

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Gilmore

Jim Fuller

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Rose

STAFF:

Frank Heald

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rose Goings

Sharon Bixby – LPCTV

1. **Call to Order**

A. Chairman, Bob Gilmore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., David Rose absent.

2. **Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings**

A. David Rose advised the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of September 6, 2011.

B. **MOTION by Jim Fuller and seconded by Bob Gilmore to approve minutes from the meeting of September 6, 2011 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments From Citizens**

A. There were none.

4. **Planning Commission Update**

A. Bob Gilmore noted that board members had a copy of the draft of the town plan.

B. Rose Goings advised that the plan is almost done except for Chapter 2, editing, new 2011 census figures and references to the approval of the Village Center designation. The Planning Commission wanted to show you the document. There have been lengthy changes to the new plan and the Planning Commission will have more meetings to discuss it. The existing plan had parts that sounded like advertisements and others that were negative. This has been corrected. Some of the old data sheets and statistics have been removed. We needed to show more policies and the chapters now have goals and policies. Due to the recent court case, we needed to remove vague or unclear wording. We tried to make it easier to read and included some interesting historical facts and people. References to ridgeline development were added. We included community groups and organizations. We also added renewable energy and wildlife map overlays. We still need to add the 2011 flood information. We added a new chapter, 3A that describes scenic and historic resources.

C. Bob Gilmore asked if the ridgeline review considers wind power.

D. Rose Goings said that only private turbines go to the DRB. Net metered units are controlled by the PSB. The town plan is used at Act 250 hearings. We also added the results of the 2008 Planning Commission survey. The town plan also has changes due to statutory requirements, like childcare. The court said the town plan involved in Jam Golf decision was too vague. The Planning Commission has worked a long time on this and the grant that

we received allowed them to bring in experts. Jason Rasmussen of the Regional Planning Commission also helped. The Planning Commission will update the zoning regulations after the town plan is complete.

- E. Jim Fuller noted that there was a lot of work done on this document.
- F. Bob Gilmore said that the statistics are exacting.
- G. Rose Goings said that some of the historic people in the plan are Dorsey, Calvin Coolidge, Ida Fuller and Paul Harris.
- H. Frank Heald said that he noticed that on the Paul Harris section, they spent more time on his misdeeds than his achievements. He was the founder of the Rotary.
- I. Rose Goings said she would forward that comment to the Planning Commission.
- J. Bob Gilmore noted that Rooms and Meals tax receipts have continued to rise.
- K. Rose Goings asked the board members to forward any comments or suggestions to either her or Planning Commission members.

5. **Consider the Ludlow Village Electric Department's Request for a Special Meeting to Authorize the Board of Commissioners of the Ludlow Department to Enter into Two Separate Long Term Power Sales Agreements with Vermont Public Power Supply Authority**

- A. Frank Heald advised that the electric department is a member of VPPSA and each member has to ratify with their municipality any purchase and two are coming up soon. We have prepared a warning for a public meeting on November 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. upstairs. The regular Select Board meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m. Voting will take place on November 8, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- B. Bob Gilmore asked if there is any opposition to flooding and creating dams.
- C. Jim Fuller asked will Yankee be factored in.
- D. Frank Heald advised that Article 1 is an agreement with Hydro-Quebec (HQ) commencing 11/1/12 and running through 10/31/38. Article 2 is an agreement with WM Renewables (landfill gas out of Pittsfield, MA) running from 1/1/12 through 12/31/26 with the option to extend through 2031. CVPS/Green Mountain is in long term contracts with HQ. He advised that management recommends that the board proceed with this.
- E. MOTION by Jim Fuller and seconded by Bob Gilmore to approve the request from Ludlow Electric for a special meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2011 with voting to take place from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Consider Request from Allen Seiple**

- A. Bob Gilmore advised that a letter had been received from Allen Seiple regarding a request for reimbursement of \$300 for work done to snake a line 135 feet to clear a sewer line. (Letter read into the record by Jim Fuller and a copy is attached.)
- B. Frank Heald advised that he spoke with the head of the wastewater department and he does not believe that the blockage was caused by the Village, but instead, was in the house. There would have been no surcharge on west Main and there was no other backage. The house fronts on West Hill.
- C. Bob Gilmore said that the Village has no jurisdiction there and no action would be taken by this board.
- D. Frank Heald said that Mr. Seiple could come to a meeting if he wants to discuss this further.

7. **Flood Update – Wastewater Treatment Facility and Village Streets**

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- A. Frank Heald advised that the plant was functioning with chlorination within 48 hours and they restarted the biological processes within 7 days. Last week there was pretty good effluent to the river. At this point we are fully functional except for the fine screen. The controls are due within 1-2 weeks. It has been an ongoing process of motor and controls replacements and it is pretty much done now. Some of the costs will be covered by VLCT insurance and some by FEMA. Today it actually looks worse that it is. We got a bobcat in there to begin to restore the landscaping and within the next week or so we will gravel and grade the roadway. We have received 4 quotes for the fencing, but we have to do the landscaping before the fence. It should be done within the next 2-4 weeks. The lab office sheetrock needed to be replaced.
- B. Bob Gilmore asked Frank Heald if they would blacktop the road.

- C. Frank Heald said that would be done next spring. They will run on the gravel now and that will help compact the gravel.

Village Streets

- D. Frank Heald advised that 2 of the streets are under federal jurisdiction – Andover, the divot at the bottom and 2 patches on south Main. FHWA covers 100% of the repair work at these locations.
- E. Bob Gilmore asked about a retaining wall on the Jewel Brook.
- F. Frank Heald said they will have to do something there. He had thought that there had been a wall there, but it was laid up stone. They may want to pour a wall there in the spring, but they would have to sheet the brook and divert the water.
- G. Bob Gilmore asked about FEMA.
- H. Frank Heald said there may be some mitigation there, but not 100%. There will be work on Mill Street that is part of the FEMA process and he is not sure if they will replace the bridge. They may redo the deck and sandblast and repaint the lattice work on the sides. The abutments are okay.

8. Other Business

A. Summer Paving and Sidewalks

- i. Bob Gilmore asked if they would be doing any paving or sidewalks.
- ii. Frank Heald said that will both have to be moved to the spring. They staff has enough work now for fall and they still have to get ready for winter. They have been hiring trucks and labor to get to this point in the aftermath of Irene. He expects that it will be another summer or 2 before they get everything completed.

B. Flood and FEMA Assistance

- i. Bob Gilmore asked what the date to file for FEMA assistance expires.
- ii. Frank Heald suggested that people go to the FEMA public assistance office at the Okemo Marketplace as soon as possible. He said that the timeline for municipalities has been extended until October 17th, but he does not know about individuals.
- iii. Bob Gilmore suggested that anyone with issues caused by Irene should go to the FEMA office NOW!
- iv. Jim Fuller said that he encourages people to go the Black River Good Neighbors and speak to Audrey Bridge or call 228-3663 for clothing, furniture, food and possible financial assistance.

C. Andover Radar Speed Sign

- i. Bob Gilmore asked when the speed sign on Andover would be replaced.
- ii. Frank Heald said it is in, but would be replaced when it fits into the priorities.

D. Proclamation

- i. Bob Gilmore would like to see proclamations go to all who helped after everything is cleaned up. He said that it should include not only staff, but also businesses and organizations. He advised that DJ's Restaurant had 2 nights of free buffets and served over 600 people. He extended thanks to Richard Gagnard, owner of DJ's. He also wanted to thank the staff at DJ's who donated their tips to the effort.
- ii. Jim Fuller said that Downtown Grocery also did a night like DJ's.
- iii. Bob Gilmore said we should wait until things have settled, maybe a month or so.
- iv. Frank Heald said that they are on the right track. His personal perspective is that the board should be proud to be elected officials of this town and village. Staff, contractors, businesses, organizations were citizens helping citizens. This community totally pulled together and everyone worked together for 30 days. He has not received one complaint, only lots of compliments.
- v. Bob Gilmore said there should be some recognition. He added that there was also great support from Frank's office by Pam and Diane.
- vi. Frank Heald said that this town does have an Emergency Management Plan and Structure in place and Ron Bixby heads that up. They met the Friday before the storm to make sure that everything was in place and ready. Everyone knew what they had to do and did it. He added that even with the

damages done by Irene, they still managed to pull off the 250th Anniversary Celebration.

9. **Set Date for Next Meeting**

- A. Meeting set for Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Frank Heald will not be present.

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

- A. Frank Heald advised that an executive session is not required.

11. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Jim Fuller and seconded by Bob Gilmore to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**
B. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

Robert Gilmore, Chairman

David Rose

Jim Fuller

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RECEIVED
SEP 13 2011
MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Village of Ludlow Trustees
PO Box 359
Ludlow, VT 05149

September 12, 2011

Board of Trustees:

During the flood of August 28th, my property located at 10 West Hill incurred a sewer backup resulting in 6 inches of raw sewerage in the basement of the property. The cleanup was handled by my own business Okemo Valley Management Services following FEMA flood and sewer remediation guidelines. The tenant, Pam Barton did not arrive back at the property until Wednesday as she was stranded at Springfield Hospital working as a Nurse. After the cleanup and during the subsequent period, periodically the sewer system would back up. It became evident that a blockage existed somewhere.

I contacted the Town Water and Sewer Department and they located what they thought was the access cover to the properties outbound sewer line. The cover, on West Main St, was under 3 inches of pavement and had to be jack hammered to get open. Ultimately, there was a cost of \$ 300 incurred to snake a line 135 ft to open the sewer line. Considering the property had no issues prior to the back up of the sewer system on August 28th and the sewer cover was sealed so as to not relieve back pressure when the system was overwhelmed with water, I would like to ask that I be reimbursed for this out of pocket expense. In fairness to all, I am not asking to be reimbursed for the 4 days of labor incurred to cleanup the mess in the basement, but only the cost of securing A-1 Sewer to open the line.

Thank you for your consideration.



Allen R. Seiple

Cc: Frank Heald

Encs.