

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

DATE: May 22, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Recine, Tom Gross, Wendi Rathgeber, Mark Decoteau, Chris Hodges, Jim Mayhew, Brooke Wakefield, Erick Amero, Judy Rolfe and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.

2. Public Hearing in Accordance with RSA 41:14A

Mike Aronson open the public hearing at 3:03pm and reviews the reason for the public hearing regarding the purchase of 3 small lots from Waterville Company that were omitted from the warrant article at Town Meeting. The 3 small lots are along Route 49 sized as .18 acres, .05 acres and .1 acres. There were no public comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 3:04pm. The 41:14A process requires 2 public hearings and the Selectmen will then vote to purchase the parcels at their next meeting on 6/12/19.

3. Privilege of the Floor I

Agenda item 8-C is discussed. John Recine expressed concern about the gate and access to the transfer station. Mike explains the gate is now locked and the key is held at the town offices for customers to pick up and return. The open-gate policy had ceased due to staffing changes, along with misuse of the area, and the town will be implementing new hours of operation. John Recine commented that it should be open at all times for contractors. Mike replied keeping it open at all times is part of the problem, as there are some out-of-town contractors who are disposing of items in the wrong areas and causing WV town employees additional work to relocate these items. Discussion followed concerning the operation of the area. Margaret Turner asked if there are fees for compost and brush. There is a charge for compost, or any material that the town subsequently hauls away. There is not a charge for brush and tree limbs that can be burned, but the loads are still being tracked for the volume.

4. Approval of Minutes 5/8/19 Regular Meeting

Mike Aronson motions to approve the minutes of 5/8/19 as amended.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

5. Financial Update

The financial report was reviewed and there were no questions by the Board. We are currently 38.5 % through the year and there are no anticipated budget issues at this time.

6. Department Heads Updates

- **Recreation**

Brooke Wakefield introduces new employee Erick Amero, who is the Parks and Adventure Program Manager of the Recreation Dept. The Community Clean Up Day was a success and had a great turnout of volunteers. Brooke is continuing to hire staff for summer. She has been working on the hiking patch design with Annie Schwartz. The climbing wall is still down for the recertification of the belay devices but is expected to be back in service by early June.

- **Public Works/Municipal Services**

Jim Mayhew announced that the new garbage truck arrived and we are waiting for the 2-way radio to be installed and minor outfitting needs to be done before it is put into service next week. The old truck will be listed for sale. The cemetery has been cleaned up, as well as other areas in town, which have dried out from recent wet weather.

- **Public Safety**

Chris Hodges reported that funeral services for Paul Leavitt were well-attended by the department. Jeff Dropkin just completed his EMS class and had 4 students, 2 of whom have already passed their tests. Officer Logan Tomasetti graduated from the Police Academy last week. Hazard Mitigation planning and meetings are taking place and the next meeting is 6/26 and he hopes to have the Forest Service present. Interested community members are also encouraged to attend. Discussion followed concerning ways to have more participation at the upcoming meetings. Chris was asked about the status of the “bike park” near the skateBoard park. He has been informed via David Dean of the resort that the area was an old pump track for bikes and the mountain which the resort is now resurrecting. Terry Waite, Planning Board Chair, was asked for his opinion as well. Terry felt that as long as the track remains in the same footprint that was approved years ago, he saw no issue. Chris and Mark are both fine with what is on site now. There are materials on the site now that are also being used to improve the condition of trails nearby (Nelson’s Path). Margaret Turner asked if there is anything which prevents people from moving dirt on their own property and the answer is no. However, if by doing so, there is a new commercial entity or use created, then that would be subject to a Site Plan Review. A brief discussion followed regarding David Dean asking for support last fall for the idea, but there was no further discussion or mention of the subject. The mountain will update the town on June 7th regarding this location and any activities on site.

7. Calendar Review

- The next BOS Meeting is 6/12/19.
- The next Planning Board meeting is on 6/13/19.
- WVA graduation is 5/31/19 at 1pm. Mark will inquire if the notice provided to the town was an invitation or an announcement.

8. New Business

- **Road Layout by RSA 231:27**

Mark stated that he is working with the town engineer on the road layout for Tecumseh Rd. Mark had been working with the Town Attorney for the ROW and during the course of that work the attorney has suggested a different process, via RSA 231:27 (see below).

231:27 Boundary Lines of Town Highways. – Selectmen may reestablish the boundary lines, limits and locations of any class IV, V or VI highway or any part thereof which shall have become lost, uncertain, or doubtful, and shall have the same powers and shall proceed in the same manner as the commissioner of transportation as provided in RSA 228:35.

This is the process that was suggested by the attorney. Notification and maps will be sent to the property owners and the plan will be recorded. There is a 2 week comment period for the property owners after notification, and if no protests, then it will become the new official ROW for the road.

- **Conservation Commission Discussion of Rec Land by the W. Branch Bridge**

No discussion.

- **Naming of Walking Trail Around Corcoran Pond**

Tom Gross and Wendi Rathgeber of the Town Core Working Group propose to name the new walking trail around Corcoran's Pond as "Leavitt's Loop", in honor of Paul Leavitt, the former Town Manager and Police Chief who recently passed away.

Rich Rita motions to name the trail around Corcoran Pond as "Leavitt's Loop".

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Road Repair Projects**

Jim Mayhew has identified road areas in need of repairs, many of which are road intersections. He received a quote of \$3K from DA White for an 8'x24' area to be cut out and replaced. An additional quote for Infra-red patching was sought out and is slightly less costly and comes with a normal 1 year warranty. Although this is new technology, Jim preferred this method and the Selectmen agreed. Repairs are also needed to the guardrail on the West Branch Rd. Bridge, town wide patching of potholes, and crack sealing on Tripoli Rd. Jim presented price quotes for these areas for review. The quotes total \$32,470 and will leave \$7,500 remaining for the year in the road repairs account.

Rich Rita motions to accept the quotes from CW Fence & Guardrail and N. American Infrared to do repairs as discussed for a total of \$32,470.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mark Decoteau added that the sewer lines which were camera-viewed were reviewed by WWTP Operator, Greg Campbell. The lines viewed are located on Village Rd., Noon Peak Rd., Valley Rd. and Cascade Ridge Rd. and all have significant infiltration of ground water via cracks up to 8000 gallons per day. The video provided excellent pictures of the areas in question and was taken after heavy rains when groundwater levels were high. Estimated repairs costs, via interior methods for the most part, are \$17,500. Some locations are near joint areas of manhole covers. Greg Campbell recommended repairs to these areas, and will also seek additional bids. The funds would come from the 2 separate repair accounts, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Account and Wastewater/Water Repairs Account. The upgrade account has a balance of \$11,800 and the Treatment Plant upgrades are complete. The WWRA has \$20K as a balance. The Board was in agreement to use these funds for the repairs and will be informed of the total cost, as long as it is between \$10-20K.

- **Welcome to Waterville Sign at Town Line**

Rich Rita proposes to place a sign at the Waterville Valley town line with Thornton on Route 49. We are waiting for prices which have been requested from the State Prison sign shop. The wording on the backside of the new entrance sign in town was discussed with the USFS, and as

long as there is no advertising of a commercial name, the USFS has no objections. Discussion followed on the wording and the phrase suggested was:

***“Thank you for visiting Waterville Valley!
Please come back, there’s always more to explore!”***

Annie Schwartz will be asked to draft something in an appropriate and easy to read font. No lighting will be on the backside of the sign.

9. Old Business

- **Dam project Update**

Jim Mayhew reports that the contractor is confident that they will meet the substantial completion date. The weather has been tough to work around. There was a brief discussion of the steps and the timing of repairs. The state engineer is inspecting the work for each step. Mark comments that everything is within the budget.

- **Well #3 Project Update**

Jim Mayhew reports that the start date is June 3rd. Trail closure of the Mad River Trail was discussed during construction. Jim comments that all areas affected by the repairs will be secured. John Recine asked about timing of the installation of the fencing as part of the work. The fence will be installed last and is expected to be 8’ in height. Brooke Wakefield added that there is a campfire this Friday near the wedding arbor, since the beach area is closed for the dam work, and they will be using the Kubota to transport wood and other supplies. She wanted to make people aware of the location since it is different from normal.

- **Hiring Update**

- 1. Public Works & Rec Dept Part-time Grounds and Solid Waste Laborers**

Jim Mayhew states that we are interviewing for the PT positions and expects to hire someone soon. The full time position at the WWTP for the operator role has been offered to an individual who has accepted the position and will start in early July. Mark clarifies that there are 3 positions that are being filed; the temporary replacement for Nate’s position while he is out, the transfer station attendant and the WWTP operator.

10. Correspondence

- A letter was received from WV Elementary School student Lois Diehm that was acknowledged by the Board and they appreciated her taking time to write to the Select Board. They offered to have her, or anyone else, address the idea that the town needs more playgrounds for children.
- A letter was received from NH-DES regarding the correct operation of the Sewer Treatment Plant per a recent inspection of the facility.
- A letter was received from Primex regarding the CAP program for the next 3 years for Property/Liability (9%) and Worker’s Compensation (8%) coverage for the town. Mark suggested not accepting the offer based upon percentages of changes over the last 3 years and the offer would lock us in with Primex for an additional 3 year term. The Board was in agreement.
- RFP – Library Repair Work. The town would like to get bids for the work which was approved at Town Meeting 2019. There is a need to speak with the Library Trustees regarding their reservation with the Historical Society establishing a

location on the property, preferably a building attached via an annex with the Library itself. This possibility of this addition should be taken into consideration when any work is done to the Library to eliminate any unnecessary work. A workshop meeting with the Trustees to best understand their concerns is needed as well. The present RFP, done in conjunction with the Trustees, will go out to bid.

11. Board Concerns and Directives

Mark presented the 2019 Property Tax Warrant (1st half) based up 50% (\$7.07) of the total tax rate of 2018 (\$14.14) for signatures by the Board.

12. Privilege of the Floor II

13. 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 4:13pm. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 4:27pm.

Upon return to the public session a motion was made to seal the minutes by Margaret Turner 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 4:27pm.

Margaret Turner: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant