

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2009

4:00 PM

Board Present:

David Rose, Chairman, John Murphy, Sr., Richard Strong

Staff Present:

Frank Heald, Municipal Manager, Pam Cruickshank, Loran Greenslet

Others Present:

Mark Youngstrom, Otter Creek Engineering

Call to Order

Chairman David Rose called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Funding Update

- a. Mark Youngstrom of Otter Creek Engineering said he and his partner met with Rural Development and the Water Supply Division and received an update to the proposed Economic Stimulus Package. Mark said that the Senate bill will allow up to 100% subsidy/grant money on a project, the House bill is 50%. The state indicated that the logical compromise would be 75% funding, which means the Water Supply Division will mostly likely do blanket 75% grants with the stimulus money. Next, they will go to the legislature to get the water rate issues cleaned up (rates charged/median income).
- b. Mark said that Frank Heald should receive a priority listing next week and will fill in the blanks. They will re-rank all of the VT projects (put on a priority list) and go down the list. If towns with projects are ready to go forward, or can commit, they will receive the funding first. If they are not ready, they won't lose their place, but will revolve down the list. Mark added that Rural Development isn't changing the affordability portion of the loan and that the rate must be a % of the median income.
- c. Mark Youngstrom recommended that this project go to Water Supply to receive the stimulus money. The 75% grant and 1 or 2% loan for the other 25%.
- d. David Rose asked if all of the applications are filled out, are we set to go.
- e. Mark Youngstrom said that the Environmental Report will be done at the end of this week or next and the Memorandum of Understanding (between Rural Dev. And Village of Ludlow) for the Archeological dig will be underway, so we are in good shape. He added that the bad news is that the stimulus money will go quickly, but we are ready to go and should rank high enough on the list. He also indicated that we

may not go to bid quite as quickly (in March or April), but construction could begin by June 1st at the latest.

Discuss Pipe from Springs to Reservoir

- a. Mark Youngstrom said that there was some question and confusion regarding the pipe size for the water project. 12” pipe from the tank to the Village is necessary for fire flows, but the pipe from the Springs to the tank could be 8” @ 1,100 gpm; 10” @ 2,000 gpm; or 12” @ 3,200 gpm. Mark said that in his opinion, the 8” in pipe will work, but a 10” or 12” pipe would also be fine.
- b. David Rose said he was hesitant to spend an additional \$130,000 for a 12” pipe that won’t gain anything and you probably can’t run both tanks at the same time as they may influence one another (springs at 300 gpm and smaller tank at 90 gpm).
- c. Loran Greenslet estimated the total at 700 gpm. He said that the State of Vermont does not want them to run both. Loran said that the Flood Control Dam pipe has a layer of mud/silt/leaves and if it is cleaned out, the water flow will increase.
- d. Richard Strong asked what would happen when the reservoir is full.
- e. Mark Youngstrom said that the valve will close and back up to the Springs and overflow the water. The altitude valve will open/close with the flow of water as it senses when the tank is full and close automatically close. In reality, the valve will always be opening and closing because it works on hydraulics, not electricity.
- f. Richard Strong said he thought it was going to be a system that was controlled with a gate valve.
- g. Mark Youngstrom explained that the reason it is not a gate valve is because the water will always be moving through the tank and it would not get stagnant.
- h. David Rose asked if any of the Water Commissioners had questions on the pipe size.
- i. Mark Youngstrom said that the pipe could be any size and the system is designed for long-term.
- j. John Murphy questioned if 8” would be sufficient as it was the minimum the state would require.
- k. Mark Youngstrom explained that for this type of application it could be 4” or 6” depending upon the size of the community.
- l. John Murphy said he believed that some of the firefighters thought the project would have 12” pipe throughout. John added that he would be in favor of using a 10” pipe, but not an 8” pipe just to reduce the cost.
- m. Mark Youngstrom said that with a 10” pipe, the safety factor would be that much more.
- n. Richard Strong asked if everything will work with the altitude valve.
- o. Mark Youngstrom said yes. That valve is critical to the operation because sources are so high.
- p. Richard Strong expressed concern about the valve when the siphon was lost when the valve at the Spring closed.
- q. Loran Greenslet said they just stayed the way they were and the well did not come on.
- r. Mark Youngstrom said that the new design does not include a siphon.

*John Murphy entertained a motion to instruct Mark Youngstrom to add a 10” pipe.
David Rose asked for a second and discussion on the motion.*

- s. David Rose said he feels that the 8” pipe will be sufficient and he can’t see spending the additional money if they won’t gain anything.
- t. Loran Greenslet said that he did some research on the pipe under the Depot Street Bridge (Carl Lawrence’s) and the drawings showed a 4” pipe. But, when the water line was rebuilt, a 6” pipe was installed, so there could be savings there.
- u. Mark Youngstrom said he would check to see if they would save money on that bridge crossing if they don’t have to replace the pipe.
- v. John Murphy asked Richard Strong what his thoughts were on the size of the pipe.
- w. Richard Strong asked if the water volume difference would be much.
- x. Mark Youngstrom indicated 8” is 1,100 to and 10” is 2,000.
- y. Frank Heald asked Mark Youngstrom if anyone at the state level would feel the water project was overbuilt using a 12” pipe throughout.
- z. Mark Youngstrom said yes, but the justification could be that the Village wants it. Mark added that the state would not question an 8” or 10” pipe.
- aa. Loran Greenslet asked if there was any chance that the Village would ever supply water outside the Village limits. He said if you decide you want to sell water in the future you will need to get the water down there.
- bb. Mark Youngstrom said that the new pipe will last 100 years or more, but 20, 30 or 40 years from now would you want to supply water outside the Village. He said you probably can’t go wrong with a 10” pipe to provide the safety factor and to give other generations more options. Mark said on the other hand, how much more water will be gained once the new pipe is installed due to the leakage in the current pipeline. With the current leakage right now, it is difficult to calculate.
- cc. John Murphy said that Loran is right (using Okemo as an example) that they may supply more water in the future to outside entities than they are today. John added that \$57,000 for a 10” pipe is not too extravagant.
- dd. David Rose said he would support a 10” pipe, but nothing higher.
- ee. Richard Strong said he would support a 10” pipe.

John Murphy made a motion to make the transmission line from the Springs to the tank a 10” pipe. Motion was seconded by Richard Strong. All in favor and the motion passed.

- ff. David Rose said that the pipe situation was resolved.
- gg. John Murphy asked when the money comes into Montpelier would it be designated, or broken down by the feds.
- hh. Mark Youngstrom said it was his understanding that the Governor cannot divvy it out.
- ii. John Murphy added that there has been some discussion in the Senate on how much money will actually trickle down.

Adjourn

Motion by John Murphy to adjourn and seconded by Richard Strong. All in favor and the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cruickshank
Acting Clerk

David Rose, Chairman

Richard Strong

John Murphy, Sr.