

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

DATE: August 15, 2018

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat & Ray Kucharski, Chris Bierbrier, Martha Plante, John Recine, Irit Levy, Reggie Breeckner, Mark Decoteau, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.

2. Privilege of Floor I

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of 7/18/18 Regular Meeting, 7/26/18 & 8/9/18 Special Meetings

Rich Rita motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 18, 2018 with changes.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on August 9, 2018 as presented

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The minutes of the 7/26/18 Special Meeting were tabled to the next regular meeting.

4. Financial Report

The board asked about the Capital Outlay line expenses of \$49K. Mark explained that this was a combination of different expenses all showing in the same month which include the leases of the police cruiser and the tractor and their final payments as well as the waterfront improvements to the docks. The board requested that when large capital outlays occur that there are descriptions on the report.

5. Calendar Review

The next regular BOS Meeting is scheduled for 9/5/18 at 3pm.

Primary Election 9/11/18, the board will set a schedule for being at the polling location.

The next regular Planning Board is scheduled for 9/13/18 at 8am.

The Strategic Planning Session date will be held on Tuesday, 9/18/18 in the morning. The time and location are not yet set.

6. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that camp in the 2nd to last week of the season. Playground renovations will begin next week at the school and involves moving some structures and installing a court for basketball and pickle ball use. The project should be done in a week, as school begins on 8/27. The school also has changed their PE schedule to Wednesday & Thursday afternoons, which will eliminate the Rec Dept pickle ball's session those same afternoons. Brooke is expecting that the PB players will not be pleased. She is planning another PB session on Thursday mornings for new players. After school programs begin through the Rec Dept on Sept 24. Shakespeare in the Valley and the Rey Center are both offering one-week programs in the weeks prior to that time. Labor Day weekend activities are planned and the boats will remain open as many days as possible. Other news is that the Fall Foliage Road Race is being planned as well as other fall activities. There is an all-camp BBQ on Friday 8/17 and Talent Show at the Rec Dept and all were invited to attend.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that the fire hydrants in Windsor Hill are under repair and he is waiting on parts to complete. There was a grinder pump failure at the Britton's home and a new pump was installed. The removed pump will be repaired and held aside as a backup. The cause of the failure is unknown at this time.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the National Night Out was a great success with over 300 in attendance from the communities of WV, Thornton and Campton. The stormy weather earlier in the day didn't prevent people from attending. Chris is also working on more leads for a ladder truck because it was learned that the truck in Chicago, which was being considered as an option, had previously been in an accident. Succession planning in Public Safety Department is ongoing as well. The Citizen's Academy is being planned for the fall and expects to offer 3-4 week program.

7. New Business

- **Review and Sign MS434 – Revenue Update**

Mark comments that signatures cannot be added tonight as DRA has not yet reviewed and released it back with their approval. The MS434 is the revenue estimates for the town and is down about \$16K and there is no particular department or line item which holds the majority of these changes. Mark comments that there are also FEMA funds of almost \$11K in additional revenues not represented which can be used for a specific purpose/project or it can put into no-tax revenues. The board decided to wait until tax rate setting time to make that decision. Margaret Turner comments that these funds came to us as a result of the FEMA audit which discovered that all of the federal funds due to the town had not been received.

- **Review and Sign MS1 – Summary of Total Valuation**

Mark comments that signatures cannot be added tonight as DRA has not yet reviewed and released it back with their approval. The MS-1 is the report of the total valuation of the properties in town which is used in the tax rate setting process. The 2018 total is \$330,155,000

which is a \$772K increase over 2017 which is ¼ of a 1% increase from 2017. This increase is due to new construction and building permits.

- **Review and Sign PA16 – App. for Federal & State Forest Reimbursement**

This form is a report for both Federal and State the Forest Service land in town eligible for reimbursement.

8. Old Business

- **Town Entrance Project**

Tree clearing for the sign project is tentatively scheduled to begin no later than Labor Day. Mark adds that he wants the Selectmen to view the site at the end of this meeting. Following the removal of trees by Top Notch, Dana White will follow up with the remaining site work of grubbing, loam and seed. The concrete pad is scheduled for 9/10. Mark informs the board that the Town Core group has recommended that the new sign wording change from “The Town of WV” to “Welcome to WV”, and the Selectmen are in agreement.

- **Corcoran Pond Dam Project**

Mark comments that the 100% plan has been submitted to DES and a decision is expected by Monday 8/20 and will go out to bid the week of 8/27. Bids will be returned and a recommendation back to the board by the last week of September.

- **Discussion of Hiking Trails**

Chris Bierbrier and Martha Plante of the Conservation Commission address the board regarding the conditions of the hiking trails and their idea to bring together the different groups which are involved with trail maintenance to all work together. This committee would review all trails for safety, present condition, maintenance needs and improvements. Each entity (ski area, USFS, town) has different interests in the trails and their uses and there are many easements over private property which leads to confusion when it comes time for trail maintenance work and associated costs. Chris would like these different entities to be better able to communicate regarding the trails in order to eliminate confusion regarding who is responsible for them and to expedite needed work. The Board stated that both the WV Resort and the WV Company have inventories of easements for trails in the valley and some could have language pertaining to ongoing maintenance to keep the easement(s) in effect, but this to be verified by reviewing the easements on the trails. WVAIA does a lot of work to our trails, but their resources are thin both in volunteers and funding. Mark commented that there is a disjointed cooperation presently and there needs to be a more cohesive plan. Rich comments that the recently formed WV Historical Society is a non-profit group, which was formed as a separate organization from the town. He continues on to state that some organizational body overseeing the trails in town would be beneficial. Discussion continued and all were in agreement that the trails are an asset to town that needs to be discussed to get all the different organizations (Town, WV Resort, USFS, WVAIA, etc) working together efficiently. The trail easements over private property on Cascade Ridge Rd. were discussed due to present erosion concerns and who is responsible for the repair work and the costs thereof. It was commented that WV Resort has insurance which covers the easement and thus assumed that they have the easement as well, though this is unconfirmed presently, as the easement and the deed should be reviewed. Mark comments as part of the Cascade Ridge subdivision there were many easements granted across parcels to allow for access

to hiking trails. Margaret Turner comments that Dan Newton is already looking into these costs per her previous discussion with him. Mark asked Martha to bring in the estimated repairs costs that Dan would provide, and Mark will bring it to the Selectmen to discuss covering these costs. Margaret also comments that the larger issue is that there needs to be a point person who communicates these trail concerns. Chris comments WVAIA does not have adequate funding or resources to do the work themselves. Mark then states that the trail system involves commercial entities which have a real impact upon town with respect to businesses and property values. There is a need for the stakeholders of all the WV organizations to come together and form a cohesive plan for the trails and maintenance and/or funding requests. The discussion continued and came to the conclusion that the Town Recreation Department should organize the various stakeholders and schedule a strategic planning meeting to forward comments and concerns of the various groups to the Selectmen. It was also noted that the many organizations, while they all have good intentions, sometimes struggle to find common ground with each other. This plan to form a strategic cohesive group, with representation from all stakeholders, is very important to the current amenities and future development of recreation activities within the valley for both visitors and residents. Details will be forthcoming for a date/time for the first meeting.

9. Board Concerns and Directives

Margaret asks if there was any correspondence if the drought concerns were still in effect. Mark replied that it was his assumption, due to the recent weeks of rain, that the drought concerns are no longer present but there has been no official notification received from DES yet.

10. Correspondence

- **J. Mullen - Resignation from Conservation Commission**

Jean Mullen communicated to the board her intent to step down as a member of the Conservation Commission. A letter will be sent to thanking her for her years of service on the CC. She will continue to serve as an alternate on the CC, as well as her other positions on other town committees.

- **Volunteer to Serve Your Town Form**

This is an updated form which is distributed to new residents regarding volunteer opportunities on town boards and committees.

- **Appointment of Martha Plante to Conservation Commission**

Mike Aronson appoints Martha Plate to serve as a full member of the Conservation Commission. Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Mold Issue Resulting from Burst Pipes on Tee House Lane**

Mark refers to a letter from Water Operator Rob Burhoe regarding a property on Tee House Lane which has pipes burst and as a result now has an extensive mold issue in the house. The water was shut off just after the pipes burst and the home is now a hazard. It is unknown at this time if/when the owner will do repairs. The realty agents listing the home were notified not to enter the home.

- **Ice Arena Concerns**

Mike refers to an email received concerning the hours of operation of the arena and the operators future plans, as hours of operation have been reduced over past years. The email stated that the operator planned to continue their operation of the arena in the future.

Additionally, an article was shown to the board regarding northern NH towns pledging to create “age-friendly” communities by coordinating changes in housing, transportation, health services and employment to enhance healthy living for seniors as well as younger residents.

11. Privilege of Floor II

Pat Kucharski asked the board about the costs of the sign, as she had heard it is costing much more than originally planned. Mike Aronson answers that sign is not costing more, but the road work portion of the project was much higher than planned. As a result the road work will not be done this year and the funds will be set aside. The road work can then be reviewed and decisions made whether or not to modify the plans or provide additional funding to cover the costs. The sign itself is the same sign design as presented with the rock and wood structure.

12. Non-public Session

The board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) along with Town Manager Mark Decoteau, Brooke Wakefield and Sharon Charron. The Motion was made by Richard Rita and seconded by Mike Aronson along with a roll call vote: Selectman Aronson – aye, Selectman Turner – aye, Selectmen Rita – aye and the Board went into Non-Public Session at 4:06. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:22pm.

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 4:23pm.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant