

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

**DATE:** November 8, 2017

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tom Gross, Wendi Rathgeber, Reggie Breeckner, Rich Rita, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron.

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

**2. Privilege of Floor**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes of 10/11/17 Special Meeting and 10/25/17 Regular Meeting**

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the special meeting on October 11, 2017 with changes.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 25, 2017 with changes.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**4. Financial Update**

Mark updates the board on the current financials. We are currently at 86.5% through the year. Revenues numbers have been adjusted to reflect changes that were made before setting the final tax rate.

**5. Department Heads Updates**

- **Recreation**

No report this meeting as Brooke Wakefield is absent.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that next week the WWTP generator will be tested by the manufacturer, as the electrical work is now complete. Greeley Hill Rd. paving is complete and looks good and Jim was very pleased with the contractor. Public works equipment is being serviced and minor repairs completed prior to winter. The new public works employee will begin on Monday.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the department is currently working on completing the occupancy permits and inspections at the lodges, inns and public areas in town. In house training was conducted last Friday for DPS employees. The BOS questioned changes to the Ice Arena function space, and Chris answered that it involved a door which wasn't needed to create a secured area per liquor commission. Chris informed Sean Curtin of the proper requirements. Chris informed the board that Engine 2 parts are on order. The ladder truck is also awaiting inspection by Underwriter's Laboratories.

## **6. Calendar Review**

The next regular board meeting is on 11/29/17 at 3pm. There is a Veteran's Day Ceremony at 8am at 11/9/17. There is a Planning Board meeting at 10am (changed from 8am) on 11/9/17.

## **7. New Business**

- **Sign Tax Year 2017 Tax Warrant**

The 2017 tax warrant was presented and signed by the board. The 2017 tax rate is \$14.25.

- **Report from the Town Core Working Group**

Tom Gross updates the board on the committee's progress and the recent meeting with Horizon's engineering about the proposed entrance to town sign, aka "the gateway", and the bike path improvements. The committee has been meeting regularly to determine how best to implement the recommendations set forth in the plan developed by SE Group a few years ago. The gateway project was determined to be the first part of this plan, as it will give the town a sense of arrival, as well as serve as a traffic calming for vehicles. Three plans were presented from Horizon's, and the committee recommended 1 of the 3 plans. The recommended plan includes enlarging the current sidewalk to 10' on Valley Rd. as well as installing another 10' sidewalk on the opposite side. This will run from the corner of Tripoli Rd to just past Tecumseh Rd. The walkway will double as a bike path, and the roadway will be narrowed slightly. The curbing of the roadway will be eliminated on Valley Rd. and/or turn downs will be installed just past Tecumseh Rd. The culverts will be upgraded to improve drainage which will help to resolve the periodic wash outs occurring with heavy rains at the road sides. The entrance sign will be adjacent to Valley Rd in the town right of way. Overall the sense of arrival is the main purpose of the project so people will know to slow down, there's more of the town down the road, and to be watchful for bikes and pedestrians. The board thanked the Town Core Committee members, Wendy Rathgeber and Tom Gross, for their work.

## **8. Old Business**

- **Personnel Update**

There are two new employees scheduled to begin work in the next few weeks, one full time in Public Works and the other part time in the Town Offices.

- **Corcoran Pond Dam Update**

Mark reviews and discusses the Administrative Order given by DES to the town concerning the Dam repairs. The AO requires the BOS's signatures. The BOS expressed concern that DES will change their minds that the \$500K solution, as presented by the engineers, and then demand additional and more costly work to be done to be complaint with State regulations. The AO also outlines that there is a \$2K per day fine if the town fails to meet the plan submission deadline or

fails to complete the work on time. The BOS are not currently authorized to expend funds to pay the fines referenced in the AO by DES. Currently there is approximately \$120K in funds available and the remainder needs to be appropriated by vote at the 2018 Town Meeting. The warrant will ask to raise \$400K. The board was reluctant to sign the AO until after the money is appropriated by town meeting. The current plan will be the largest of this type in NH though it has been utilized in other states on other dams of equal or larger size. Mark states that the town needs to do this as a good faith decision. The voters need to be educated that this is being required by the State and it is not optional. Discussion followed regarding the impact of signing or not signing the AO. It was asked if the time clock can start the day after town meeting. Bill Larsen believes that by signing the AO, we waive the right to take DES to court if DES changes their opinion on approval of the repair design. The BOS wants to ask town counsel for their opinion on whether it can be signed after town meeting and if signed now, and the warrant fails to pass, what are our options. Mark states that if it fails town meeting, the State and DRA will direct us to place it on the 2019 warrant for an amount to be determined by DES. At the time the town would no longer have a say in the design or costs of the repair work since the town failed to meet DES requirements, in addition to the \$2K/day fine. The discussion continued to interpret the AO and the implications to the town.

- **Well #3 Testing Update**

There was another positive bacteria test on well #3. There is a pressure test scheduled on the distribution line to eliminate the distribution line as a possibility. In addition, EGGI will be conducting a special bacteria test to determine whether it is surface water influence or another biological reason such as a dead animal which has gotten into one of the radial arms of the well's galleries. The results will take 3 weeks after testing. The levels of total chloroform and Ecoli have increased greatly, and these increased after heavy rains. The BOS asked if the river water would have the same bacteria and that answer is yes. Discussion followed regarding the testing procedures and the timeline for the results. At the first December BOS meeting, the results will be ready to be presented. The water needs of the town were discussed and between well #2 & #4 the water demand needs at peak times are being met. However, there is no room for a well or pump failure to either of these wells. In addition, permits for the wells have limits to the number of gallons which can be drawn over a given period of time, which is the same for all our wells. The BOS requests that the follow up on the testing results be discussed at the December meeting and should also specifically include how this is treatable.

- **Insurance Follow-up on Meeting Room Floor**

The meeting room cleaned up well after the last flood event and the new carpet without a pad and with the rubber backing was professionally cleaned by Serve Pro. There is a risk manager from our insurance company is coming to inspect the potential causes of the flooding of the basement level of the Town Offices and provide recommendations to remedy. It is thought that the drains which surround the building have failed. Chris Hodges stated that a catch basin might be utilized.

## **9. Correspondence**

The board reviewed an article of interest which was submitted by Stanley Piekos. It was suggested to that the Planning Board should also review the article.

**10. Privilege of Floor II**

None.

**11. Board Concerns and Directives**

None.

**12. Non-public Session**

None.

Mike Aronson motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:08pm.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant