

**WATERVILLE VALLEY, NH  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:**       **December 11, 2013**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** **None.**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** **Pat Kucharski, Mark Decoteau, Tom Quackenbush, Jim Mayhew, Rachel Gasowski, Sharon Charron.**

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

**2. Privilege of the Floor I**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of 11/26/13 as amended.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**4. Financial Update**

There is no financial update at this time. As a part of the budgeting process for 2014, Mark will be providing a detailed line item financial update for 2013 to the BOS this Friday. However, all departments are on track for their expenditures at this time.

**5. Department Head Updates**

• **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew updates the BOS on several items. The water meter pit installations have now ceased due to weather with 5 of the 39 pit total being installed. Work will resume in the springtime. The WWTP new sand filter tanks arrived. The old tanks have been removed, and the concrete pads are being poured and will set over the weekend. The new tanks are anticipated to be installed on Tuesday, 12/17. The DPW crew has been treating roads due to snow squalls which have been frequent. Margaret comments about the solar light at the bottom of Moose Run issues and it seems to be working sporadically. Jim has a call in to the company. Jim also spoke regarding dumpsters which are in need of repairs. Currently 2 have failed; Mad River & Noon Peak, and there are 9 others which are close to failing or in need of repairs. Mark comments that he would like purchase the 2 now, and upon review of the FY2013 expenditures purchase the other 11 if funds are available. He felt strongly this would be the case. Jim suggests, as part of the budget discussions for FY2014, an annual purchase/replacement program. Mike Aronson asked if a location rotation schedule from less used to more used location would be beneficial. Jim responds that can work with certain dumpsters, depending upon the sizes of the enclosures, which do vary from each location. Mark comments that usage isn't as much of an issue in comparison to the age of them, as some of the dumpsters are up to 10 years old. The biggest contributor to the deterioration however is wood ash as it is very corrosive. It was suggested that this be communicated to homeowners and associations. Large quantities of wood ash for

disposal must be tested prior to depositing in the landfill. Jim was also considering lining the dumpster's interior bottom to an 18" depth with a linex-type protective coating, and was going to look into it further. Mike asked if there were any other dumpsters that could accommodate the Silver Fox, and Mark & Jim agreed to look into it.

- **Recreation Department**

Rachel reports that Pickleball is continuing to be a big hit. During the open gym times on the weekends, with ski season upon us, however it does restrict use of the open gym time slot for other activities. To accommodate the amount of play desired she has added set times for Pickleball on the weekends (which would be separate from open gym times), and would like to begin reservations for court time and charging for the time on Saturday's (2-4pm) only. Discussion followed regarding the concept of charging for it and whether or not it should be done. Other ideas include same day reservations and charging fees for no-shows. It was felt that some people might not agree with charging for pickleball. It was decided to start by taking reservations for Saturday pickleball play, and if someone doesn't show for their reserved time, they are unable to reserve again. At this time, hold off charging a fee and plan to reevaluate after the Christmas week calendar. Rachel also commented that she has received several applications for the Adult Program Coordinator, and Margaret was asked to be on the panel for the applicants selected to be interviewed. All other programs are going well. Rachel also commented that during the weekdays the open gym schedule was adjusted to accommodate the school security and kids in the gym.

## **6. Calendar Review**

- Next BOS meeting is Monday, December 30, 2013 at 3pm. The BOS want to make this meeting well publicized to encourage non-resident property owners that are in town for the holiday week to attend or watch.
- 2014 Budget review BOS with Dept Heads Wed., 12/18 at 2pm and Thurs., 12/19 at 2pm.

## **7. New Business**

- **Sign Permit Request – WVSR Tubing & Warming Center**

There are 2 signs on the permit request. One will be over the door, and the second from the golf course sign by the entrance. Concern was expressed as to the material being used. They are temporary signs and will be taken down at the end of the winter season. If they deteriorate during the course of the winter for whatever reason, they will be replaced and not left in the deteriorated state.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the sign permit from WVSR for the Tubing/Warming Center.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote

- **Grafton County Commissioner Vacancy Notice**

Mark updates the BOS on the vacancy on the Grafton County Commission seat thru the 2014 Elections. The seat is filled by the appointment of the Grafton County Delegation and they are seeking applicants through the date of 12/13/13.

## **8. Old Business**

- **TY2014 Assessing Work**

Mark reports to the BOS that the State of NH – DRA office has contracted our town assessing firm to make sure we are reviewing our ration study for 2014 as a result of the PRD being

outside the recommended range. The PRD when too high means that the lower assessed properties are selling for a higher price than which they are assessed for. Discussion follows are the cost and time involved, the fast changes in the real estate market and whether or not there is enough data to draw conclusions. The stabilization of the real estate market still hasn't occurred, especially here in this region of NH and whether this ratio study would yield any different results. Concern was expressed about the amount of data which existed and whether it is enough to draw any conclusions. Mark will get the exact cost to the BOS. It was decided to wait until the 12/30/13 meeting to authorize this expenditure as part of the FY2014 budget.

- **IT End of Year Projects**

Tom Quackenbush reports that we are now able to take payments for property taxes on-line through the Town website. Utility billing should be ready for the start of 2014. Tom also updated the BOS on research he has done for upgrades and changes to the town's website. The information he provided summarized the costs with establishing a new website, and annual fees for maintenance and support, as well as additional email services for town employees. Bill Larsen asked if the company would do a presentation/demonstration for the BOS to show them what types of features could be implemented into a website. Tom will schedule this presentation for the BOS by the Virtual Town Office website developers. Tom also mentions that upgrading of the website will offer sustainability of the town's website into the indefinite future. There was also a brief discussion with regard to payment options for taxes and other services (on-line versus in person) and the fees assessed to on-line payments.

## **9. Correspondence**

The BOS reviewed the letter from EVP with regards to the WVTM and funding limitations, which if not funded by their past supporters, will cause WVTM to cease to be able to operate. The BOS felt if the ski resort, and WVRA were not providing financial support, then it was not the Town's responsibility to fill in the financial gap. In addition with today's technology of website and smart phones, people no longer use TV to access resort news, instant updates, and information.

## **10. Privilege of the Floor II**

None.

## **11. Board Concerns & Directive**

- **Holiday Lights Competition**

Margaret reports the results of the Holiday Lights Competition.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Place - TIE**

- Valley Inn: The best recreation of "Holiday Home Away From Home". Bring your book or newspaper and sit and enjoy the beautiful lobby decorations!
- The Key Center: The best creative and fun window encouraging curiosity about what's inside and featuring a Waterville Valley theme.

### **Runner-ups**

- Toad Hall and Dreams & Visions: A shared award for the best use of blue and white LED lights by a business.

- Black Bear Lodge: Best decoration featuring a hand painted window mural.
- Waterville Valley Recreation Dept: Best use of drop ceiling tiles by a municipal staff.
- Myrick's: The best understated presentation effectively augmented by lights in jointly owned trees with their neighbors.

**Action Items:**

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**12. Non-Public Session**

The 3 BOS members and Mark go into non-public session at 4:25pm to review merit pay requests.

Those present come out of non-public at 4:55

Bill Larsen motions to adjourn the meeting.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 4:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Charron  
Town of Waterville Valley