

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

Tuesday June 2, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Gilmore, Chairman Richard Harrison David Rose

STAFF:

Frank Heald

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuck Craig Tracey Leary Logan Nicoll
Suzanne Garvey Beverly Maynard Darlene Remy
Robert Leary Robert Maynard Vincent Guerrero – LPCTV

1. **Call to Order**

A. Chairman, Bob Gilmore, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., all members present.

2. **Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings**

- A. Bob Gilmore advised the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of May 5, 2015.
B. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to approve minutes from the meeting of May 5, 2015 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments From Citizens**

A. There were none.

4. **Sewer Request**

- A. **Homestyle Hostel Inn and Café**
i. Property address is 119 Main Street
ii. David Rose advised that this is a request for additional sewer allocation of 480 GPD. They wish to increase from 20 seats to 24 seats (2 plus meals.) The payment has been made.
iii. Allocation fee –480 GPD @ \$4.54 per gallon = \$2,179.20.00

- iv. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to approve this application for additional allocation of 480 GPD at \$4.54 for a total of \$2,179.20. Motion passed unanimously.**

v.

5. **Award 2015 Water & Wastewater Truck Bid**

- A. Frank Heald advised that the minutes from the bid opening were included in the packets. He said that 7 requests for bid were sent out and 4 bids were received from 3 dealers. He noted that Benson's provided 2 bids and one was a small uptick from the specification. They bid a ¾ Ton as specified and also a one Ton. The committee recommends purchasing the one Ton.

DEALER	YEAR	MAKE	NET BID
Benson's Chevrolet	2015	Chevy 2500 HD	\$22,322 (trade built into price)
Benson's Chevrolet	2015	Chevy 3500 HD	\$22,586 (trade built into price)
Durand Toyota Ford	2015	Ford F250 Regular Cab	\$20,900 (trade of \$10,000)
John C Stewart & Son	2016	Ford F Series SD	\$24,600 (trade of \$10,265)

- B. David Rose said that the difference is \$1300.
- C. Richard Harrison said it would be better to go with the larger truck.
- D. Frank Heald said it is also local service.
- E. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to purchase the Chevrolet 3500 from Benson's Chevrolet for the net price of \$22,586.00. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Project Updates**

A. Plumley Avenue

- i. Frank Heald said the project should be finished tomorrow.
- ii. Chuck Craig said the heavy construction will be finished tomorrow, and then there is some cleanup.

B. Pond Street/High Street

- i. Frank Heald advised that there is nothing from USDA. He said they will go with the simplest engineering to get the permit for the water piece of the project and hope to put it out to bid later this month. He said it depends on when the surveyor finishes.

7. **Trash & Recycling Updates**

- A. Bob Gilmore advised that Act 148 was passed by the Vermont Legislature and we have to comply with the law.

- B. Frank Heald said that trash pickup was included in the Village taxes. The cost for the last FY was \$33,000. At the Village meeting, we advised the voters that the estimated costs for the contract needed to comply with the state law, would be about \$55,000. A very small representation of voters voted to continue Village pickup. We put the contract out to bid and to comply with state law, it included weekly trash pickup and biweekly recycling pickup. The bid price was \$94,000. This contract price would have amounted to a \$.07 increase in the village tax rate. The trustees voted at their last meeting not to do that burden and to discontinue village pickup. There have been a number of discussions over the last few weeks and there are many pieces to the process. There will also be an increase of 200 to 300 people to the transfer station each week. There are also people who do not have cars and we have considered giving them a property certificate and 52 bags. The trustees are not willing to spend taxpayer money to have the pickup. We are hoping that those without cars will be able to have relatives or neighbors take their bags to the transfer station. The \$.07 to \$.08 hardship will be on all of the people in the village. All of the Select Board members, Trustees and staff have tried to meet the requirements of the law. We did not pass the law. He added that he has never dealt with an issue with as many moving parts that impacts so many people.
- C. Logan Nicoll asked if there are other villages in the state with pickup and what are they doing.
- D. Frank Heald said that there are only 2 other towns in Southern Vermont where trash pickup is included and they are Shrewsbury and Brattleboro. Most of the trash is picked up by private sector folk. He is not aware of any other communities that have pickup included in the taxes. He advised that the state has approved the hybrid system that we have developed that allows us to include a certain amount of the trash costs in taxes and spread through the Grand List. Each property will purchase a \$10 sticker for the transfer station and will be given 52 bags. The bags are included in the taxes. Any additional bags may be purchased at \$1.00 per bag. This satisfies the ANR interpretation and rules making of Act 148. Staff has tried to keep the financial impact as low as possible to everyone. The rules impact you and the property managers. The commercial permit allows them to go across the scales at \$.07/lb. They will also need to provide certification to the people they pick up for that there is a provision for recyclables. He does not know how this will be enforced. They will probably have to purchase recyclable bins and keep the recyclables separated and then go across the scales.
- E. Bob Gilmore asked people if they knew what single stream is.
- F. Frank Heald explained that it includes paper, cardboard, plastics, tin cans, pie plates. He said we will still try to separate returnables and glass. He said that glass is an impediment in single stream and they make more money if it is separated and taken to Springfield for crushing. Metal containers will be the same (like bed frames.)
- G. Dave Rose asked Frank Heald if the document distributed at this meeting would be mailed to property owners and when.
- H. Frank Heald said within the next couple of weeks. They are considering hand delivery because they want to make sure to get both property owners and renters. It will be carefully communicated. He said that the last village pick up will be on June 29, 2015.
- I. Logan Nicoll asked if they had considered having village employees do the pickups.
- J. Frank Heald said it is not going to happen because financially it would not be feasible. The town would have to purchase a packer truck and also buy 600 totes. He said that we assume, and have heard that there may be people interested in providing this service, but he does not know the costs. He does hope they come out soon. He said we are 90% down this road and are carefully sifting the possible scenarios. He said that if someone had a small one ton truck with sideboards, the transfer station would probably be able to handle it.
- K. Bob Leary asked about the Claremont incinerator.
- L. Frank Heald said it did not happen. It would reduce volume and create energy.
- M. Bob Gilmore said we really wrestled with this and looked at other things.

- N. Dave Rose said in order to continue pickup, we would have to cut winter salt and paving budgets. We can't take the \$.07 increase in taxes. Discontinuing pickup will create a hardship for some, but the \$.07 increase will create a hardship for everyone in the village.
- O. Suzanne Garvey asked what if the 52 bags is not enough.
- P. Dave Rose said people can buy more for \$1.00 per bag.
- Q. Tracey Leary asked about food scraps.
- R. Frank Heald said until 2017, it still goes in the trash, unless you compact.
- S. Suzanne Garvey asked about people burning rubbish.
- T. Frank Heald said it is illegal and fineable and the state is very picky out it. He added that most neighbors will report it because of the smell.
- U. Darlene Remy asked if the village taxes would reflect the loss of trash pickup.
- V. Frank Heald said the village budget would decrease.
- W. Dave Rose said the Casella contract was \$34,000.
- X. Darlene Remy asked what would be done about people leaving their trash bags along the side of the streets.
- Y. Bob Gilmore said it could happen.
- Z. Frank Heald said the general answer is that we really don't see a lot of trash in bags along the side of the roads. We do see the misuse of other people's dumpsters. He added that he pays more in Rutland and goes weekly to the transfer station there. He added that he travels a lot on the roads and does not see a lot of trash bags on the roads. He said it may happen and if it becomes a problem, we will pick up the bags, rip them open and try to find out who may have left them and fine them.
- AA. Robert Maynard asked if the transfer station days and hours would be the same.
- BB. Frank Heald said we are concerned about the additional 200-300 people going there.
- CC. Logan Nicoll said that is more of an issue for the Select Board and when discussed, they decided to see how things go and if changes need to be made, they will hold a special meeting to deal with it.
- DD. Bob Gilmore said we had reservations about discontinuing pickup, but we all have to deal with it. We will notify the people.

8. **Other Business**

- A. **Crosswalk Signs**
 - i. Frank Heald said he had received a quote for solar pedestrian crosswalk signs. We are still waiting for a quote to move the existing signs from where they are to by Shaw's/La Mere Square. We won't do it until after July 1st.
 - ii. Dave Rose asked how the solar signs would communicate with each other
 - iii. Frank Heald said he is not sure, but we would have to get the signal people in and Village Electric would help.

9. **Set Date for May Meeting**

- A. Meeting set for Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

10. **Possible Executive Session/Personnel/Contracts**

- A. Frank Heald advised that a brief Executive Session is needed for Contracts.

- B. **MOTION by Dave Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison that in accordance with the provisions of 1VSA §313 (1) (B), he moves that the Ludlow Village Trustees enter into Executive Session to consider a proposed labor relations agreement with certain Municipal Employees and also the evaluation/appointment of certain municipal employees. The premature public knowledge of this proposed agreement would place the Town and Village of Ludlow at a substantial disadvantage. This motion for Executive Session includes the members present and the Municipal Manager. Motion passed unanimously.**
- C. Board entered into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m.
- D. Board exited Executive Session at 6:52.
- E. **MOTION by Dave Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to approve the restricting of the wastewater staff as presented by the municipal manager. Motion passed unanimously.**
- F. **MOTION by Dave Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to approve the municipal manager's new contract through October 2017 as presented and to authorize the chairman to sign it on behalf to the Trustees. Motion passed unanimously.**

11. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION to adjourn by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

Robert Gilmore, Chairman

David Rose

Richard Harrison