

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

**DATE:** January 22, 2020

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Recine, Reggie Breeckner, Linda Coleman, Tom Myrick, Mark Dupuis, Mark Decoteau, Nancy Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron

**1. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.**

**2. Privilege of the Floor I.**

Reggie Breeckner stated WV Historical Society is planning to hosting a Victorian Day event this coming summer and was looking for any dates to avoid. The Board suggested that Reggie check with the resort, as well as the Recreation Dept., to find a date that would work best for all.

**3. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of 1/08/2020**

- **1/08/2020 Regular Meeting**

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of 1/08/20 Regular Meeting as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds. Motion was carried by a 2-0 voice vote, with 1 abstention, as M. Aronson was not present at the meeting.

**4. Department Heads Updates**

- **Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim Mayhew reports that 1 more winter storm event occurred. He reported a recent issue with the low-pressure force sewer main on River Rd. Upon further investigation a pipe was discovered to be cracked. The cause of the crack is thought to be from deep frost in 2019. Concern was expressed by the Board that this is new pipe and similar issues have occurred since installation of the system. The Board asked if there is anything the Town needs to do preventively in the form of maintenance to alleviate these situations. Jim will check with other Towns who use this type of system. Margaret commented that there was no disruption of services to property owners. Mike asked about the road-side parking by the Golf Course and commented that cars were parking on both sides of the road instead of just one side. It was a busy weekend, so people likely assumed they could park on both sides. It was suggested that signs be installed, or cones used temporarily, to discourage opposite road-side parking in that area.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the MLK Weekend was busy. The Coffee with a Cop event was well attended. Meetings with the Winter Special Olympics committee have started and that planning is going well. Department equipment and employees are all performing well.

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that MLK Weekend was very busy. Outdoor programs continue and snowshoe hikes are very popular. Brooke noted that weekends programs are attended by mostly guests, and weekday programs by residents.

## **5. Calendar Review**

- Filing Period – January 22-31, 2020
- Audit Field Work – February 3-5, 2020
- School District Budget Public Hearing – February 3, 2020
- Town Budget & Bond Public Hearing – February 5, 2020
- State Primary – February 11, 2020
- Regular Selectmen's Meetings – February 12, 2020
- Regular Planning Board – February 13, 2020.
- School District Bond Hearing – February 20, 2020
- Additional Town Bond Hearing - TBD

## **6. New Business**

### **• Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

Marc Dupuis, GM of the Black Bear Lodge, addressed the Board regarding the need for electric car charging stations in town. He has received complaints from guests about the absence of charging stations. Discussion followed about the need and unfortunately there is not a suitable central town-owned location at this time. Town Square was suggested, but that is privately owned and would need to be the decision of that property owner. Perhaps a private/public cooperative partnership could be arranged in the future if the need is great enough. The expense of installation, as well as the charging unit and electrical costs, all need to be considered. Grant opportunities should be researched through the NH Electric Coop. Mark Decoteau has already inquired with the NH Electric Coop.

### **• Veteran's Tax Credit Application – S. Piekos**

The application was reviewed by the Board and approved.

### **• Review FY2020 Budget Information**

#### **a. Final Budget Hearing Packet**

The final hearing budget was reviewed in conjunction with the Budget Presentation slides.

#### **b. Draft Budget Presentation Slides**

Mark reviews the budget presentation slides with the Board and makes edits as needed. Items reviewed include major budget impacts, use of Fund Balance, Special Warrant articles, Capital Projects, Capital Reserves, Operating Budget, COLA, Health Insurance premiums, departmental staffing, Rey Center additional funding and Bonded warrant articles. The Rey Center will do a short presentation at the Budget Hearing for the additional \$10K funding. The WV Historical Society will also do a small presentation for their funding request. Due to the dollar amount, as well as the extensive detailed information, it was decided to do an additional informational session on the \$1 million Bond article, after the Bond hearing on 2/12/2020. Joe Ducharme (engineer) will be asked to present the reasons and proposed solutions, as well as to answer any questions by the public.

#### **c. Selectmen's Report**

The Board's report for the Town Report was reviewed and edits made to the report.

### **• PAVEX Letter Re: Road Construction Project**

Mike Aronson spoke to the history of the Brox family in Waterville. Mark states Bill Brox has offered to provide the Town with services related to road repairs and repaving for a percentage of the costs. The services include 4 items which are: 1. design work, 2. prepare and administer bid package, 3. provide a recommendation on the bids, 4. oversee the construction management of the project. The percentage was not determined at this time. He is presently working on design of the first project of Valley Road/Tecumseh Road, which was not completed at the time the new town sign was installed on Valley Road. Timing will be tight, but there is the possibility that this could be included in a Bond to go to Town Meeting 2020 for a vote. Discussion followed by the Board and included engineering services and the current RFQ Town-wide engineering proposals. The current RFQ related to a number of different projects in town, not solely road work. Mark explained that the Pavex proposal by Bill Brox would remove the road work portion for the current RFQ, if the Board decided to go with Pavex. Once the Board received the proposal from Pavex, it can be compared against the project bids from last year to determine if the Pavex proposal is worth considering.

## **7. Old Business**

- **Dam Project Update**

Mark states there has not been written response from DES officially, but it has been verbally acknowledged that the Town has fulfilled all requirement set forth by DES relating to the Dam Project and is out of the “penalty” phase. The lights on the Dam are being reviewed to reduce their brightness and be compliant with the Town’s Dark Skies ordinance.

- **Vacant Treasurer Position**

A brief discussion was held regarding potential candidates for the Town Treasurer.

- **Engineer Services RFQ**

The engineering RFQ is still in place and Mark requested guidance on how to proceed with the 4 replies received. The RFQ is just not roads, but takes into account all CIP projects/needs in every town department. Once a firm is selected, then projects can be planned and aligned to allow for the best use of taxpayer’s dollars. Mark will continue to work with Bill Brox on the Pavex proposal and will contact the engineering firms for interviews for the RFQ. The questions to ask the engineering firms still need to be determined at this time.

## **8. Correspondence**

- **County Supplemental Appropriation Notice**

Mark informs the Board of a supplemental County appropriation request in response to Medicaid Funding for behavioral mental health programs. The additional funds will come out of the County’s Fund Balance for FY2020 and will have no impact on the County Tax Rate. It was unknown how this increase will affect the FY2021 County Budget.

- **Recycling Article**

The article describes the issues communities are having with recycling costs doubling in recent months. Jim commented that the North County Council did an on-site assessment of the WV Transfer Station facility and their report will arrive in the next few weeks. Margaret commented that contamination of recyclables in the truck is unavoidable being that WV only has one trash removal truck most people don’t understand the challenges facing the Town. The Town continues to look for alternative solutions for disposal of recyclable items.

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

John Recine expressed concern to the Board about the new sign at the Rt 49/Tripoli Road intersection that stated “Ski Resort” with a left arrow, versus what the sign had said in the past as “Ski Area”. The Board asked if John could place his concerns in letter format, so it can be forwarded to the mountain. John felt it was confusing to direct guests to the ski area as the resort location. He expressed it was his understanding that the “resort” was in town, not located at the ski hill, and that this has an effect on both business as well as confuses guests who are arriving.

Tom Myrick addressed the Board regarding the proposal to expand services of the school, per their proposed budget, and asked how the school board communicates with the Board of Selectmen. The Board stated it receives communication from the School Board in the same way as the general public, via announced meetings and published items. Discussion followed regarding the proposal and Margaret Turner commented, as a citizen, that she encouraged people to attend the February 3<sup>rd</sup> School Budget Hearing to learn more about the proposal before voting takes place upon March 9<sup>th</sup> at the School District Meeting. Mike Aronson also stated, as a citizen, that he is also concerned and wants to see the research and validity of the school proposal. School District information is posted on the school’s website at [www.sau48.org/](http://www.sau48.org/) and is also listed as a link via the Town’s website.

Brooke Wakefield, Recreation Director, adds that if the school expansion of programs passes that the Recreation Department budget would be affected due to space being reallocated and the renovations. In addition to the camp revenue impacted, jobs for the camp counselors would also be impacted.

## **10. Board Concerns and Directives**

None.

## **11. 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 this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include 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, and (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. The Motion was made by Mike Aronson and seconded by Richard Rita 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 4:25pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:42pm.

Upon return to the public session a motion was made to seal the minutes by Margaret Turner and seconded by Mike Aronson 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.

## **13. Adjourn**

Margaret Turner motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:42pm.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant