

MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

Tuesday May 5, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Gilmore, Chairman Richard Harrison David Rose

STAFF:

Frank Heald Rose Goings

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuck Craig Patrick Cody – 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 April 7, 2015.
- B. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to approve minutes from the meeting of April 7, 2015 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments From Citizens**

A. There were none.

4. **Consider and Award Contract for Village Curbside Trash & Recycling Services**

A. Frank Heald advised that there was a public meeting on Thursday, April 30th to open the bids to Trash & Recycling Services. Two bids were received and they were not good. We had estimated approximately \$52,000 for the bid and the quotes were much higher. We estimated a \$.04 increase in the tax rate, but with the bids that came in, the increase would be more towards \$.06 to \$.07.

Able Waste	\$7,600 per month & \$91,200 annually (Village provides Totes)
Casella Waste	\$7,850 per month & \$94,200 annually (Casella provides Totes)

- B. David Rose said that the voters have spoken, when they approved continuation of village pick up at Village Meeting.
- C. Frank Heald said that was when we told them that the increase would be \$.04 and the cost for the contract would be \$52,000, not \$94,000. He said that for a house valued at \$350,000 in the Village, the increase in taxes would be about \$236.00 per year. He added that this is less than Rutland City rates because the disposal costs are on the town side. He said that one option, to stay in compliance with state law, would be to do pick up every other week with 96 gallon totes. The other option is to have everyone go to the transfer station.
- D. David Rose said that would save the Village \$94,000 per year.
- E. Bob Gilmore said they would still have to count bags.
- F. Frank Heald said having village residents go to the transfer station would mean that everyone in the town would be the same, 52 bags per year and \$1.00 per bag for each additional bag. Also, if people wanted to use larger bags, they could go over the scales. He added that if someone hires someone else to pick up their trash, they will have to deal with disposal and comply with Act 148, and if they hire a major hauler, the hauler would have to deal with disposal and not at the transfer station.
- G. Bob Gilmore asked if the transfer station could handle the additional load.
- H. Frank Heald said it would be 300 extra households. They would probably have to open one more day per week and add equipment.
- I. David Rose said that would be part of the town tax rate and that rate would go up, but not as much as the village rate if we do the pickup.
- J. Frank Heald said that village residents would have to buy stickers.
- K. Bob Gilmore asked if they could redo the bid for pick up every two weeks and eliminate the Mondays except for the zero sort.
- L. Frank Heald asked why you would do that if people would be going to the transfer station; why not just take the recyclables too. He said he thinks the transfer station would go to single stream if there were no more village pick up.
- M. Richard Harrison said he likes to go to the transfer station and do it the old way. He added that dogs get into the trash left in bags on the street.
- N. David Rose said that about 40 people voted at Village Meeting to continue curbside pickup, but the information we provided on cost was an assumption and now we know it was incorrect. He asked if this board can override the vote.
- O. Frank Heald said it is a no win situation. If you go with the village pick up, the people will get upset with the additional costs. If you decide to not have village pick up, then the people who voted for it will get upset. He said that they could also call a special Village meeting for another vote.
- P. David Rose said he thought most people probably would not go to a special meeting.
- Q. Rose Goings said that if you tell people that their taxes will increase \$300, they would come to the meeting.
- R. David Rose asked who makes the decision.
- S. Frank Heald said it is inexpensive trash because disposal costs are not included. The people are paying less than ½ of what people in other towns with pick up pay.
- T. David Rose said he is in favor of doing away with village pick up.
- U. Bob Gilmore said yes, but there would be log jams at the transfer station on weekends. He said that many people only get off work at 5:00 and the transfer station closes at 5:00. He said most people go on weekends. He is afraid there will be more trash on the streets.
- V. David Rose said it would take some educating of the public to make sure that doesn't happen.
- W. Bob Gilmore asked how soon would the transfer station have to get new containers.
- X. Frank Heald said we have 2 containers, one for trash and one for single stream. We had talked about getting another compactor, but they are expensive. If you do away with village pick up, he said he would have to think about changing things at the transfer station. We have two 40-yard containers as

a backup. He added that the cost of a compactor would impact the town rate less than the \$94,000 would impact the village rate.

- Y. David Rose said it would still be cheaper for the village residents.
- Z. Bob Gilmore asked where this board stands with respect to the voters.
- AA. Frank Heald said they could petition for a vote. He said that this board is charged by charter to manage the affairs of the village.
- BB. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to have no village curbside pickup after June 30, 2015. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Consider and Award Contract for Audit Services**

- A. Frank Heald advised that they had sent out 6 RFPs and only received 2 responses. He said that the committee had met for the public opening, last Thursday.
- B. Bob Gilmore asked how long we have used Fothergill.
- C. Frank Heald said 9 years.
- D. David Rose asked how the Select Board voted.
- E. Frank Heald said Graham and Graham. He said that the additional \$2,000 is for a single audit if you exceed a threshold of federal monies. He does not anticipate the need for one in the village

VILLAGE AUDIT	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Graham & Graham, PC	\$11,100 & \$2,000	\$11,600 & \$2,100	\$12,100 & \$2,200
Fothergill, Segale & Valley	\$15,000 & \$2,500	\$15,500 & \$2,500	\$16,000 & \$2,500

TOWN AUDIT	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Graham & Graham, PC	\$10,100 & \$2,000	\$10,600 & \$2,100	\$11,100 & \$2,200
Fothergill, Segale & Valley	\$20,000 & \$2,500	\$20,600 & \$2,500	\$21,200 & \$2,500

- F. Bob Gilmore asked the net savings if the village goes with Graham and Graham.
- G. David Rose said \$3,900 per year for 3 years.
- H. **Motion by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to award the bid for Village Audit to Graham and Graham as per the quote schedule above. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Project Updates**

- A. **Plumley Avenue**
 - i. Chuck Craig said that there was a sewer line plugged up and they spent one full day flushing it and couldn't unplug the main. They then dug up the main and did manage to get it unplugged. They also looked at it by camera and found out there are no manholes for about 600-700 feet and the clay tiles are broken and caving in. He said that he and Ron Tarbell decided that they need to fix this and put in some manholes.
 - ii. Bob Gilmore said how long would it take.
 - iii. Chuck Craig said Gurney said about 5 to 7 days.
 - iv. Bob Gilmore asked if they would have to divert traffic.
 - v. Chuck Craig said they would be able to keep one lane open. This is a recurrent problem and has to be addressed.
 - vi. Bob Gilmore asked how much town involvement would there be.
 - vii. Chuck Craig said that may use one town truck.
 - viii. Bob Gilmore asked who would be clerk of the works.

- ix. Chuck Craig said he would.
- x. Richard Harrison asked the costs.
- xi. Chuck Craig said they are waiting for the estimate.
- xii. Frank Heald said that as they identify these problems, they need to fix them.

B. High Street

- i. Frank Heald advised that this is pending before Rural Development. He said that he hopes to see Dufresne soon, but if not he will go elsewhere. We told them it had to go out to bid by April 30, 2015.

7. **Consider Otter Creek Engineering Proposal for Engineering RE: Okemo Mountain Sewer Collection**

- A. Frank Heald said that there was proposal is in the packets, and that he received a new proposal that he distributed at the meeting. The new proposal is \$4,000 less. The second quote involves a shorter report and he said that he only needs them to look at the records and we can draw our own conclusions. He only wants to know what's there.
- B. David Rose said then we can go out and find the issues.
- C. Frank Heald said we need to do it.
- D. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to award the bid for the engineering study of the Okemo Mountain Sewer Collection System to Otter Creek for \$5,400. Motion passed unanimously.**

8. **Consider Request from Michael Pacilio RE: Okemo Marketplace Laundromat**

- A. Frank Heald advised that Mr. Pacilio had requested that the Water Commissioners review the fees that he is being charged for the laundromat, saying that he believes that he is being overcharged. Frank Heald said that upon review, he realized that there had been a mistake in the fees that Mr. Pacilio was being charged and the Water Commissioners addressed it at their meeting. The same situation exists for the Sewer fees and Mr. Pacilio is being charged for 500 gallon per washer, while he should be changed for 400 gallons per washer. Frank Heald said that this error can be corrected internally.

9. **Consider Aldrich & Elliot Proposal for WWTF Nitrogen Removal Optimization Evaluation Plan**

- A. Frank Heald said that the EPA is looking into phosphorous and nitrogen removal from Lake Champlain and also the Connecticut River. He said that he attended a meeting last fall, and a consultant had done a review of the Connecticut River. Our only interest is the TMDL for the nitrogen expelled from our plant. We do not have a nitrogen issue coming out of the plant. However, the State of Vermont wants to have an evaluation plan. The woman who is in charge of this for New Hampshire said that she will not do anything in NH until Hartford, CT and Springfield, MA has done something. We went to Otter Creek Engineering and asked them about the science. They referred us to Aldrich & Elliot (A&E). A&E came in and responded to the initial requirement. On that basis, we asked them about the plan. Chuck Craig met with them and that generated the proposal. This is also something we have to do.
- B. David Rose asked when.
- C. Frank Heald said the report needs to be to the state by June 30, 2015.
- D. Bob Gilmore asked the worst case scenario if we need to remove nitrogen.

- E. Frank Heald said with luck nothing for Lake Champlain. He said that Act 35 has us all paying for Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River. He does not know how much it will cost us.
- F. Chuck Craig said our permit requires the plan, but we are not in danger of offending the EPA with our nitrogen.
- G. Frank Heald noted that the quote states NTE – Not to Exceed.
- H. **MOTION by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to execute the agreement with Aldrich & Elliot for the WWTF Nitrogen Removal Optimization Evaluation Plan for a total cost Not to Exceed \$5,300.00. Motion passed unanimously.**

10. **Authorize Village Trustee’s Chair to Sign Letter to VT DEC for Flood Resiliency RE: Changes to the ANR River Corridor Map**

- A. Rose Goings advised that the letter is in response to the discussion at April’s meeting regarding the river corridor as designated on the ANR map. The Planning Commission feels that the corridor is too wide and unnecessarily takes up portions of properties in the town and village. They want the map to match the geomorphic assessment. In order to get the map changed, the legislative bodies must start the process by writing to the DEC. The Select Board chairman, Howard Barton, signed a letter on behalf of the town, last night. We want the DEC to come in, meet with us, walk the river and hopefully, change the map.
- B. **Motion by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison to authorize Bob Gilmore to sign the letter to the DEC on behalf of the Village of Ludlow. Motion passed unanimously.**

11. **Discuss Boy Scout’s Parade**

- A. Frank Heald advised that he has not heard any more from Ned Bowen on the parade. He said it is supposed to be held on the Saturday before Veteran’s Day.
- B. Bob Gilmore suggested that Frank Heald write a letter to Ned Bowen asking for an update.
- C. Frank Heald said that Ludlow may not have been awarded the parade. He added that he has also not heard anything from the Legion about their June activity.

12.

13. **Other Business**

- A. **Manhole Report**
 - i. David Rose asked about the Manhole Report Inspection for next month.
 - ii. Frank Heald said they had received a proposal last week and Chuck Craig and Ron Tarbell are evaluating it. They are considering replacing the brick with cement chimneys.
- B. **Crosswalk Sign**
 - i. Bob Gilmore asked about the request to move the crosswalk sign from the current location by what was the Post Office to La Mere Square and across adjacent to Cook’s Cupboard.
 - ii. Frank Heald said it would not be cheap. We would have to get the traffic signal people in and Village Electric would help.
 - iii. Bob Gilmore asked Frank Heald to keep the board advised.
- C. **Special Note – Excellent Job**
 - i. Frank Heald made a special note to say that Chuck Craig and his crew have been doing an excellent job and that Chuck Craig is rising to his new position. He is a good manager.

14. **Set Date for May Meeting**

- A. Meeting set for Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

15. **Sign Warrant Orders**

A. Warrant orders were signed.

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

A. Frank Heald said that an Executive Session is not needed.

17. **Adjourn**

A. **MOTION to adjourn by David Rose and seconded by Richard Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

Robert Gilmore, Chairman

David Rose

Richard Harrison