

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

DATE: February 14, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Rob Lowd, Alan Slobodnik, Reggie Breeckner, John Recine, Paul Chamberlain, Mark Decoteau, Judy Rolfe, Brooke Wakefield and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.

2. Privilege of the Floor I

None.

3. Public Hearing – Solid Waste Ordinances #20 & #21

Mike Aronson opens the Public Hearing at 3:03pm. Mark Decoteau explains the 3 changes to Ordinance #20 which include:

1. Adding the term “guest” to those eligible to dispose of waste in Waterville Valley;
2. Adding the definition of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW); and
3. Specifying that only MSW can be deposited into the dumpsters. (No tires, construction debris, furniture, electronics, appliances).

Mike Aronson asked for comments on the adding the above language and definitions. Rob Lowd comments that these definitions should be given to the associations and property managers. Rich Rita adds that the associations need to help inform owners what is and is not allowed. Signage for the dumpsters themselves was recommended. There were no further comments on Ordinance #20. Mark continues on to Ordinance #21 and reviews the enclosure specs and explains that many locations in town are unique and modifications to the specs are sometimes needed to fit a particular location for the best operational procedures. The enforcement portion (fines) was discussed and fairness of the application of fines. The town wants to work with associations and commercial locations to bring all of the enclosures into compliance without having to enact fines, which will be used only as a last resort. Margaret Turner adds that a greater concern is access to the dumpster for servicing of it by the public works employees. The dumpster should be clear of snow, both on and around it, the ground sanded, and no bags of trash outside the dumpster. All of these things make it impossible, or very difficult at least, to service the dumpster properly by public works, if they are not done. Communication with the proper points of contact for the associations is critical to ensuring that new enclosures are built properly and placed in locations that allow for the best access. Discussion followed concerning the amount of excessive trash on holiday weeks, the town's responsibility when access is limited thus preventing servicing, schedule of pickups, and communication to property managers, associations, and guests on what is allowed in dumpsters. The termination of the recycling program also adds more trash into the dumpsters, as well as the large amount of cardboard boxes

which are not flattened. Large items (construction debris, electronics, furniture, boxes) are being placed into association dumpsters and are filled quickly as a result. The town also added 30 yard roll on/off dumpsters at the transfer station during peak times as has been done to help with the volume. It was reiterated that a partnership must exist between the town and the locations where dumpsters are placed. Communication between the associations and the town is critical for successful operation. Concern was expressed by association representatives regarding the enforcement section of the ordinance. After further discussion, a suggestion was agreed upon to change the word “shall” to “may”. The opinion of town counsel will be sought regarding the change of the language and how it affects the intended meaning of the ordinance. In closing the discussion, all parties were in agreement that better communication and directions would help from both perspectives. Mark added that NRRA will be coming to town in the spring to review solid waste operations and provide recommendations regarding options for recycling. The board thanked the public for the comments and the public hearing was closed at 4:15pm.

4. Approval of Minutes of the 1/21/19 Special Meeting and 1/23/19 Regular Meeting.

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on January 21, 2019 as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 23, 2019 as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

5. Financial Update

Mark reviews the financials with the board stating that all departments are within their expected budgets except the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal. This is due to the additional fees due to the rental of the trash truck while our truck is out of service. Mark suggested proposing an amendment at town meeting to the budget. The process of amending the budget was discussed. Mark requested having an exact amount to amend to the budget.

6. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke reports that MA vacation is next week and there are programs planned. There have been requests for additional programs offered during the NH vacation week by WVRA as occupancy rates are up for that week. The resident list was received via the town office and Brooke has determined that a resident Native ID will be offered to all residents, not just the property owners. An article in the WigWag was suggested to make people aware. Mark and Brooke will be presenting at the WVAIA Social on Saturday.

- **Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim Mayhew states that weather is in the form of snow/rain coming in tomorrow and his crew is trying to stay ahead of the narrowing roads. New truck is coming along, but not here yet. Jim was asked if he wanted to add anything regarding waste disposal/dumpsters, which is a hot topic at present time. Jim stated that the garbage servicing is dictated by the volume of the dumpsters, as some customers require more servicing as those dumpsters fill quicker. The access to the

dumpsters, and delays caused by equipment issues, both have impact the servicing as well. Discussion followed concerning the responsibility of the town regarding solid waste disposal. Jim adds that the central location (aka transfer station) is always kept clean as a priority for people when their association dumpsters are full. Under state statute we are responsible to dispose of the waste that is generated in our town, but how we do that is up to the town. The town has chosen to have a central location, and dumpsters placed at association locations, and at commercial locations. It was noted that some people who are not residents, but perhaps work in WV, use the central location to dump their trash, which is not allowed. The use of video cameras and signage, stating that cameras are in use and only for the use of property owners and residents, was discussed to deter illegal dumping.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges was out and Mark reported he has nothing to report at this time. The board asked for feedback on the clinic and calls at the mountain in general and how things were working out.

7. Calendar Review

The next Selectmen meeting is scheduled for 2/27/19.

There was a Planning Board Meeting today and an application for a conditional use permit for a subdivision was sought by Bill Cantlin alongside Golden Heights Road and Valley Road. There were about a dozen people who spoke against the proposal. Rich Rita commented that he felt there will be some opposition against some of the proposed Zoning amendments that are on the warrant due to the proposal. There is a Public Hearing scheduled for 2/18/19 for the Planning Board to answer questions on the Zoning changes. Rich added that the Planning Board has been working with a Professional Planner to clean up the Zoning language over the last year to make it compliant with State law. This will help to explain to voters that the Zoning changes have nothing to do with the application, that many people are against, which was presented today.

8. New Business

- **Discussion of Education Funding Process**

Mark states there are currently as many as 6 bills proposed which will effect the education funding process and how they will impact Waterville Valley by reinstating the donor town process. This would mean that the total amount billed by the town for state education will be turned over to the state, with only a small percentage returning to the town for school operations. Currently the amount collected is estimated at \$600K and the amount returned to the town is estimated at \$100K. This shortfall would create an estimated additional \$1.50 on the tax rate. Mark commented that there are about 35 towns in the state which are affected in this manner and they have banded together to fight these bills. Discussion followed concerning the impact to donor communities and how the funds, once distributed to the larger communities, had no requirement as to how they would be spent, meaning they could be spent elsewhere (vehicles, roads, buildings, etc.).

- **Review Presentations for Rey Center & WVAIA**

The board reviewed and said the presentation looked good to them.

- **Request to Accept Health Trust Wellness Program Funds**

A motion was made by Mike Aronson to accept the \$500 Grant for the Wellness Program from Healthtrust.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Sign Warrant Posting Certification Sheet**

The Board signed the posting certification sheet for the warrant dated as 2/15/19.

9. Old Business

None.

10. Correspondence

- **Kristen Gohr – Request to Forgive Interest and Fees**

This was a request for interest to be waived due to due to a missed payment. The item was tabled for a decision as the amounts were unclear.

- **Email from Rep. Stringham RE: House Bill 700**

Mark reviewed the email from Rep. Stringham regarding the methodology of assessing standards for utility values. The town assessor recommends the state values and believes this legislation, which Rep. Stringham is supporting, will basically make it virtually impossible for towns not to use the state values. His support of the legislation is to eliminate lawsuits and to create consistency across the state. Mark will invite Rep. Stringham to come to a future BOS meeting to discuss the impact and results, and as well report back on the State Education Funding.

11. Privilege of the Floor II

John Recine thanked the board for the support of the bus stop enclosure by town square. He believes it is getting used a lot this winter with the amount of bad weather days. The board in return thanks John for completing the work.

12. Non-public Session

The board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. The Motion was made by Mike Aronson and seconded by Margaret Turner, followed by a roll call vote as follows: Selectman Aronson – aye, Selectman Turner – aye, Selectmen Rita – aye and the Board went into Non-Public Session at 5:12pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 5:43pm.

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.

Rich Rita motions to adjourn the meeting 5:44pm.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant