages for each unit was further discussed using the 19 units estimated percentages based upon the unit size and resulting equivalent share of the total property. It will be noted that only the **total** property valuation is valid for assessing purposes and abatements. A response from the town will be sent to the association indicating these percentages.

8. Old Business

- **Water/Sewer Line Repairs**

Mark updates the BOS on letters sent and feedback from owners on River Rd. / W. Branch Rd. for the sewer repairs this past winter/spring. There are a variety of situations; full time homeowners, property manager's fees for 2nd homeowners, and the question for discussion presented is "*who is responsible for the costs incurred?*" The town has covered all of the costs for septic tank pumping due to the sewer lines freezing. The town has not paid any fees for property managers who are granting access to homes on behalf of owners who are not present. There are some homeowners who have been present and opted not to enlist the services of a property manager themselves. Mark's question to the BOS is whether or not the Town should cover the property manager's fees or not? Discussion followed. Ideas expressed were that when utilities have outages, the power company is not responsible for covering those costs, and it falls upon the homeowner or their home insurance policy if it is a covered item. The BOS suggested to have the homeowners submit an insurance claim and the Town will cover the difference. The precedent being set was of concern, and this method would only be used in situations where there was extenuating circumstances, such as the repairs to the new sewer line. Additionally it

was suggested to be sure this is clear in the water & sewer regulations, being that the Town assumes no financial responsibility due to an outage of services.

Mark updated the Board on the repairs to the water line on Beanbender Rd. Dana White will be digging test pits along the line to determine if heat tape is able to be installed on the line. By digging the pits, he will be able to expose the line and determine its exact location, and whether or not the line is on ledge. If the line is found to be on ledge, the heat tape method is not an option. The heat tape cannot be returned once purchased so digging the pits is necessary. The cost will be a few thousand dollars for the test pits. The estimated cost to run the heat tape (if we can) will be between \$30-\$35K.

- **Solid Waste/Recycling Discussion**

The discussion focused on the financial costs the town incurs to recycle, and presently that number is about \$100/month at the current rates for this year. The feasibility of going to Campton/Thornton transfer station is very low as they have already been approached informally and the idea for WV residents to drop recyclables at their transfer station was not well received. Both Mike & Bill were willing to approach the towns again for the short term until recycling rates increase. It was decided it would be best to wait to include Margaret in the conversation.

- **Tractor Replacement/Repair**

The tractor is currently at the repair location. Our insurance adjustor did not total the tractor; they allowed \$4,968 for repairs, less \$1K deductible for equipment, netting a payment of \$3,968 to the town. Mark has been compiling information on different options; lease, purchase, or repair costs and will return to board with full information when he has it completed. In the meantime, Sunset Hill Property Management has been contracted at a rate of \$55/hr for 8 hours/week for general mowing around Packard's Field and area surrounding the treatment lagoons. An additional part-time CLD driver has been hired to drive the trash truck. This allows Tim Rosewarne to do be able to do additional mowing in areas not being done by Sunset Hill. Conversation followed concerning the tasks the tractor, as a piece of equipment, does regularly in addition to mowing and those include grading Stone Tower Lane, and raking Corcoran's Pond beach.

9. Correspondence

Mark presents a letter regarding a cemetery qualification request from former longtime residents about availability in the WV cemetery. A response will be drafted by Mark indicating they do qualify, but we do not pre-sell cemetery lots. They are only purchased at the time of need.

10. Privilege of Floor II

None.

11. Board Concerns and Directives

12. Non-Public Session

The 2 BOS members present, Mike and Bill, along with Mark & Sharon, go into non-public session at to discuss a board matter.

185 **13. Adjournment**

186 Bill Larsen motions to adjourn the meeting.

187 Mike Aronson: 2nds.

188 The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 4:17pm.

189

190 Respectfully Submitted,

191 Sharon Charron

192 Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant