

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

**DATE:** September 11, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Aronson, Chairman, Margaret Turner, Vice-Chair and Richard Rita.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Reggie Breeckner, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, 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**

Joan Sweeney addresses the board concerning the potential termination of the afterschool program (ASP). M. Aronson replied that at this time the program will be continued through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> term, the Christmas break, without any changes. The Board has requested that Recreation Director, B. Wakefield, provide the Board with participant numbers needed to make the program feasible and to inquire with the school if they would be willing to help with the program. She is also gathering information from surrounding towns on their ASP's costs, participant numbers and who operates the programs. J. Sweeney expressed concern regarding 3 full time employees at the Rec Dept, the current search for a part-time employee, the number of program hours being offered, and how it appears to be unbalanced. She expressed that the ASP is a vital program and every effort needs to be made to continue to offer it since it benefits residents of WV. Brooke explained, using a recent week as an example for a graph, the activities/events and staff time required. Brooke stated that a weekly snapshot of programs offered, as compared to employee hours, can appear unbalanced a times but there are many special programs/events that require the full time staff's time for planning. M. Decoteau adds that the advertised part time position is not a new position, but is to replace an employee who had left, and the difficulty being experienced in filling the position. Joan added that the ASP is the only program exclusive to WV residents while all other programs are geared towards guests and residents alike. Brooke stated the she doesn't want to cut the program but it needs to be utilized by residents and she is trying to determine what number of participants is needed to operate the program. Mark adds that this will be brought into consideration as part of the budget discussions for 2020. Rob Diehm, a PTO member ASP parent, speaks to the importance of the program for working parents and communication to parents about changes with the program. The fact that parents haven't committed to the program only adds to the difficulty staffing the program by Brooke. The program rates are discounted for those who register in advance versus a daily drop-in rate. Mark concludes that this topic is an ongoing discussion. R. Diehm expressed concern that the parents who use the program are unable to make the Selectmen's 3pm meetings to participate in discussions.

### **3. Approval of Minutes 8/14/19 Regular Meeting**

The approval of the minutes will be tabled to the 9/24/19 meeting.

### **4. Financial Update**

The financial reports were reviewed by the Board and there were no questions. M. Decoteau noted that the updated revenues are now included in the financial report. He also noted that the tracking for the investment income dropped from the report, but this will be corrected and will result in added revenue.

### **5. Calendar Review**

- The next Regular Selectmen's Meeting 9/25/19 at 3pm.
- The next Regular Planning Board Meeting is 9/12/19 at 8am.
- Joint Workshop w/ Planning Board Meeting is 9/17/19 at 8am.

### **6. Department Heads Updates**

#### **• Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield reports that the after school program started this past Monday and is going well. The overnight AMC Hut trip for adults, accompanied by Erick Amero, was a success. The Fall Foliage Footrace planning is underway and there are 3 major sponsors of the event; WV Ski Area, Speare Hospital and Roper Realty. Volunteers are also needed to assist with the event. The recipient beneficiary for the event will be the Doug Dicenzo Camp Fund and based upon the number of runners in past years, the donation amount is estimated at \$800. Hiking programs are getting more participation from outside groups and this is great for the programs. The first hiking patch, the 125 Red Liner, was awarded recently to Jim St. Cyr. Brooke added that she accompanied film personnel from the PBS program "*Windows into the Wild*" on a hike last week and this will be aired on PBS in the future and the date will be announced. Summer Camp numbers were reviewed and were down 100 camper days from 2018 (with the same number of weeks). The total for 2019 summer was 1,951 and tracks consistently with the years of 2015-16-17. It is possible that the 2020 summer may have an extra week of camp, depending upon school schedules. The boat revenues are expected to be down by \$10K, but this was included as part of the revenue adjustments already made, and the adjusted number is projected to be met. It was noted that weather will be a big factor for the upcoming weekend revenues for boats.

#### **• Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim Mayhew reports that the transfer station has been cleaned out and he is preparing for boat storage. Items hauled away include propane tanks, appliances, tires and electronics. Winter snow removal equipment is being prepared for use. One plow was rebuilt recently and the other is brand new. The new garbage truck is working well and deposited its largest load of 15.5 tons recently in Bethlehem. The High Country dumpster situation is still ongoing and unresolved. The town has provided guidance to the High Country HOA for solutions but hasn't yet heard back about a decision for their plans for a final solution.

#### **• Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reports that the Sunshine Conference is this weekend at the Ice Arena. This is the women's version of the Warrior Conference for men and it is estimated that 500 people will attend. The Public Safety Academy begins on Tuesday, 9/24/19, and runs for 4 weeks. The mountain hosts a trail running race on 9/29, and the number of participants is not confirmed but could be anywhere between 160 and 800 people. It is labeled as the National Trail Running

Championship. It will not requiring any additional Public Safety personnel. The evidence room has been cleaned out by staff recently and items properly disposed. Coffee with a Cop will be hosted at Jugtown, formerly The Mercantile in Town Square now under new ownership, at 10am on 10/4/19.

## **7. New Business**

- **MS-1 Form – Review & Sign**

M. Decoteau explains that the MS-1 Form is the town's total property valuation. For 2019 that amount is \$331,084,545 which is an increase of \$748,920 (2%) from last year. This is attributable to new construction and building permits. The Board signed the form as presented.

- **MS-535 Form - Review and Sign**

M. Decoteau explains the MS-535 Form is a restatement of audited financial numbers. Mark and Judy have reviewed and verified that the figures are correct as listed and the Board signed the form as presented.

- **On Street Parking Test Area**

M. Decoteau proposes to the board that an area along Valley Road be used for a trial for on-street parking this winter. Maps are circulated and the area would be about 200' long on Valley Rd. across from the Golf Course and would allow for 10 parallel parking spaces. The area would be maintained by Public Works and would require one additional pass by the plow truck. This would move the snow bank back by about 10'. Signage would be needed (perhaps 3-4 signs?) stating no overnight parking allowed and any other necessary information. The location was selected with the assistance of Public Safety and Public Works for visibility from both directions. The time period for the trial is from December, after the ground has frozen, through the end of March. Mike Aronson expressed that people often ignore signs, and asked for the clubhouse staff to be aware of people parking along the road beyond the designated area. Craig Larsen of the Golf Club stated that they will have a path on the opposite side of the road to the clubhouse as well and his staff will be watchful of the area. Craig stated that if the trial goes well, he anticipates returning to request that the parking area is allowed for year round. Craig expressed that Saturday's in January, February, July and August are when he foresees the most need for the extra parking. Rich Rita asked about a crosswalk on the road and while there will be path to the roadside from the clubhouse, it will not be a formal crosswalk. If the area is approved to year round parking in the future, these needs will be addressed at that time.

Margaret Turner motions to allow temporary on-street parking test area on Valley Road as described on the presented map before the Board for this winter.

Rita Rite: 2nds

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Recreation Department Program Question**

This agenda item was covered under Privilege of the Floor I at the start of the meeting.

- **Tyler Spring Dumpster Enclosure**

Mike Aronson informs the Board that he inspected the dumpster enclosure with a member of the TS-HOA. Mike had no issues with the repairs the Town made to the enclosure. The structure is stable and the repairs that were made look to be solid. Jim explained that the posts were bent and after they were straightened, they are still solidly in the ground and are not broken. The Board requested the Town send an apology to the Tyler Springs HOA about the incident and that repairs have been made to the enclosure.

## **8. Old Business**

- **Ice Arena Lease Update**

M. Decoteau states the Hockey Academy continues to work on their financing for the purchase of the Ice Arena and they are planning to return to the 10/23/19 Selectmen's meeting to discuss their findings with the Board. They have made some repairs over the spring and summer, and have scheduled additional repairs for the fall to prepare for the winter season. Mark reviewed the repairs already done, the invoices and the quotes for the additional repairs and requested that the completed repair expenses of \$15,416 be reimbursed back to the Hockey Academy per the current lease terms. The Capital Repair Account Balance is \$66K would be reduced to \$51K after these expenses. The quote for the Brine Pump is for \$34K and this work is needed to be done this fall prior to reopening the rink for the winter. The Pressure Test quote is for \$15K. A quote for a safety system for ammonia detection was not available at this time, but is needed and estimated at \$8-10K. Overall, additional costs of \$44K of repairs are needed prior to reopening the rink. After all repairs are made, the Capital Repair account balance will have an estimated \$3-5K remaining. M. Aronson states that the Board has had good communications with the Hockey Academy and was made aware of these needed repairs and has been anticipating these expenses. Once Mark knows the exact costs of the ammonia detection, he will email the Board of these costs.

Mike Aronson motions to authorize the repairs for the Brine Pumps and to pay the invoiced amounts.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Village Trail Improvement Project – Engineering Authorization**

M. Decoteau reports that the Town Core Working Group met last week and concurs with the Board's decision not to award the project to the single bidder. The TCWG felt it would be better spend some of the \$133K remaining funds for engineering work to the trail around Corcoran's Pond to the same level as presently engineered for the Village Trail so both can be put out to bid together this fall so there is a good number to take to Town Meeting for all of the trail work. The work would be contingent upon any development plans announced from Tyrell Development for their properties near Corcoran's Pond. Mark estimated that additional engineering costs to be under \$15K, based upon a total project costs. M. Aronson expressed the need to wait to authorize engineering plans for the trail until more information is available from Tyrell on their future development plans. A tentative meeting with Tyrell is scheduled for later this month. The Board was in agreement and the discussion was tabled until more information was available.

- **Library Project Update – Tree Cutting**

The Library is nearly complete with only a small punch list remaining which includes new insulated window blinds. The tree work at the Library and the punch list will all be covered under the remaining approved funds. All of the trees to be cut were selected with the Library Trustees approval.

## **9. Board Concerns and Directives**

None.

## **10. Correspondence**

- **Letter from Governor Sununu Regarding School Funding**

The letter addresses the proposed school funding and the affect the Waterville Valley is roughly a cost of \$3,900 for the next 2 years. It was unknown at this time whether the state budget had passed with the school funding proposal or if there were any changes. The proposal is in line with the present school funding. However, there are pending court cases which may or may not affect the school funding and donor/recipient town's costs.

- **Request for Town Meeting Warrant Article From Tom Gross**

The request for the warrant article from Tom Gross is for the Board to place an article on the 2020 Warrant to call the Town "New Hampshire's Most Beautiful Village". The Board felt that it was best to have this be a petitioned Warrant Article from the voters. A brief discussion followed concerning about the differences of a "village" versus a "town".

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

None.

## **12. Non-public Session**

The Board goes into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee and (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, and (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even when legal counsel is not present. 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 4:09pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:32pm.

Upon return to the public session a motion was made to seal the minutes by Mike Aronson and seconded by Rich Rita 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 at 4:32pm.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant