

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

DATE: July 18, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Aronson, Chairman, Margaret Turner, Vice-Chair and Richard Rita.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Leslie Rosewarne, Betzi Taoka, April Smith, Terri Roper, Preston & Brenda Conklin, Tom Gross, Dan Newton, Birdie Britton, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Greg Campbell, Dylan Delisle, Brooke Wakefield, Judy Rolfe, John Recine, Irit Levy and Sharon Charron.

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

2. Garden Dedication

The dedication of the Tim Rosewarne Memorial Garden took place outside the building. Mark Decoteau addressed the group stating that during the years that Tim worked for the Town, this garden spot was a place that he took special care of. Each spring he cleaned the flower boxes and planted new flowers. Throughout the summer he would make sure the plants were watered and cared for until the late fall/winter ended the growing season. This was his spot around the Town Hall where he brightened our lives with the nature he enjoyed so much. As we observe the first anniversary of Tim's passing, we thought that this would be the appropriate time for us to place this marker and dedicate this area as the Tim Rosewarne Memorial Garden. Leslie Rosewarne thanked everyone for all that the WV community has done for her, and Tim, and his memory. A few pictures followed with the Selectmen and the dedication sign bearing Tim's name.

3. Privilege of Floor I

Mark Decoteau introduces the new Wastewater Treatment Plant employee Dylan Delisle to the board and they welcomed him to Waterville Valley.

Birdie Britton, along with Tom Gross, addressed the board regarding a proposal for a Chapel in town dedicated to RFK and Tom Corcoran. They provide some background information on the idea dating back to the 1960's after RFK's passing. The proposal is for an open air chapel. The chapel would be non-denominational. Birdie informed the board that fundraising efforts after RFK's assassination led by the late Tom Corcoran netted approximately \$19K and these funds are now held by the Waterville Foundation. Various images were displayed as examples of styles and potential site locations were discussed that would be assessable to all and close to Town Square services. The possibility of making the chapel a multi-use facility along with the newly formed WV Historical Society was suggested as well. Birdie also suggested other community events could take place, such as concerts, private parties, theatre performances and other types of community gatherings. Birdie presented a list of possible community organizations/foundations

that could potentially be partners, sponsors or donors as well. Fundraising opportunities for individuals or families could involve the purchase of pews or bricks in their names, or in memorial. The board was receptive to the idea and said that more discussion was needed on how to move the idea forward to make it a reality. Birdie thanked the board for its time.

4. Approval of Minutes of 6/13/18 Regular Meeting and 6/27/18 Regular Meeting

Rich Rita motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 13, 2018 with changes.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 27, 2018 with changes.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Report

The financials were reviewed with just one question by the board regarding debt service interest amounts being higher than the percentage through the year. This is due to the payment schedule, which hasn't caught up the percentage in the fiscal year.

5. Calendar Review

August BOS meeting (just 1) is on August 15th, 2018.

Special BOS Meeting on July 26, 2108 to review bids for the Town Entrance Project.

August Planning Board meeting is August 9, 2018.

6. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that summer camps are halfway through the season and all is going well. Other events upcoming include the National Night Out on Tues. August 7th, in conjunction with Thornton & Campton Police Departments and the WV Department of Public Safety. The event takes place in Thornton at Benton's Sugar Shack. The event will rotate locations each year, with next year being in WV. It is part of a National event throughout the country to foster community relations with Police/Public Safety Departments. There will be demonstrations, games, food, and will be a fun family event. Many local businesses are sponsoring the event.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that water line gate boxes and fire hydrants are being repaired. The hydrants are also being flushed, which causes some discoloration in the water. Notice was placed upon the website alerting residents that if water is discolored to let their water until clear. Tree trimming along roadsides will also be taking place. Rich Rita asked about some dead/dying trees on Boulder Path Rd and asked if they were on Town property, or not. Jim replied those that are on Town property are being slated to be taken down. There are others which are not and located on the private property (Wyman property) who will be contacted regarding the removal as they are posing a potential hazard. Tom Gross complimented the Public Works crew for the work done

alongside the road near the Tennis Center. A brief discussion followed concerning future repairs to the area, which will include paving in future years.

- **Municipal Services**

Mark reports that Greg is working with contractor to do work at the WWTP for HVAC installation and repairs. Some electrical work has been done, but the building work is scheduled for September.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges also mentions the National Night Out event and how it is a multi-department community event. The July 4th Fireworks went well and there was good feedback, however there were comments that the fireworks show was shorter than expected and lasted about 20 minutes. Attendance was lower, likely due to the 4th falling on a Wednesday. Chris states he is still looking at fire trucks and following up on some leads. He reports that the call volume this summer is down from last year. There is new single family home construction on Cascade Ridge Rd. and another expected to begin soon on River Rd. The “For Sale” for the Nigrosh/Barracough home on West Branch Rd has been removed by the realtor, as it was in violation on the town’s sign code.

7. New Business

- **Water/Sewer Bill Warrant for Signatures**

The 2nd quarter of 2018 water/sewer warrant is presented to and signed by the Board.

- **Trash Bill Abatements - WVRE**

Mark reviews the error in overbilling to WVRE, which began in 2015 in 4th quarter. Judy Rolfe explains how the errors occurred as 2 different accounts were billed. The total amount overbilled was \$12,080. A payment plan to abate WVRE for the overcharges was established going against their regular quarter balance owed. This quarter (2nd, 2018) the abated amount will be \$3,220. These will occur each quarter until the amount is zero.

Mike Aronson motions to abate the amount of \$3,220 for WVRE for trash fees.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Waterville Peaks Circuit Proposal**

Dan Newton first addresses the board regarding the WVAIA requests for additional funds. The worksheet Dan provided to the BOS, outlines the work done thus far. Dan reviews the Peaks Trail proposal, which was just presented to the WVRA and was favorably received. The Peaks Circuit proposal is a 50+ mile trail of the peaks surrounding Waterville Valley. It encompasses 17 trails, 13 peaks of which 7 are 4,000 footers and 14,500 feet of elevation gain over 7 days of hiking. The Peaks Trail proposal is something that could be branded, and marketed, as being part of the oldest integrated trail network in the country, originally created by Nathaniel Greeley in Waterville Valley in the 1850’s. Dan claimed that this is something that could be marketed by WVRA and the resort to entice hikers of all ages to enjoy the variety of trails, from beginner to advanced, in the trail network. Dan also comments that hiking as an activity is on the rise nationwide, and evidence of this can be seen from overflowing trail head parking areas, both in

WV and further north in Franconia Notch. The White Mountain USFS previously denied requests additional funds to WVAIA for additional trail creation stating that their resources are very limited and are focused on maintaining the existing trails and managing the timber cuts and improvements to campgrounds. Mike Aronson adds that in-town signage to the hiking trails, as recommended in the Pedestrian Village Study, needs improvement and should be included as a part of any plan regarding hiking trails in WV. The unified sign plan, which will integrate with the Town Entrance sign, outlines this concept presently. Dan expresses that a professional trail planner needs to walk the trail section which needs to be cut to connect to the existing trails. The board asked for an estimate of costs in a written proposal. Additional comments by the board included improvement still needed to the in-town trails, as access points to WMNF trails, and signage to/from Town Square area to trail heads by trails and by street.

8. Old Business

- **Town Entrance Project**

Mark updates the board that the vinyl banner depicting the new sign arrived and plans are underway as how to display. It will be difficult to put up because of its size, but Public Works is working on it. The pre-bid conference occurred and bids are due on 7/26. The big issue is with the stone masons as scheduling may be an issue for their availability. Additional stone masons are being contacted for their availability as well. The wetlands permit for the project has been submitted to DES but we have not yet received approval.

- **Corcoran Pond Dam Project**

Mark informs the board that the 90% plan has been submitted to DES and we are waiting for feedback. The wetlands permit approval was received. The bid package is anticipated to go out by mid-August and a contractor selected by mid-September. Concern was expressed by Mark, and the board, if no one was to bid on the project, due to a variety of reasons. Mike asked if there would be a contingency bid packet for the springtime, if there no bids were received this year. The time constraints put upon the town by the State to complete the work by 12/31/19 is troubling and this project was not something that the town wanted to do and instead was given an administrative order by DES for the work to be done to meet their standards. Mark commented it will not be easy to get a contractor to do a split season on the work (fall 2018 and spring 2019). Modifications may be needed to the agreed upon completion date with WVSR before July 4, 2019 if obtaining a contractor is difficult. Mike commented that WV doesn't have the luxury of having many contractors bid for a job of this size, and Mark added that placing time constraints upon the few that may bid only reduces the contractor pool even further.

9. Board Concerns and Directives

None.

10. Correspondence

- **NHDES Drought Update**

The town received notice on the potential for drought in our area. Currently 45% of the state is experiencing moderate drought conditions and the remaining 55% is considered abnormally dry. A very minimal amount of rain occurred in the last few days in WV. Mark commented that we are getting closer to mandatory water restrictions and asked for the board's assistance by word of mouth that if rain is not received soon, restrictions by the board would likely occur.

11. Privilege of Floor II

None.

12. Non-public Session

The board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) along with Town Manager Mark Decoteau and Sharon Charron. The Motion was made by Mike Aronson and seconded by Richard Rita along with a roll call vote: Selectman Aronson – aye, Selectman Turner – aye, Selectmen – aye and the Board went into Non-Public Session at 4:17. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:34pm.

Upon return to the public session a motion was made to seal the minutes by Mike Aronson and seconded by Margaret Turner because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Richard Rita motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:34pm.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Charron
Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant