

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

DATE: July 15, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike Aronson, Margaret Turner and Bill Larsen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Decoteau, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, Sharon Charron, Cynthia Powell and Bryan Sopko.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman Aronson.

2. Privilege of the Floor I

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of 6/10/15, 6/17/15, and 6/24/15

The minutes of 6/10/15, 6/17/15 and 6/24/15 are reviewed.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of regular meetings of the Selectmen from 6/10/15 and 6/24/15, and the Public Hearing on 6/17/15 as presented.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

Mark reports that all departments with revenues and all are doing well. Recreation continues to do well on revenues. No departments are unexpectedly overspent, other than normal payment schedules which show a higher percentage spent of the year. All of the mid-year bonds have been paid as scheduled payments. Mike Aronson asked about the \$500 balance remaining for Patriotic Purposes, and Mark answered that the public work crews did cleanup after the 7/4 fireworks so no outside payments were necessary. A discussion followed about the lack of American flags around the holiday weekend. The equipment to attach the flags needs updating and this will be reviewed and revisited in the future.

5. Department Head Updates

- **Recreation Department**

Brooke reports and reviewed the summer camp attendance numbers. The Wings (4-6yrs) program is doing very well this year, and is the biggest group this year. Boat numbers are up for cash users, and Freedom pass use is down for boats. Overall, boat use is up. There is a variety of adult programs being offered over the summer; SUP yoga, beach yoga, intro to kayaking (no interest so far), trail running race series, archery, fishing clinics, guided hikes and endurofit (strength training classes). The family carnival was well attended on July 4th weekend (236 wristbands sold), and the July 4th parade was successful and well attended. Upcoming events include Ugotta Regatta and a sandcastle competition on the same weekend. Board comments included the desire for an activity at the WV Golf Course, a town scramble format possibly?

Brook will call and speak with the course to discuss options. Also concern was expressed regarding the occupancy rate being down and what was WVRA's (resort association) reaction plans to turn it around. Brooke, as the town representative to WVRA, stated that a few ideas were discussed at a recent meeting concerning focusing on larger groups and less on the number of big events. Plans are still being formulated overall.

- **Public Safety**

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports that the water line in Windsor Hill is in, though some testing is still being done before it is put back online. The test pits on Beanbender Rd are scheduled to be dug on Friday, and their purpose is to 1) determine the depth of the water line and the material type covering it, 2) whether or not the line lays on ledge, and 3) the proximity in relation to the existing sewer line. The board was asked if we had plans for the line, and Jim responds we do not as at the time it was not required. What we do have is the locations of the tie-ins of lines, junctions and shutoff valves. Presently it is required on developments to submit as-built plans for utilities following their installation, and any modifications to original plans are noted.

Bill Larsen questions Jim about recent repairs at the Rubin property's septic. It was determined that the grinder pump had failed, and it was replaced. It is yet undetermined if it is a warranty situation or not. Discussion followed regarding reasons of the pump failure.

Mark provided an update regarding the ongoing backflow meter inspections and testing. The inspections determined that most of the backflow devices are not required to be tested, as there were no cross connections. Recent water meter readings yielded 3 very high readings and these locations & meters are being looked into as to reasons for higher than normal readings. After further inspections 2 appeared to be leaks, and the 3rd is still unknown. It is possibly that the homeowner has an irrigation system unknown to the town, or it is leak.

Bill Larsen asked for an update on the Corcoran's Pond Dam. Mark stated that there was a meeting in June 2015 with the engineer from Wright-Pierce. There was concern to areas suggested for armoring as being beyond what is necessary and that was communicated. Examples were given from recent high water events (Hurricane Irene) as to the overflow path of water actually going towards the Town Square side versus the opposing side. The modeling of the water flow needs to be reviewed and this might drastically reduce the armoring needed on the bank. It is believed, based upon the Irene event, the water would actually flow through Town Square prior to overtopping the dam. The report by the engineer is expected to be done by early September.

A discussion followed regarding a transfer facility designs, and the idea of a tipping platform. Mark reminded the board that this was an option that was discussed previously. The report generated from CMA will be located and brought in for the BOS to revisit the idea.

Mark then mentions that the Thornton and Campton Selectmen's meeting date's for the WV-BOS to ask those boards to consider letting WV residents use the Campton-Thornton transfer

station for recyclables only. The dates are 7/22 for Thornton and 8/24 for Campton, and the BOS members will be attending those sessions.

6. Calendar

No Meeting on July 29th.

Next meetings will be August 5th & August 26th. Website will be updated to reflect schedule changes.

7. New Business

- **2nd Quarter Water and Sewer Warrant 2015**

The 2nd qtr water/sewer warrant for 2015 is reviewed by the BOS.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the 2nd quarter water/sewer warrant for 2015.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mark presented an abatement for the 2nd qtr W/S invoice for the Village Condo's due to a billing error. Their actual usage was billed to them, as opposed to their 3 year average which should have been since it was the lower between the 2 amounts, per previous agreements with commercial accounts.

Mike Aronson motions to abate the 2nd qtr water/sewer bill for Village Condo due to a billing error and to reissue a corrected invoice.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Discussion followed concerning the commercial rates and tier structures and rates/gallon for water usage. Margaret Turner suggested a base rate to cover the system infrastructure, and then a rate per gallon of usage additionally. Currently, the commercial accounts are billed the lesser amount of either their quarterly average for the last 3 years or the actual use, whichever is the lesser amount. Mark will work on a proposal and present to the selectmen.

- **Water Meter Readings**

- **Review Tecumseh Road Sidewalk**

Mark reports that there was a meeting with the Village Condo Board of Directors and town personnel. They are overall receptive to the idea, but expressed concerns regarding 1) drainage, 2) indemnification, 3) the trees, and 4) the corner near the former Stone Property Mgt property. Mark asks for permission to write a RFP for engineering work needed to construct the sidewalk. He also reminds the board that there are funds available in the Tecumseh Road sidewalk account for this cost. The VC Board was also concerned about the removal of trees and requested some sort of privacy hedges to replace the trees. Overall the VC board was supportive of the sidewalk creation. Discussion amongst the Selectmen followed concerning the need to educate bicyclists and drivers on the proper etiquette in sharing the roadways.

Bill Larsen motions to allow for the creation of a Request for Proposal for an engineering firm to do the design work for the Tecumseh Road sidewalk and to use the funds in the account to pay the firm once chosen.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.
Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

At the BOS meeting on 8/26/15 the responses to the RFP will be reviewed.

- **Sign Permit Request – Sport Thoma**

Bill Larsen motions to approve sign permit for Sport Thoma tent sale in October.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The recent zoning changes to signage were mentioned and this will be reviewed in conjunction with the sign permit request to ensure compliance.

Additional discussion followed concerning signs for dog waste containers and baggies. The locations of containers were decided to be at the entrances area of town square, and a 2nd container near the bike shop area.

The advisory committee for reviewing the dog ordinance has not had any responses. An additional request for volunteers will be posted upon the website.

8. Old Business

- **Water/Sewer Line Repairs**

Mark informs the board of the approval from Rural Development to use the additional grant funds to make repairs to the sewer line in River/W. Branch Roads. He outlines the process for sealed bids as required by RDA. The work planned includes the insulation of the manholes & covers, addition of a manhole, and new valves at every manhole.

The water line/well project was granted the extension from NH-DES for 1 year on the well permit, and we are still waiting for the approval from Rural Development on the grant money. It is expected that the response will be soon.

- **Solid Waste/Recycling Discussion**

There are no major changes. Recycling numbers are down. Overall, recycling is costing more than expected due to the small percentage of solid waste being recycled. Overall the trips made to unload recyclables are very inefficient because the loads are very small. Once recycling dumpsters are loaded into the truck, they must be dumped prior to trash dumpsters being emptied, hence the light loads. The additional trips cost both time and dollars. Discussion followed concerning the reasons recycling is down, and strategies to reduce trips to make them more efficient. Freezing is a big issue in the winter, regardless of recycling items being in the truck or stored in dumpsters. Emotionally, recycling makes people feel good and it would be hard to dissolve the program at this time as people would be upset.

- **Tractor Replacement/Repair**

The tractor accident, as of the meeting date, has not had a determination of its cause. There will be a report completed by the next BOS meeting date from the safety committee. Currently the employee is recovering. The cost of repairs of the tractor is \$4,500 - \$5,000. The mower deck

cannot be repaired. The BOS expressed reluctance to agree to repairs, or decide to replace the tractor, without knowing the cause of the accident. Due to the repair estimates, and the age of the tractor, replacement versus repairing was seen as the better option. The discussion is tabled until the Safety Committee Report is received.

9. Correspondence

None.

10. Privilege of Floor II

11. Board Concerns and Directives

Bill Larsen expressed concerned regarding town communications, and would like to see more activity posted through social media. Mark states that the town has 3 facebook pages; Town of WV, Recreation Dept., and Public Safety Dept. and posts are made regularly to all the accounts. The Recreation Department has an extensive email list disbursing information on a regular basis. Additionally, the Public Safety Department does Nixle messages concerning public safety, weather, and road alerts. It was suggested that a counter is placed upon the website to track the number of hits to the website, as well as a survey to each customer following an on-line transaction. These suggestions will be investigated.

12. Non-Public Session

The 2 BOS members present, Mike and Bill, along with Mark & Sharon, go into non-public session at 4:36pm

13. Adjournment

Bill Larsen motions to adjourn the meeting.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 4:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant