

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

DATE: August 10, 2016

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Reggie Breeckner, Tom Myrick, Barry Fish, Bill Cantlin, Mark Decoteau, Dave Noyes and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Privilege of Floor 1
None.

3. Approval of Minutes 7/20/2016 Special Meeting & 7/27/16 Regular Meeting

Bill Larsen motions to approve the minutes of the Special meeting of the Selectmen of 7/20/16 as amended.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Selectmen of 7/27/16 as amended.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

Mark reports that all departments are doing well at this time. The board had no questions regarding the presented financial report.

5. Department Heads Updates

• **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that the Ugotta Regatta was great and added that the boat building workshop, as well as the bear-a-build activity, were both well attended. Mad River Running Club is continuing to gain momentum and had their 3rd event of the summer. The summer camp numbers continue to be high again this week, but she does expect a slight drop next week. The final camp week follows and is the trip and travel week. Labor Day Weekend events are being coordinated and include an ice cream social and a dodge ball tournament. The Rec Dept will be having limited hours following completion of summer camps and will begin prepping for fall events after reopening. Mark Invernezzi will be sponsoring the Fall Foliage Road Race again this year. Brooke requested that Bill Larsen sign the school building agreement, as he was absent when it was presented. Brooke updates the BOS on boat rentals revenues through the resort Freedom passes, which was less than expected in July. Brooke stated she hadn't yet felt

the impact of a slower summer in other programs, but the boat usage numbers definitely do show the decrease of activity in WV. Discussion followed regarding the lower amount of visitors, the Resort Association and the occupancy rate reports. It was mentioned that the Canadian hockey teams were not here this summer and this is being felt for businesses and lodges in town. The camp numbers being high will help to offset these lower than expected revenues for boats. Mark commented that overall revenues for the Rec Dept are still up about \$10K, and budget revenue numbers will be adjusted to reflect the increase. Concern was expressed for the lower occupancy rates, which still do include group functions such as weddings. Brooke commented that there are more beach rentals for September and these are primarily wedding groups.

Brooke stated that the Native ID program continues to go well, however she is finding difficulty when processing renewals in the Rec Desk software program. She suggests re-structuring the rates to be \$25/adult and \$20/child as opposed to a family membership of \$75. Discussion followed regarding software modifications as opposed to changing the rates and following discussion it thought best for rates to remain unchanged and to speak with the software provider regarding solutions.

Brooke comments that staffing this summer was not without some challenges, but overall went well. She was asked about the overall success of the summer camp and what the reasons are for its success this summer. She stated that the camp has traditionally had a strong history. Additionally, she believes that the weekly rate structure and early registration discounts encouraged families to commit to the camp, as opposed to waiting to the actual camp day and pay the “drop-in” rates as in years past. She does plan to review the attendance from area towns (non-WV participants) after summer camp ends. It is believed that many local, as well as visiting families are using the summer camp program in place of daycare.

- **Public Safety**

Chief Chris Hodges reports that the new utility truck is here and will be lettered/decaled similar to the older truck. The new cruiser is in production and is expected to be here by Friday. Overall the dealer for the cruiser has been a challenge to work with, and multiple delays have been encountered. Chris reports that “Coffee with a Cop” last Friday was a success and it was in a very visible location in Town Square. The Public Safety Academy will begin on September 14th and it will be 5 weeks long. The topics for each week are being coordinated and include a speaker who climbed Mt. Everest, a blood drive, and other popular topics. Chief Hodges stated that they have also noticed a decrease in activity in town this summer while on their patrols, though they have had sporadically busier days.

Bill Larsen asks about the daily guest/skier visits at the mountain via the Forest Service and who has these numbers and if they are public information. Mark will look into this further to get this information.

- **Public Works**

Mark reports on behalf of Jim Mayhew, who is absent. Waste disposal was discussed regarding the monthly reports on recycling and solid waste numbers. In 2016 through the end of June our percentage of waste recycling is at 19.58% of the total amount of municipal solid waste. Operationally the cost saving are very minimal but the recycling program is not costing the town

additional money at this time as it is basically breaking even. Recycling rates has been very low and discussion followed regarding continuation of the program while rates are low. Mark commented that since it is not costing the town money at this time, and we've already invested in the recycling dumpsters, to continue with the program as it now exists. Discussion followed amongst the Selectmen regarding the wear and tear on the truck for recycling trips, and as well as what Casella is doing with the recyclables once they are dropped. Are they combining with regular waste or are they being kept separated? The answer will be found out. That answer, along with a fuller explanation of the recycling costs, should be communicated to the taxpayers.

6. Calendar Review

The next regular Selectmen's meeting is Wed., 8/24/16 at 3pm. Margaret will participate by phone.

7. New Business

- **Letter of Support for Transportation Alternatives Program Grant**

Mark informs the BOS regarding the need for letters of support from businesses in WV for the TAP Grant. Discussion followed regarding the probability of being approved, and Mark commented that the SE Group representative, Mark Kane, believed the town has a very good chance because the Pedestrian Village Study has already outlined the need for the improvements and also has the capacity to be a phased project. Mark reviews some of the particular requirements of the TAP Grant itself which included existing right's-of-way.

- **Review and Sign Tax Map Maintenance Proposal**

Mark presented to the BOS the renewal contract for the town's tax maps to review and sign. The cost is \$1,750 and is the budgeted amount. The board signs the proposal as presented.

8. Old Business

- **Town Road Repairs Work Plan**

Mark presents for Jim a list of road work needs throughout town. The list is prioritized in terms of need and is reviewed by the Selectmen. Most of the work can be done using town owned equipment and with town employees. The Selectmen requested that the list be posted upon the website for informational purposes. The Board thanked Jim for assembling the list.

- **Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Update**

Mark reports that the WMAC board has voted to decline donating the land to the town between the school and the athletic club thus eliminating the grant need. Other options, which included purchasing a portion of the land, were discussed briefly. Mark will contact NH OEP to withdraw the grant application.

- **Water & Sewer Project Update**

Mark informs the BOS that a meeting with the contractor (ICC) will be taking place next week to have the contract and project documents signed. ICC is already going forward and ordering supplies.

- **Sign Permit – Green Peak Condominium Phase 2 by Waterville Company Inc.**

Mike Aronson recuses himself from the discussion. Bill Larsen reviews the sign regulations and the application for a sign permit from Waterville Company, Inc. and states from the sign regulations that once an occupancy permit for a unit within a new development has been issued, the developer's sign must be removed. Further questions arise regarding the previous Planning Board approval being for a phased development project or an individual project. The sign regulation language can be amended by the Planning Board if they choose to propose changes, but at present time these are the current regulations. If the PB's proposed changes occur after October, they can be enforced upon any application presented thereafter they proposal before the next Town Meeting.

Bill Larsen proposes that the sign application request be denied at this time. Margaret Turner stated that she felt, after discussion of the language of the sign ordinance, that 1) the 2nd phase of the development must be approved first or, 2) that clarification of the Planning Board's prior decision of approval was for a phased development, prior to placing a sign on the parcel in question. Further discussion follows concerning approval of the application contingent upon the Planning Board either proposing language changes or clarification of PB's prior approval of the development. Regardless of what the Planning Board's decision is, the Selectmen have additional questions regarding sign regulations and the issuance of the 1st occupancy permit that are presently unanswered. At this time the Board chooses to table this item.

9. Correspondence

Mark makes the board aware of correspondence from DES regarding voluntary reductions for water use due to drought conditions. While the hardest hit counties at this time are south of WV, it was thought that being conservative in water use was not a bad practice to request of homeowners. Examples given from DES include limited outside water of lawns and washing cars. Mark has had discussions with WV Water Operator, Rob Burhoe, and at this time we are about 3.5" behind in rainfall averages this year (omitting winter rainfall when the ground was frozen). The usage from the water meters was also suggested to be reviewed to detect any extreme water system users that could be alerted to reduce their usage amounts. Discussion regarding the golf course water use although the golf course has their own wells and are not operating their irrigation from town water. Monitoring of the aquifer was also questioned and was believed it should be measured periodically. The BOS was in agreement to communicate to property owners that voluntary water conservation recommendations be considered in their day to day activities. Furthermore, to respond to DES that we will begin voluntary water conservation efforts as well as aquifer monitoring in the future.

10. Privilege of Floor II

None.

11. Board Concerns and Directives

Mike Aronson asked for an update from the attorney's regarding the Corcoran's Pond Dam. Mark has supplied the attorney (Hilliard) with information as he needed and are awaiting his reply and recommendations.

Margaret asked about the Cascade Trail work and if any contact was made with Dan Newton regarding trail work. Mark had spoken with him and is waiting for Dan to get back to him regarding the costs and timing of the repairs.

12. Non-public Session

None.

Mike Aronson motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:15pm.

Bill Larsen: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant