

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

DATE: July 27, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike Aronson and Margaret Turner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bill Larsen.

OTHERS PRESENT: Reggie Breeckner, Tom Myrick, Barry Fish, Bill Cantlin, Mark Decoteau, Dave Noyes and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Privilege of Floor 1

None.

3. Approval of Minutes 7/13/2016

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Selectmen of 7/13/16 as presented.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

Mike Aronson questions the line item, *Health Agencies/Hospitals*, as being expensed higher than normal and Mark explained that these expenses are the donations to areas agencies offering health services. Margaret Turner asked if there were any tax collection issues at this time. Mark stated that there are not, and as of today's date we are at 95% collected on the 1st half billing for 2016. He also noted that there are a few liens, but nothing out of the norm. *Recreation revenue* doesn't reflect the July billings for the boat rentals, so it appears to be down, but that is not the case. No other questions from the board were asked.

5. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield, Recreation Director, stated that the camps numbers are doing great with very high attendance overall. She attributes the high attendance to the fact that the program has had a long standing tradition, as well as to the on-line registrations which makes people commit to their signups as they pay in advance. Those who have been turned away before are realizing they need to plan ahead and sign up early. She estimates that 30-40% of campers are coming from the surrounding towns of Campton and Thornton. Campers are also children of 2nd homeowners, those on vacation, and visiting grandparents. The terrific staff and great weather also have contributed to the high attendance. A new offered activity includes an African drumming group for the campers. The evening programs are picking up as well, as ice cream social is getting more attendance. There were 4 facility rentals in July, and 12 are scheduled for August, which includes Packard's Field. Of the field rentals, 8 are for Bates College soccer

programs and most of the rentals are mid-week days. The field rental cost is \$75 for 2 hours. The Rey Center is also hosting story time and there was some discussion as to the absence of the dog Rocket, as he was to be present for story time. Brooke has been keeping in touch with the Rey Center staff and their activities schedules. Upcoming Recreation programs adaptive rock climbing is scheduled in August with New England Adaptive Sports, and Ugotta Regatta, and will be involved with the Bruce the Moose Festival. It was also noted that the July numbers for the Freedom Pass sales is not included for financial reports. Brooke is planning to meet with the new WVES principal, Gail, in early August. Mark has a separate meeting as well already scheduled.

- **Public Safety**

Chief David Noyes reports that it has been seasonably busy and the last few weeks there have been a number of rescues on Tripyramid, Welch and Dickey, and Whiteface mountains. Some of these have been very technical rescues, even though the injuries themselves were not serious. He informed the board that part time DPS employee, Ian MacKinnon, has deferred his acceptance to the part-time police academy until February 2017 due to his full-time responsibilities fireman in the Campton/Thornton FD. The new Public Safety Dept pick-up truck was delivered and is being outfitted wear gear presently. He is hoping it will be ready next week and can be on display at the upcoming Coffee-With-A-Cop event on Friday, August 5th under the tent in Town Square. Ski lift evacuation training will be taking place in conjunction with the ski area at Snow's Mountain. There was a fireworks permit issued to the WV Resort for a private group on August 27th. These will be launched from the barge on Corcoran's Pond and will be class "C" fireworks.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew, Public Works Director, stated that things are quieting down due to the lack of rain, and his crews are keeping up with the mowing. He expects to be able to start other tasks next week. Jim informed the board of the road and shoulder work that he's identified that needs to be done. There are road shoulders that need to be widened and water needs to be redirected as well. He believes that most of the work be done with town owned equipment and manpower and plans to allocate a few days each week to complete these tasks. Roads that are requiring this type of work include Boulder Path Rd., Cascade Ridge Rd., West Branch Rd., and Greeley Hill Rd. He plans to start the work for the farthest location and work back towards the public works garage where the materials are stored. Jim stated that the worst place won't be done 1st, but rather the farthest location, but all of the locations needing work will get done. Mike Aronson asked if there were any equipment and or staffing issues, and Jim stated that everything is working well in both equipment and staffing. Margaret Turner commented upon the condition of Tripoli Rd stating that the Woodstock end is in pretty good shape, while the WV end is much rougher. She noted that the Forest Service had filled some holes in areas with crushed stone. Mark commented that the crushed stone in areas is the extent of the Forest Service's work. It was noted that Public Safety should contact the Forest Service to find out more information on Tripoli Rd. repairs as this is the second, and only other, access to the town via roadways.

6. Calendar Review

The next regular scheduled Selectmen's meeting will be Wed., August 10th, 2016 at 3pm. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Thurs., August 11, 2016 at 8am.

There will be a special meeting on Wed., July 20th, 2016 to review the Water Well Connection bids being submitted on 7/19/16.

7. New Business

- **Review and Sign Dept. of Revenue Administration – PA 16 Form**

The PA-16 form, which is an application for reimbursement of the National Forest lands, is presented to and signed by the Selectmen.

- **Dept of Environmental Services – Emerging Contaminants of Concern**

Mark informs the board of the PFOA/PFOS contamination issues that are of concern in parts of the state. Currently the testing for the contaminants are voluntary is the cost is about \$1,100-\$1,500. Being that there is no industry (i.e. plastics manufacturing) in WV, there is no logical reason for the testing and the Selectmen chose not to test for these contaminants.

- **Sign Permit and RV Use – Sport Thoma Ski Sale in October**

Sport Thoma Ski shop has submitted a sign permit application for their October tent sale. They have also requested to be allowed to use a travel trailer for security at night adjacent to the tent while merchandise is in the tent. In previous years, they security person has slept inside the tent with the merchandise, It was mentioned that about 10 years ago they did have an incident of some type at the night when they were closed. Discussion followed and this was not seen as setting a precedent for someone else using an RV in town. The trailer will be placed where it has minimal visibility to the public.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the sign permit and the request to use a RV as a security trailer during the tent sale in October 6-10, 2016.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Sign Permit – Green Peak Condominium Phase 2 by Waterville Company, Inc.**

The item is tabled until after the next Planning Board meeting, scheduled for August 11, 2016.

8. Old Business

- **Water & Sewer Project Update**

Joe Ducharme, CMA engineer, is called into the meeting via phone. Joe refers to the letter from the low bidder, Infrastructure Construction Corporation (ICC) and their suggestions to reduce costs and the meeting with ICC. Those suggestions include removing all work for well #1 and the recreation trail relocation, utilizing excavated materials as backfill in areas, removing an under drain, modifications on the 500 gallon treatment tank and the tank pump, modifications to the pump room stairs, reducing the size of venting pipes, removing the tank coating and concrete sealer, and altering the roofline pitch. Wells #2 and #3 would not be connected to the new treatment tank, but continue to be treated as they currently exist. The central treatment center will be prepped to connect these 2 wells (#2 & #3) at a later date. The opportunity exists to add the work to well #1, as a change order, after town meeting in March 2017 if the additional expenses are then approved. Joe has confirmed that all of these modifications do not change the overall scope of the project, nor do they compromise the process of getting the new well #4 operational and connected to the system. The estimated cost to connect the two wells (#2 & #3)

from the original budget proposals is approximately \$500K. Discussion followed concerning all the changes. Additionally, the need for the backup generator was seen as another item to potentially eliminate, based upon that WV power outages generally do not last more than a day or two at a time. In the event of an extended outage, a generator would need to be temporarily placed to pump water into the system. Comments from Bill Larsen, who is absent from the meeting, were read by Mark concerning the need to start work ASAP to connect the new well #4 in the event the extension request is denied. Mark confirmed that this was discussed with ICC and they are willing to work with us, and Joe, prior to having a signed contract. Additional questions from the board were asked concerning the items being modified and were answered to the satisfaction of the board by both Joe and Mark.

Mark reviews the revised project budget inclusive of ICC's altered bid. The remaining Rural Development grant funds that are available for construction are \$892,843, and the revised ICC bid is \$1,089,880, which leaves a remaining balance of \$197,036 to be funded. Mark informs the Selectmen that the remaining funds can be covered by the Capital Fund Account from previous water and sewer projects dating back to FY2003. Currently there is \$230K in this account. These funds are not included in our operating fund year-end balance, as they are in a separate account and Mark has confirmed these numbers with our auditor. The remaining balance of \$32,963 can be used as contingency for the remainder of the project. Any part of the contingency funds that not used can be used to pay against the principal of outstanding water/sewer bonds in April, 2017. Margaret Turner questioned if RD was agreeable to having the town supplement the balance remaining between ICC's bid and the remaining grant funds. Mark stated that we are waiting for their answer to the town first spending the grant dollars first, and then using the town capital funds to finish the project. Previously RD had approved the town spending the additional funds, but asked that we use town funds first. Due to the time constraints we are now asking for them to approve being able to spend grant funds first, and our capital fund to finish. Mark explained that prior to a signed contract, while we are waiting for the decision of the extension request, Joe can work with ICC to start ordering equipment. Essentially, we would be telling ICC that the town is willing to move forward with the \$1,089,880 bid provided that the extension is granted. Joe stated that the NH/VT RD offices are in full support of the extension request, but are waiting for the final word from Washington. If the extension is denied, the NH/VT RD offices would look to supplement the remaining grant funds from next year's RD grant budgets beginning upon October 1st. Mark will call NH Senator Ayotte's office and ask for any support they can offer in Washington to make a decision. There was not motion made at this time, but the sense of the board was that ICC will be awarded the contract pending the approval from USDA-RD of the extension request. Mark further stated that Chief Noyes will be able to sign any contracts, as acting Town Manager, in Mark's absence next week. A special meeting of the Selectmen would be held if this was necessary to sign the paperwork.

- **School/Recreation Building Agreement**

The WVES/Recreation Building use agreement has all the edits that Brooke had suggested. She was present at the school board meeting and everyone was in agreement to the edits she proposed. The copy presented to the board for signing today contains these changes and the Selectmen sign the contract as presented.

- **Town Road Repairs**

9. Correspondence

- **Thank You Note – Gail Hannigan**

The board read the thank you from retiring WVES principal, Gail Hannigan thanking them for the proclamation of “Gail Hannigan Day” on June 10, 2016.

10. Privilege of Floor II

None.

11. Board Concerns and Directives

Margaret Turner commented that a citizen had mentioned to her that the Cascade Path is getting washed out in an area and is in need of some trail work. Margaret has reached out to Dan Newton and WVAIA, but has not heard anything back yet. There is currently a crew working on the Mad River Trail doing great work, and it was discussed if they might be able to work on Cascade Path after the Mad River trail work is complete. Discussion followed and the board agreed that if WVAIA was unable to fund the repair that the town could cover the costs if it was a few hundred dollars. Mark will reach out to Dan Newton and inquire about the repairs, trail work crew availability and the costs.

Mike Aronson mentions that the hedgehog is back at the Stone Tower. Public Works will look into it further.

12. Non-public Session

The 3 BOS members, and Mark, and Sharon, go into non-public at 4:05pm to discuss personnel issues.

They come out of non-public at 4:10pm.

Margaret Turner motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:38pm.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant