

**WATERVILLE VALLEY, NH  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Town Offices Lower Meeting Room**

**DATE:** January 28, 2015

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Larsen, Margaret Turner, and Mike Aronson (w/Mike arriving at 3:25pm).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mark Decoteau, Jim Mayhew, Dave Noyes, Brooke Wakefield, Reggie Breeckner, John Palmieri, Wendi Rathgeber, Sharon Charron.

**1. The public meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.**

**2. Privilege of the Floor I**

John Palmieri, representing Windsor Hill Association, addresses the Board with concerns regarding breaks in the Town's water lines in Windsor Hill development and the association's plans for paving work. His concern is in spending association funds for paving, and having the pavement dug up to repair water line breaks. Jim Mayhew comments that issues have arisen due to the waterline resting upon ledge in some places. Discussion followed regarding potential repairs, the location of the area in question and repairs in past years to patch breaks as they occurred, the age of the existing water line, and potential costs of replacing the section in question. It was believed that in combining the paving with the water line repairs, there is a possibility of potential savings for both the association and the town. The funds that are available in the water system repair account were discussed also. It was suggested to increase the proposed warrant article for road projects by \$50K and use fund balance for the remaining costs. Prioritizing the road repairs, dependent upon the project costs and funding available in the repair account and through warrant articles, will be needed.

Ray Kucharski addresses the BOS and asks if funds were being proposed in the budget for the coming year for a monument at the cemetery to list names of deceased whose ashes were spread. This would assist in increasing the capacity of the cemetery without increasing its size. Mark Decoteau answers, that yes, \$5K had been included for a memorial stone for ashes spread.

Mark Decoteau comments that the meeting is not being streamed live today due as Tom Quackenbush is not present, and we've been unable to connect the computer properly.

**3. Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2015**

Bill Larsen motions to approve the minutes of 1/14/15 as presented.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**4. Financial Update**

Mark Decoteau presents the current financials, and all departments are on budget. At this early point of the year, we are currently at 7.6% through the year and any expenses in excess of this percentage are due to payment schedules (insurance for example).

## **5. Department Head Updates**

- **Recreation Department**

Brooke comments that she and the staff are busy preparing for the February vacation weeks. She is continuing to gather information on programming interests from visitors. She has also been reviewing fee schedules, which will be reviewed later in the meeting.

- **Public Safety**

David Noyes reports that the ambulance did arrive, but will be returned for servicing due to indicator lights that came on during its transport, and will be covered under warranty. Dave has been working on the changes to the dog ordinance, as requested at the last BOS meeting. The 25+ people language is unenforceable in his opinion. He made suggestions which would indicate locations and/or times of the day and/or events, in place of the 25+ people language. The intention is to change behavior to make people more aware and attentive to their dog, and it how their dog affects other people. Discussion followed as how to communicate to people to be more aware of their dog in their surroundings. Bill Larsen suggested that a preamble, written by the Selectmen, be included to inform people of the intention of the ordinance as a whole.

Other comments from the BOS regarding public safety included vehicles going to/from at higher rates of speed, and requested a higher police presence to deter the behavior. Additionally, the Pedestrian Village Study drop box link will be sent out to all department heads and to the Selectmen. “Stay off the Ice” signage is in place at Corcoran’s Pond.

- **Public Works**

Jim Mayhew reports all is good. Currently waiting upon the next snow events predicted to arrive on Friday and Sunday. Mark comments that automatic switch for the transfer mechanism for the generator at the WWTP and would like to add the amount of \$3,500 to the operating costs of the WWTP for the proposed budget. Mike Aronson asked about the xc groomer and drainage issues along Boulder Path Rd. Jim will speak with the mountain.

## **6. Calendar**

2/4/15, Wed. at 6pm is the Town Budget Hearing in Rec Dept multipurpose room.

2/9/15, Mon. at 6:15pm is the School District Budget Hearing in Rec Dept multipurpose room.

3/10/15, Tues. Town Meeting Day. Voting is from 11am-3pm, and Deliberative session at 3pm.

## **7. New Business**

- **Review and Approve Fee Schedules**

- **Recreation Department**

Brooke presents proposed fee changes which would break down costs into categories of Freedom Pass Guest, Guest, Recreation Member (includes residents, property owners, recreation pass member, and employee). The proposed recreation member would be anyone from out of town who want to purchase a member pass, and this would then allow the same rates as a resident or property owner. The definition of a guest was also discussed, as was a family pass. A guest is an immediate family member, but it doesn’t include a resident/homeowners friends or extended family. The afterschool program rates were also discussed, and while the drop in rate is going up,

there are packaged rates for multiple days which are less than the current rates. Prior to putting these rates into effect a public hearing is necessary. Brooke would like to use this new rate structure for upcoming February vacation week.

Bill Larsen motions to move the Recreation Fee Schedule forward to a public hearing on 2/11/15.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

- **Water/Sewer Department**

A discussion on the sewer connection was held, and whether or not this should be shared by all residents, regardless if they are connected to town sewer or not. Is this fair? Most or nearly all of the sewer costs are in the infrastructure of the system as a whole, not in the operation. Also discussed was the commercial rate for a single user for sewer usage, at \$9,450, and how long has that rate been in place. This rate is for the ski resort connection.

- **Public Works**

The recycling and solid waste fees for the transfer station were reviewed. Some items are able to be sold for scrap metal, so those fees are lower. Other items on the list reviewed included mattresses, furniture, TV's, and white goods. Overall the honor system for collecting fees for items has not worked, since there are many times there are items disposed of and no money in the collection box. Discussion followed with potential solutions; gating the area? Issuing stickers? Surveillance cameras? Open/close hours?

- **Town Administrative Fees**

These fees include Building Permits, Town Regulations (Zoning, Subdivision Regulations, Town Ordinances, and Master Plan) Public Safety (police reports, special detail), Town Clerk reports (resident's lists, homeowner lists, vital records, dog licenses). Some documents are available on the website and can be printed at no cost. If an individual comes to the Town Offices and asks for a copy on a document which is on the website, then fees will be assessed for the service. The fees were reviewed and adjustments made as needed, in addition to including the cemetery fees on the schedule as they currently are not listed in the document.

Bill Larsen motions to move the Administrative Fee Schedule to a public hearing on 2/11/15.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

- **Review 2015 Town Meeting Warrant 1<sup>st</sup> Draft**

The warrant for Town Meeting was reviewed by the Board and their recommendations to each warrant article was noted for the warrant final draft.

- **Review and Approve Slides for Budget Public Hearing**

The slides for the budget hearing were also reviewed and approved. The budget hearing is scheduled for 2/4/15 at 6pm at the Rec Dept multipurpose room.

## **8. Old Business**

- **Water/Sewer Abatements and Supplemental Bill, 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr, 2014**

The BOS review the list of abatements and supplemental bill for the 4<sup>th</sup> qtr water & sewer bills. The meter reader we have on loan presently is not working properly to get the readings, and so

Mark explained that the average usage for the past 2 years of the same quarter will be used in place of the actual readings. The new equipment is due to arrive next week and then training on the equipment will be done in early March.

Bill Larsen motions to abate the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2014 water/sewer invoices as listed in the amount of \$8,984.25 due to inconsistencies in the meter reading equipment.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Bill Larsen motions to approve the supplemental 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2014 water/sewer warrant as listed in the amount of \$14,914.85.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

## **9. Correspondence**

- **Coalition Communities Memo on CACR 3**

The BOS reviewed correspondence from the Coalition Communities Group asking for support from donor towns on the proposed constitutional amendment for educational funding. Discussion followed and it was thought best to present the question at the public budget hearing for feedback. No position is taken at this time.

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

Mark reviewed an item needing to be added the WWTP budget for the hearing which is \$3,500 for a new switch for the generator at the WWTP for automatic power transfer to generator during power outages.

Mark also informs the BOS that DES has changed some water testing reporting requirements for certain items. This may involve additional noticing to residents when these particular items are elevated in the water tests.

## **11. Board Concerns & Directive**

None.

## **12. Non-Public Session**

The BOS members and Mark Decoteau go into a non-public session to discuss a personnel matter at 5:17pm

The BOS members and Mark come out of non-public at 5:30pm

Bill Larsen motions to adjourn the meeting.

Mike Aronson: 2nds.

The meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 5:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Charron  
Town Clerk Assistant  
Town of Waterville Valley