

VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
January 26, 2016

Present: Trustees - Walter Scott, Guy Breault, Leonard Charron, Bill Spears, Jr., Ellen St. Marie
Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Caroline Marcy

Meeting called to order by Chair, Walter Scott at 6:32 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

Jon stated that he had an item to add after item #2 concerning official approval of the bond/loan term for the Hydro Upgrade/Renovation Project.

2. Review/Approval Minutes January 5, 2016; January 12, 2016

Guy Breault made a motion to approve the January 5, 2016 minutes as written. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

Guy Breault made a motion to approve the January 12, 2016 minutes as written. Seconded by Ellen St. Marie. Unanimous.

3. Approval for Financing Term of Hydro Renovation/Upgrade Project

Although various terms and options have been discussed regarding financing options for the Hydro Renovation/Upgrade Project, the Trustees have not officially approved a specific term option as of this date.

Jonathan Elwell is in the process of preparing the warning with a draft copy stating the terms of the financing as “up to thirty (30) years not to exceed 5%”. Jon continued to explain that the “up to” language will still allow the Trustees to choose a lower time period if desired.

Guy Breault made a motion to approve the term of “up to thirty (30) years not to exceed 5%”. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

4. Committee Vacancies: TAC, Northwest Regional Planning Commission

Included in the Board’s packet was a letter written by Michael Manahan dated January 14, 2016. In the course of the letter, Mike states his intention to resign from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission and TAC Boards effective immediately.

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Walter Scott stated that the Village currently has three (3) vacancies to fill. Discussion ensued regarding replacement possibilities.

Jon continued the subject by handing a letter out to each Trustee from NRPC notifying them of a newly formed committee – the Clean Water Advisory Committee- that will be focused on improving water quality in compliance with the Vermont Clean Water Act which was made law this past spring. Each municipality has been invited to nominate a representative.

Walter suggested that the Village advertise the vacancies as a way of attracting community volunteers for the open positions.

5. SQRP Report

Jon briefly directed the Board’s attention to the SQRP Report in the Board’s packet. There were no questions regarding the report.

6. Manager’s Report

- Morrisville Water & Light Sponsored Bill, S.232 – Morrisville Water & Light Department is sponsoring a new bill introduced to the State Legislature this year that is of interest to municipally owned hydro facilities. The bill, named S.232 proposes to amend the streamflow requirements of the Vermont Water Quality Standards to establish new flow requirements for municipally owned hydroelectric plants in existence on or before January 1, 2016.

The bill attempts to force ANR to recognize the contribution hydroelectric facilities play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and their renewable energy status. It also attempts to lock down minimum required stream flow levels for systems that are not under a true run of the river requirement.

Morrisville has reached out to other municipalities and asked for their support in moving this bill through the legislative process.

After discussion, Guy Breault made a motion for the Village of Enosburg Falls to support Morrisville and the new bill S.232. Seconded by Bill Spears, Jr. Unanimous

- Informational Meeting Change of Location – After contacting the Emergency Services Building staff to reserve the large meeting room for our planned March 3rd 6:30 p.m. Informational Meeting on the Australian Ballot bond vote items, Jon was informed that the room was already reserved for a Town of Enosburgh Planning Commission meeting.

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Jon has reserved the Enosburg Falls High School Auditorium for the Informational Meeting in its place.

- Warning for Annual Meeting - Jon passed out a copy of the warning he prepared for the Annual Meeting. After review, each Trustee signed the warning.

7. Other Business

Walter Scott asked Jon to inform the Board about a snow removal issue on Main Street which had occurred last week. Jon briefly informed the Board about the issue. Staff contacted the involved business owners and have informed them to cease their snow moving activities as this was creating problems for neighboring businesses and is a violation of state statute.

8. Executive Session – For the Purpose of Discussing a Personnel Issue

Bill Spears, Jr. made the motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue at 7:26 pm. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

Leonard Charron made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Ellen St. Marie. Unanimous. The Board re-entered their Regular Meeting at 8:20 pm. There was no action taken as a result of Executive Session.

1. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board of Trustees at this time, Bill Spears, Jr. made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Marcy

These minutes were approved as written at the February 9, 2016 Trustee meeting.