

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

DATE: June 13, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Aronson, Chairman and Richard Rita.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Margaret Turner, Vice-Chair.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Gross, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, and Kari Miller.

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

2. Privilege of Floor

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of 5/24/18 Special Meeting and 5/30/18 Regular Meeting.

Richard Rita motions to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on May 24th, 2018 as presented.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 30th, 2018 as amended.

Richard Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Report

The financial report was reviewed and the board had no questions on the report.

5. Calendar Review

June BOS regular meeting schedule June 27th, 2018

July BOS meeting (just 1) is on July 18th, 2018.

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

6. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that the new dock will arrive on Friday and will be installed on Monday. Staff orientation will begin on Saturday. Camp registrations are still going strong. The climbing wall has been slow recently. In general this is a slow time of year for indoor recreation programs.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that roadside mowing is ongoing throughout town. There was work performed on the land to thin out tree growth around the Snows Mountain Gazebo.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the inspection on the ladder is complete and there are many repairs needed. One major item is the bearing on the turn table which requires the ladder to come off the truck for repairs and amounts to approximately \$60-80K in costs. There are other items as well and Chris will get together the full lists and estimated costs. All other engines recently went through pump tests and passed.

7. New Business

- **Appoint Paul Saulnier Full Member of Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Rich Rita motions to appoint Paul Saulnier as a full member of the ZBA.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Abatement Recommendations – John Hatfield, CNP**

The abatement recommendations provided by John Hatfield of CNP were reviewed and the board was in agreement. The 4 abatements for 2017 were all approved by the board.

- **Town Summer Event**

Tom Gross updates the board on plans for a summer town BBQ. He and Brooke Wakefield have been working on ideas for the event, which they have named the 1st Annual Grillin' & Chillin' Neighborhood Cookout, making reference to the 50th cookout last summer. The consensus from last summer event was that there should be an annual town sponsored summer event to bring people together. The amount of \$5K was budgeted for the event already. This will subsidize the event and keep the ticket costs in the \$20-25 range or below. The venue would be at the WMAC poolside area. Mike Aronson suggested that a charitable cause be attached to the event, and suggested that the newly formed Historical Society as a possibility. Tom Gross explains that there is a fund, which was found after Tom Corcoran's passing, which was designated for a chapel in town, and this idea has been resurrected to see it be fulfilled. He asks if this could also be considered as the charitable cause. Brooke adds that regardless of the cause, if any, that the event's main purpose is to bring people together. The date selected is August 11th. Pricing was briefly discussed and a mailer will be sent out to property owners.

Tom Gross then asked the board, with regards to lower numbers of property owners in town, about the town aiding in marketing Waterville Valley as a whole. Mike Aronson responds that the town supports events in the community when those opportunities present themselves, but that the town is not responsible for the marketing of Waterville Valley as a destination and that is the job of the WVRA and local businesses. Tom also expressed his intent to propose the creation and development of playing fields in town and will be going to the Planning Board with his plans. Discussion followed regarding the property values in town presently decreasing while in surrounding towns they are increasing, and how this affects a young family's decisions as to where to purchase. The comparable value of a home in one of the surrounding towns versus WV is substantially less and thus more affordable to a young family, as well as the limited amount of land available in town on single family homes or with a condo unit.

- **RSA 72:81 Application Draft**

Mark provides a draft of the application for tax exemption for commercial properties, per the acceptance of RSA 72:81, which was adopted at town meeting. There have not been any inquiries as of yet. Mike asked if there could be certificate of good standing for the business to be attached to the application. This would verify that the applicant is current on state and local taxes and fees.

- **First Draft of Changes to Water & Sewer Regulations**

Mark reviews the regulation changes with the board. The most significant changes pertain to the Water Conservation Penalty Fees, which proposes to establish penalty fees for excessive use based upon the volume in excess over 15K gallons per quarter, based upon the average yearly usage of a family of 4 in New Hampshire of 60K. The penalties would be in increments of 1K /2.5K / 5K over the quarterly allotment of 15K. In last month's (May) routine readings, 17 accounts exceeded 15K gallons. Discussion followed regarding outdoor watering of lawns and gardens. Concern was expressed by the board that this penalty punishes those that want their property to be well-watered and gardens. Jim Mayhew mentioned that this will also alert people that they have toilet valve is leaking, hence the higher than normal usage. The first notice of less than 1K over the 15K amount would be a letter alerting the property owner to the situation, where they then could check for leaks and make the proper repairs, or let us know that they have an irrigation system in use. The intent of these changes is to make people more aware of their water use and not to waste it, as it is an important resource. Most municipal water systems charge customers based upon volume, which cannot be done in WV due to the low number of year round residents which would create very high rates. A point system is used instead of volume in town, with the exception being commercial properties which have a different rate scale. For the time being it was decided that properties that show on the generated leak report will get notified of their excessive use, and more discussions will be held regarding updating the regulations.

8. Old Business

- **Town Entrance Sign Project**

Tom Gross updates the board that specs for the sign had been sent out the top 3 firms in the state and he hopes to have all bids returned in July. Engineering plans for the road work are complete and will be sent out for bid and hopes to have all bids returned by July BOS meeting. He is anticipating that all of the contractors will be selected in August and begin work ASAP. Construction time frame will be dependent upon contractor's schedules. Work will be conducted during the weekdays only.

- **Opportunity Zone Designation**

Mark updates the board on the approval of the Opportunity Zone Designation by the Department of Treasury. This will be reflected upon the TAP Grant application and any other application for assistance by the town.

- **Well #3 Update**

Mark reports that there is a meeting this week with EGGI to inspect the area for the well ground cover and the fence surround the well as well as look towards retiring the monitoring wells.

Their proposed plan will be compared and verified against the present onsite conditions. Mark then informs the board of the problem found at pump house #1. It appears that pump house #1 was struck by lightning and all of the electrical components in the building were fried, including the controls which run well #3. At present time, water cannot be pumped from well #3 pump. A generator is needed to determine whether or not there are damages to the well #3 pump itself. Our insurance carrier, Primex, has been contacted and rough estimates are in the \$60-80K amount per the insurance adjuster who did an onsite inspection today. The connection of well house #1 to well #1 and well #3 were reviewed to clarify for the board. The connection from well #1 to well house #1 has been cut, as this well was removed from service due to being a low producing well after well #4 was brought on line to the water system. Well #1 has now been capped and is no longer connected to the system.

9. Board Concerns and Directives

Mark states the quotes for the drainage repairs for the Town Office building will be available at the next Selectmen's meeting on June 27th.

Mike inquired as to when the cemetery memorial plaques would be installed on the granite markers as he was asked by a resident. Jim stated that there are 2 plaques which are scheduled to be installed next week.

Mark updates the board on the shared Recreation/Public Works vehicle which will be inherited from the Public Safety Dept and the replacement Kubota purchase for Public Safety. Chris Hodges has found a RTV which would fit their needs and has scheduled a demonstration from the dealer. The cost would be about \$18-20K and all public safety equipment on current vehicle could be moved over to new vehicle by WV Staff. Chris explains the Public Safety's needs are different than the needs of Recreation/Public Works. Mark agreed and offered that by utilizing the current Public Safety Kubota for the Parks & Rec, and then purchase a new Kubota for Public Safety, it will actually save the town money as the current Kubota is older and is no longer meeting Public Safety's current needs and should be upgraded. By transferring the vehicle between the departments, only one new vehicle is required. Both Jim and Brooke agreed that this was best for the town. Mark comments that the funding will come from the remaining dollars left from the Public Works generator replacement and pickup truck vehicle purchase, which has about \$22K.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the purchase of a new RTV for Public Safety Department not to exceed \$20K with the Kubota being transferred to the Public Works/Recreation Dept. for their use.

Richard Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

10. Correspondence

- **2018 TAP Grant Application**

The letter of intent has been submitted for the TAP Grant and we are now awaiting a response.

11. Privilege of Floor II

None.

12. Non-public Session

None.

Rich Rita motions to adjourn the meeting at 3:52pm.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant