Present: Trustees - Walter Scott, Leonard Charron, Bill Spears, Jr., Guy Breault, Adam Goss

Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Caroline Marcy, Garry Atherton

Guest – Greg Spaulding

Meeting called to order by Chair, Walter Scott at 6:30 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no modifications.

1. Review/Approve Minutes March 24, 2015

Guy Breault made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2015 Trustee meeting as written. Seconded by Adam Goss. Unanimous.

1. 581 Orchard Street (Birch Lane) Water Allocation Requests

Jonathan Elwell recused himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest given Jon lives on Birch Lane, and the proposed development presented by the Spaulding’s would impact Jon’s property. Garry Atherton was present and available to help answer any questions the Board may have on this issue.

Garry directed the Board’s attention to both his memo and letter from Greg and Sandra Spaulding requesting water allocations for what are now Lots #2, 3, and 4. However, Garry informed the Board that there have been recent developments on this issue since both the letter and memo were prepared.

The water line on Birch Lane is a private line. At this point, it is uncertain as to who owns this line and who would be responsible for maintenance and repairs. After consultation with the Village’s attorney, Jesse Bugbee, it was recommended that the Village hold off on awarding any further water allocations on Birch Lane until the ownership of the private water line has been determined. Based on the information available to Jesse Bugbee, Norman Gervais paid for the installation of this water line. It does not appear as if he has deeded ownership over to anyone else.

Greg Spaulding has agreed that he will contact Norman Gervais and will address the issue of ownership of this water line. Once the issue of ownership of this private line has been determined, Greg Spaulding has requested that this agenda item be revisited at the next Trustee meeting on April 28, 2015.

The consensus of the Board was to table this agenda item until the next Trustee Meeting on April 28, 2015. Greg Spaulding left the meeting at this time.

1. 790, 1000 Water Tower Road Water Allocation Request

The Board was presented with a letter from Clayton Forgan, Jr. who owns a piece of property located in both the Village of Enosburg Falls (790 Water Tower Rd.) and the Town of Berkshire (1000 Water Tower Rd.). Road frontage for the 40 acre lot is located on Water Tower Road and extends 450’ into Berkshire and is along the existing Village water supply line to Reservoir Road. Mr. Forgan pays property taxes and monthly water and sewer bonds to the Village of Enosburg Falls for the parcel located in Enosburg Falls, but not on the parcel located in the Town of Berkshire.

Mr. Forgan is requesting approval to connect to the Village water supply and Village sewer system for a future homestead. In response to Mr. Forgan’s request, Garry prepared a memo for the Trustees to review.

Municipal sewer does not extend that far on Water Tower Road so connecting to Village Sewer is not an option. Garry has already explained this to Mr. Forgan. The Village does have several water customers that are in Berkshire, but all of those connections were made when the 16” water main was installed. It is Mr. Forgan’s intent to connect to the water supply line from his Berkshire portion of his property.

At this point, Adam Goss queried Garry concerning water capacity of the reservoir. Garry explained that the Village a very large reserve capacity. [The monthly consumption average is 180,000 gallons per day. The two wells have the combined ability of pumping 1,000 gallons per minute/24 hours a day for a total volume of 1,440,000 gallons per day. 180,000/1,440,000 = 12.5% current usage.]

Adam continued to reason that it seemed to be in the Village’s best interest to approve this allocation. The Village would receive additional revenue which would help to reduce the financial burden on village residents. Adam enquired if there would be any adverse effects to the Village if the Board approved this water allocation.

Jon Elwell responded that if the Board approves this request that the Village would be setting a precedent whereas the Village may be obligated to approve requests from other Berkshire residents in the future along this water line.

After a brief discussion, Adam Goss made the motion to approve Clayton Forgan’s water allocation request on Water Tower Road. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

1. Vtrans/Bike Ped Grant, Pleasant Street

Jon directed the Board’s attention to his memo updating the Trustee’s on the status of the Vtrans/Bike Ped Grant Project on Pleasant Street.

1. We have been informed that the Local Project Manager and the Resident Engineer cannot be the same person according to the conditions of the Bike/Ped Grant. We had planned that Garry Atherton would fill both positions and had appointed him as Local Project Manager this past fall. We are now requesting to make Caroline Marcy the Local Project Manager, and to appoint Garry Atherton as the Resident Engineer.

Guy made the motion to appoint Caroline Marcy as the Local Project Manager and to appoint Garry as the Resident Engineer for the Pleasant Street Bike/Ped Grant Project. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

1. Through discussions with John LaBarge, Project Supervisor for Vtrans, we have been informed it will not be possible for Enosburg Falls to complete the Pleasant St. Sidewalk Project in 2015. John LaBarge itemized the extensive administrative and review schedules from the State’s various departments who need to approve the project’s plans. Although John does not believe that we can complete this project until 2017, our engineering designer, Andy Rowe, from Lamoureaux & Dickinson Engineers, believes we could have the project complete next year (2016) even with the added times for State review.

It has been noted by the Board of Trustees that the planned completion of the Pleasant Street sidewalk project will be extended until fall of 2016 at the very earliest and possibly to the spring of 2017.

Garry Atherton left the meeting at this time.

1. Elect Vice-Chair

Guy Breault nominated Adam Goss for Vice-Chair. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Adam Goss accepted this nomination. Unanimous.

1. Vermont Dairy Festival Permit Request, Enosburg Falls Lions Club

Jon presented a letter to the Trustees from Pierre Boudreau, representing the Enosburg Falls Lions Club. The Lions Club will be sponsoring the Vermont Dairy Festival and is requesting a Peddlers/Festival permit for the dates of June 4th through June 7th, 2015.

Due to a conflict of interest, being members of the Lions Club, Leonard Charron and Walter Scott recused themselves from participating on this agenda item.

Bill Spears, Jr. made the motion to approve the permit as requested. Seconded by Adam Goss. Three trustees in favor; Leonard Charron and Walter Scott were recused. Motion passed.

1. Lincoln Park Bandstand Permit Request, Richford Health Center

The Trustees reviewed the Lincoln Park Bandstand Permit submitted by the Richford Health Center for a Health Fair to be held on May 16, 2015 for the purposes of demonstrating health classes. The permit indicates that electrical usage will not be required for this event.

Guy Brealt made the motion to approve the Lincoln Park Bandstand Permit on the date requested. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

1. Peddler’s Permit Request, Lincoln Lodge #78

Pierre Letourneau, representing the Lincoln Lodge #78, prepared a letter to the Village of Enosburg Falls Trustees requesting a waiver of the Peddlers fee for the ensuing year. The events that take place during the year are for the benefit of non-profit organizations and have the positive effect on the promoting of a friendly community environment. The following is a list of events:

Enosburgh Firemen Bar B-Q June Dairy Day weekend June 6th

Enosburgh Food Shelf lawn sale (2)

Enosburg Harvest Festival September 19th

Order of Eastern Star Annual Bake Sale

Bill Spears, Jr. made the motion to approve a waiver of the Peddler’s fee and to approve the Peddler’s permit for the upcoming year’s events sponsored by the Lincoln Lodge #78. Seconded by Adam Goss. Unanimous.

1. Manager’s Report

* Franklin Foods Electric EDA Rate – The Public Service Board has officially approved the EDA applied for giving Franklin Foods a special electric rate reduction for 3 years. The PSB made two changes to the Village’s application – 1) The Village of Enosburg Falls rather than Franklin Foods will be responsible for filing the annual report to the PSB on the performance of Franklin Foods power usage, efficiency efforts, and employment figures; and 2) Franklin Foods will not get a full three years rate reduction. Instead, the PSB made the agreement effective through calendar years, but not retroactive. The rate became effective March 30th, 2015.
* VERI Update – The State of Vermont has been conducting a project in Enosburgh designed to help communities recover from flooding events as quickly as possible. The second and final public meeting on this effort will be April 30th, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Enosburgh Emergency Services Building.
* H.35 Water Quality Bill – As discussed earlier, this is the bill aimed at reducing phosphorus levels in Lake Champlain. H.35 passed the House last week and is currently in the Senate. The bill has the potential to adversely affect municipalities financially as the State seeks ways to fund this initiative.
* Enosburg Falls High School Walking Event – Jon received notice from the Enosburg Falls High School Athletic Leadership Team that they will be holding a walking event to start at the high school, head north up Main Street and then proceed down the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail to Vaillancourt’s Farm along Rt. 105. This will be held May 2nd and the proceeds of this event will be given to two families in Fairfield who lost their homes to house fires this past winter.
* NEPPA Directcor Resigns – Northeast Public Power Association Executive Director, Larry Brownell has announced he will be resigning from his position effective April 17th. NEPPA’s Board of Directors has hired an interim Director to fill the post while the Board conducts a search to fill the Executive Director position permanently. This is expected to take approximately three months.
* Health Insurance Rate Increase – The Village has been notified that effective June 1st, 2015, IBEW Local 300 will no longer be affiliated with or participate in the New England Electrical Worker’s Benefits Fund. Arrangements have been made to include the Village in the IBEW Local 300 Construction Union Health and Welfare Fund with the current level of health related benefits.

However, the contribution rate formula and structure will change. The following is a breakdown of how this increase will affect each fund:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | General Fund | Water Fund | Sewer Fund | Electric Fund | Total |
| Budget 2015 | $60,762 | $13,284 | $43,706 | $126,608 | $244,360 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Cost | $65,404 | $15,581 | $47,354 | $138,727 | $267,066 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Increase | $4,642 | $2,297 | $3,648 | $12,119 | $22,706 |

There was a consensus of the Trustees to have the Village continue its health insurance coverage through the union’s Local 300 program.

1. Other Business

Adam Goss briefly updated the Trustees regarding the electronic sign installed by the Enosburg Falls High School on Dickinson Avenue. According to the principal, due to zoning issues – the sign could not be located at the town clerk’s office, which was the original intent when the sign was purchased. However, the school is open to moving the sign to a more visible location.

Walter Scott volunteered to contact a local business to see if they would be open to allowing the sign to be relocated on their property.

Adam Goss inquired about the Village establishing a Facebook and/or Twitter page as a way to keep more village residents informed about Village affairs. Caroline Marcy said that she would look into this matter.

1. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Leonard Charron made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Bill Spears, Jr. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Marcy, Director of Finance

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Board of Trustees next regular meeting.***