

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

DATE: March 20, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.

2. Privilege of the Floor I

3. Approval of Minutes

A. 2/6/19 Budget & Bond Hearing

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of 2/6/19 as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

B. 2/7/19 Special Selectmen's Meeting

Rich Rita motions to approve the minutes of 2/7/19 as amended.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

C. 3/12/19 Regular Selectmen's Meeting

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of 3/12/19 as amended.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Financial Update

Mark Decoteau reports that we are at 23.1% through the year with 2 departments, Highway and Solid Waste, slightly overspent for their budgets. These are both being tracked and we will be taking steps to keep them from getting any further overspent. Discussion followed concerning the absence of the amendment to the Budget at Town Meeting for the Solid Waste Department. Mark explained that after review of expenses from prior years, it was unnecessary. Mike Aronson asked if the sale proceeds from the old truck could be split between paying down the new truck and the unanticipated expenses from the trash truck rental. Mark will ask DRA if this is allowed.

5. Department Heads Updates

• Recreation

Brooke is absent at a conference. Mark reports that interviews begin this week for the open position and 5 people were selected to interview from the applications submitted. Mark then adds

that the Administrative position at the Town Office has also received applications and 6 have been selected to interview.

- **Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim is absent and Mark reports that both plow trucks are now on site. He jokingly adds that we can expect good weather for the rest of the season.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the National Freestyle Championships events were uneventful for the department. The National Alpine Championships events begin this weekend and he is unsure of needs for additional staffing, since the event is new for the ski area. There have been ambulance calls for some serious injuries recently; such as leg & hip fractures. Hockey is done for the year. Mike questioned if there was any increase in calls regarding behavior in the lodges. Chris reports that the hockey attendance numbers were up 25-30%. He has not seen an increase in calls as a result. A few years ago, the ice arena addressed behavior standards with the teams/coaches/parents and this does help create a better atmosphere for all. The Mahindra 4 wheeler was recently used in a rescue for a trail rescue. The bridge work on route 49 looks to be nearing completion and the state road crew is starting to demobilize the site. The work being done was resurfacing of the inside of the box culvert.

6. Calendar Review

The next regular meeting is on 4/17/19, and Rich will call into the meeting.

The next Planning Board Meeting is 4/11/19.

A date needs to be set for review of the Solid Waste Ordinances with the condo associations. The Board was asked to check schedules and email Mark with date suggestions.

7. New Business

- **Town Office Schedule for April and May**

Mark informs that the new AA position will be hired after 4/14/19. The office schedule will be adjusted on Tuesdays and Thursdays for April and May and will be closed starting at 1pm. The office will be open from 8am to 1pm those days, and the regular office hours of 8am-4pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday through Memorial Day Weekend. This will allow time for new staff training, billing for water/sewer and property taxes, new software implantation and regular daily business as well.

- **Work Plan for 2019**

The objectives and goals for 2019 are distributed to the board. The board will review and make edits as needed through the year. One of the items was painting a phrase on the back of the new sign. *"Thank you for visiting Waterville Valley...in proud partnership with the White Mountain National Forest"* was suggested. Mark will get in touch with Brooke Brown, of the Forest Service to get the proper approvals. It will be professionally painted, once the phrase is selected and the approval is granted.

- **Grant Opportunity – Northern Border Regional Commission**

Mark informs the board of intentions to pursue grant opportunities for the trails project. This grant was pursued years ago but the town did not meet the qualifications to submit an application. Now that WV is classified as an economic revitalization zone, Mark believes that we can be more competitive for these grants. The board was supportive of pursuing this, as well as other funding sources.

8. Old Business

- **Well #3 Engineering**

Mark informs the board there is a meeting on 3/27/19 at 8:30am to review the status of the project. The start-up date and the options for design work for the connection of well #2 and #3 to the new treatment building will be discussed.

- **Dam project Update**

Mark states that April 8th is the new start date. Strategies to accelerate the melting of the snow/ice/frost have been discussed. Due to the inclement weather forecast, another delay is expected. Mark adds that the end date of June 14th has not changed and the contractor is aware. The area will be checked regularly for improvement to begin mobilization of equipment so to resume work. The Fishing Derby date on Memorial Day Weekend might be threatened and discussion followed with different options that might be considered if needed.

- **Vehicle Purchase/Lease Arrangements**

Mark confirmed that the chassis delivery of the trash truck will be on 4/26, and will then take 60 days (+/-) to complete to body, with delivery expected in town by the start of July. The backhoe is on order, as well as the Recreation Bus and both vehicles were financed within the approved budgeted amounts. The financing for the Ladder truck will look to close at the end of the 1 year lease in September, 2019.

9. Correspondence

- **Coalition Communities Update**

Mark informs the board that WV is used as an example in the lawsuit. The legislature has now paused with passing anything changing the education funding and is waiting for a court decision on the suit. The greatest concern now is whether or not the town will be required to pay out in advance of the decision, which would result in affecting the 2019 tax rate.

- **Resignation Letter – C. Saenger**

An email was received from Cheryl Saenger in which she resigned as a Trustee of the Trust Fund. She thanked the board for the opportunity to have served on the board for many years. The board in return thanked Cheryl for her service to the town.

- **Water Testing Results**

The bacteria water testing results were performed and passed without any issues.

- **North Country Council**

The NCC wants to come and talk to the board about the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan and community needs and opportunities. The BOS meeting on May 8th is suggested as a date.

10. Board Concerns and Directives

None.

11. Privilege of the Floor II

Chris Hodges states that Hazard Mitigation Plan is being updated and that begins on 4/3/19. A board member might be needed to attend a planning session. The plan must be updated every 5 years. Mark adds that the secondary egress from town, via Tripoli Road, is something to bring up to both the NCC Transportation Planning and the Hazard Mitigation Planning.

12. Non-public Session

The board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the

public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. The Motion was made by Mike Aronson and seconded by Rich Rita, followed by a roll call vote as follows: Selectman Aronson – aye, Selectman Turner – aye, Selectmen Rita – aye and the Board went into Non-Public Session at 3:48pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:28pm.

Upon return to the public session a motion was made to seal the minutes by Mike Aronson and seconded by Margaret Turner because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

13. Adjourn

Mike Aronson motions to adjourn the meeting 4:28pm.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Charron
Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant