

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

DATE: **January 23, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Aronson, Chairman, Margaret Turner, Vice-Chair, and Richard Rita (via speakerphone)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Mercier, Mark Decoteau, Jim Mayhew, 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

3. Approval of Minutes of the 1/9/19 Regular Meeting.

Margaret Turner motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 9, 2019 as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

- **FY2019 Budget Summary Review**

Mark reviews the summary indicating the changes made including the Bond Issue warrant article for the trash truck and additional funding for engineering work for the dam project. He informed the board that there was a formula error in non-tax revenues, which has since been corrected. The incorrect formula did not credit the Fund Balance and Capital Reserves revenues properly and thus increased the budget difference from FY18 to FY19. The remaining departmental budgets were also reviewed by the board.

- **FY2019 Revenues for Public Hearing**

The proposed revenues were also reviewed and the changes were noted to the Recreation Services as some line items were moved into the newly created sub-category of the Parks Dept. Camp numbers were also looked at and Brooke noted that adjustments could be made in September if revenues were above or below the proposed numbers.

- **Meeting with Town Auditor**

Paul Mercier, the Town Auditor, addresses the board that he was finishing up his field work and things looked good overall. He asked the board if they had any questions for him. He stated that WV was fortunate to have a treasurer with very good accounting experience and other towns were not as lucky thus making an auditor's job more challenging.

5. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke reports that the MLK Holiday weekend was good, but not super busy. She is in planning phase for February vacation week and noted that she will be offering an archery tag tournament and a canvas paint event. The canvas paint events are family oriented and are sans alcohol, as opposed to other canvas paint events offered in Plymouth which are marketed as a "sip & paint." Pickleball continues to do well and contribute to the sale Native ID's, as does the guided snowshoe hikes. Rich Rita asked about the Native ID program and being offered at no charge to property owners, but not to residents who are renters. Discussion followed concerning the discrepancy between the Native ID program being offered to resident families who are renters if the children attend the WV Elementary School. The renting individual, or family, with no children in the school doesn't receive the same benefit and creates a disadvantage to renting residents without children. Mark offers that if there is a signed lease then the owner essentially gives over the Native ID benefit to the renter. Brooke has concerns with implementing it consistently and the challenge of discerning between residents and non-residents, in addition to property owners and non-property owners. Current resident lists can be forwarded from the town office to the Rec. Dept to assist in verifying resident status.

- **Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim Mayhew states that 1" of rain is expected and will be followed by very cold weather, which means ice will form. Road are in good shape and the rain will shrink snow banks so more room for plowing for the next snow event next week. The sidewalk tractor is waiting on a part to repair the 4-wheel drive so it is unable to be used until repaired. The tractor is 6-7 years old. The sidewalks will have snow/ice on them after the rain and freeze weather, but DPW crew will do their best to get them cleaned up once the sidewalk tractor is repaired. All staff is healthy. Discussion followed concerning plowing and driveway entrances. Jim explained when private plow drivers pile snow on the right side of a driveway entrances, the wing of the Town's plow truck clips that and pushes it back into the entrance of the driveway. Jim has asked private contractors to pile to the left side of driveways to prevent this from happening. Jim mentions that there was a tree down on Bear Brook Lane, which preventing passage of the road for Public Safety and was cleared out by the Public Works crew.

- **Public Safety**

Chief Dave Noyes reports that it has been a busy month, with about 80 calls for assistance, which is normal for this time of year. He has noticed that there has been an increase in older residents' need for assistance over the past year. He believes there is a need for some type of community program within WV, which would provide assistance in simple tasks to older residents, such as mail pick up or just a daily visit to them. Discussion followed among the board and it was assumed there would be community support for this type of program. It was suggested to send the idea around to the Public Safety Academy attendees, Nixle subscribers, and mention the idea at Town Meeting for a start. Additionally, other groups which already gather regularly might be able to discuss the idea too. Hockey tournament attendees have been fairly well behaved. Some inns/lodges still provide in-house security during tournaments for the comfort of all guests. The Ice Arena also reinforces that good behavior standards are expected. All DPS members are healthy and doing well. There is a new part time officer being hired, Logan Tomaseti, who will start in February 2019 and will be attending the part-time academy. He already has his EMT certification. The part-time academy is paid for by the DPS. The attendee is not paid for their time, but receives a stipend after 1 year of employment by WV-DPS.

6. Calendar Review

- **Budget and Bond Public Hearing – February 6, 2019 6pm**
- **Selectmen's Regular Meeting – February 13, 2019 3pm**
- **Planning Board Meeting – February 14, 2019 8am**

7. New Business

- **Recreation Department Proposed Program Fees**

Brooke reviews with the Board the proposed fee schedule for Rec. Dept. and indicates the increases to the Native ID rates, pickleball, climbing wall, Bear factory and summer camp programs. The summer camps have a proposed 2.25% increase to help cover the program costs which are incurred for activities, such as tennis. The daily drop-in rate will increase 8% as well as the 10-pass drop-in package. The daily drop-in rates are a premium service offered to families and not offered in local summer camps other than Waterville Valley. Brooke felt that there should be additional fees for this flexible service. The Summit Camp program has built upon the success of past years and now offers daily trips. There are additional costs to offer these activities which need to be covered by the campers. The afterschool program fees are, if a child is signed up for a full session, is at a rate of \$7.50/day, or part-time of \$9/day, or at a drop-in rate of \$15/day. The board thanked Brooke for her work on the program fees and urged her to keep track of her program costs to maintain her margins.

Mike Aronson motions to accept the new rates for the Recreation Department for 2019.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Review Selectmen's Annual Report Draft**

The draft version will be sent to the board for review.

- **Approve Supplemental Water Bill Warrant**

Mark explained that the supplemental 4th quarter bill is for a home which had water services installed in 2019 and should have received the 4th quarter bill. The meter was installed but it was not added into the billing system prior to meters being read for the 4th quarter.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the 2019 4th Quarter Supplemental Warrant.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

8. Old Business

- **Solid Waste Regulation Changes**

The Solid Waste Regulation changes were approved to move forward to Town Meeting. Mark will confirm with Town Counsel whether or not this needs to be on a paper ballot or voice vote. Jim comments if we should define "solid waste?" This would help to clarify what can, and cannot, be placed into the dumpsters and would be a part of the regulation itself. Discussion followed concerning the best description, size, household garbage, etc. and to state what it doesn't include, such as construction debris, furniture items or appliances. The board tabled the item to get a good description.

- **Review Budget Hearing and Current Town Meeting Warrant Material**

The board reviewed the warrant and the petitioned warrant articles. The deadline for petitioned warrant articles is 2/5/19. Mark added that Brooke will speak at the Budget Hearing on the Recreation Department changes, and Jim will speak about the trash truck, and Chris will speak about the fire truck. Mike asked for a fun "sense of the meeting vote" for town meeting for

something for the backside of the new town sign. Brooke suggested a display board with options that people could vote upon with a sticker. Options were discussed between landscaping and word phrases.

- **Town Entrance Project Update as of 12/31/18**

There is \$125,115 remaining for the paving portion of the project. These funds are basically on hold until there is an agreement reached concerning the right-of-way issue between the town, NH-DOT and the Forest Service.

- **Salt Use Comparison 2016 to 2019**

Mark reviews the comparison of salt use from 2016/17, 2017/18 and so far for 2018/19 and it shows consistency in the amount of tons used each season. 2016/17 was 659 tons, 2017/18 was 623 tons, and so far 365 tons have been used this season. Comparing to other towns is difficult due to the lack of traffic on WV roads as compared to other towns. More traffic helps the salt work into brine which melts the ice/snow surface on the road. Jim explains procedures for determining the minimum amount of salt needed per mile based upon truck speed, temperature, sun/shade on road and other vehicle traffic. The new plow truck is heading to the shop in Concord to have the hydraulics and body installed and is now expected to arrive in WV by mid-late February. Discussion followed regarding the many delays in getting the new plow truck. IN the future, we will likely seek other dealers out of state to purchase a plow truck.

10. Correspondence

- **Certification Letter – Proposed Subdivision**

The letter is to Bill Cantlin and the Waterville Company, Inc. confirming that there is sufficient capacity in the town's water and wastewater system for the development of 25 single family house lots.

- **WVRA Actual Occupancy Summary 2006 to 2018**

The occupancy report was reviewed. The number of sold rooms versus rooms used was questioned, as they may potentially be owner occupied or rented privately by the owner, and not sold via Waterville Valley lodging portals. Additionally, what is the percentage impact of weddings, hockey tournaments, long term rentals, etc. in relation to rooms being sold not for special events? Overall, there seemed to be consistency in the 5 year and 10 year averages as compared last year, 2017-18. Knowing the reason(s) for lodging will help us know where people are coming from and what sales or marketing campaigns are effective.

11. Non-public Session

None.

Rich Rita motions to adjourn the meeting 3.29pm.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant