

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW  
WATER COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL JOINT BOARD MEETING**

**6:00 PM**

**Tuesday, October 6, 2020**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

David Rose, Chairman  
Bob Brandt  
Earl Washburn

**WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

David Rose, Chairman  
George Abraham  
Ron Bixby

**STAFF:**

Scott Murphy

Chuck Craig

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Wayne Elliott  
Scott Baitz  
Art Ciasca

Mary Ciasca  
Connie Miele  
Jeff Sumner

Rosemarie Stoltze  
Patrick Cody – Okemo Valley TV  
Lisha Klaiber, Recording Secretary

1. Chairman David Rose opened the Special Joint Meeting of the Village Trustees and the Water Commission at 6:01 p.m.
2. David Rose advised that this meeting is to discuss the High Street Infrastructure Project.
3. Wayne Elliott explained the proposed water system, sewer collection system and storm water collection system improvements. He explained that the existing pipe is undersized and has reached the end of its useful life. He said that there is attractive state funding available.
4. The Water System Improvements will include:
  - a. Installation of approximately 1,090 linear feet of new 8” Ductile waterline
  - b. new gate valves
  - c. Replacement of all water services and curb stops up to the Village ROW
  - d. Replace 2 fire hydrants and associated branch connections
  - e. Pavement and surface restoration.
5. Sewer Collection System Improvement will include:
  - a. Construction of approximately 1,035 linear feet of 8” PVC sewer line
  - b. Replacement of existing sewer service lines up to the Village ROW
  - c. Construction of approximately 7 new precast concrete manholes
  - d. Pavement and surface restoration
6. Storm water Collection System Improvements
  - a. Construction of approximately 500 linear feet of 18” HDPE storm pipe drain
  - b. Construction of approximately 8 new precast concrete catch basins
  - c. Pavement and surface restoration
7. Wayne Elliott referred to table 1.1 for the Project Schedule. He said that they have patched together the schedules for the Clean Water and Drinking Water. The Village will have to hold a bond vote. If you decide to do it, you could make it as an article. The design for the Clean Water will be completed by November 13<sup>th</sup>. We still need to do the Drinking Water. Construction could be next year. They are working on state permits and we may need some easements. He referred to Table 1.2 for the cost estimate:

Proposed Project  
 Estimated Construction Costs

Project	Est. Construction Costs (9/2020)	Est. Construction Costs (5/2021)
Water System Improvements	\$354,500	\$360,000
Sewer Collection Sys. Improvements	\$330,500	\$340,000
Storm water Coll. Sys. Improvements	\$110,350	\$120,000
Total	\$795,300	\$820,000

8. Wayne Elliott said the total project costs, including engineering, final design, permit fees, legal fees, interest and contingencies will be \$1,105,000.00
9. David Rose said that in 2016, we started with a different engineer and the price was too high at that time. He said that he wants to have this value-engineered and asked if anything could be taken out. He mentioned trenchless technology.
10. Wayne Elliott said they could possibly scale back and make some changes. He said that funding is very attractive at this time. He said that he can't change the sewer project. He said that the problem with trenchless technology is that you need an 8" minimum and you have 6". It's too short and wouldn't be cost effective. He said that they would be doing a lot with the sewer project and the problem here is the pipe is undersized, the sewers are all over the place and there are no manholes.
11. David Rose asked where they got their numbers.
12. Wayne Elliott said from other projects that we had this year, Brandon, Hartford and Winooski.
13. David Rose said he is trying to rationalize the numbers.
14. Wayne Elliott said that we don't know what the bid climate will be next year. We try not to underestimate and there are not a lot of contractors in this area that do this work. It is less competitive. He added that pipe is expensive right now. He said we could use PVC and would make a difference. That would be a local decision.
15. David Rose questions the \$184,000 paving costs.
16. Wayne Elliott said they would probably have to repave the whole road up there.
17. Scott Murphy noted that table 1.6 notes that this interest rate would be 2% for 30 years.
18. Wayne Elliott said that page 6 explains the funding. He said that Drinking Water is not funded, yet, but he thinks Ludlow is pretty close to being eligible. The funds are on a first come, first served basis.
19. George Abraham asked about 30 years at 2% and asked if that is a fixed rate.
20. Wayne Elliott said yes and added that the life expectancy of the assets is greater than 30 years. He is pretty sure Ludlow will be funded.
21. David Rose said he is struggling with asking the voters for a \$1.1 million bond.
22. Bob Brandt asked if they really need that many structures, considering they currently do not have any.
23. Wayne Elliott said he is hoping that they have been conservative and you may get away with 3 to 4 structures. He said as they get further into the design, there may be changes that would decrease the costs.
24. Bob Brandt asked if they would grind up all of the paving, then repave.
25. Wayne Elliott said there would be a brand new sub base and 2 courses of pavement.
26. Bob Brandt asked if they would strip mix, then pave, instead of trench pave.
27. Wayne Elliott said they could look into that.
28. Earl Washburn asked about "Contingencies" on page 5.
29. Wayne Elliott said that the State required that for unknowns. Once the bids are opened, it is reduced to 5% and not necessarily spent.
30. David Rose repeated his concerns about the cost. He asked if all of the drainage work had to be done. He would like a less expensive project.
31. George Abraham asked if we do the bond vote, can we later say no to the project.

32. Scott Murphy said we would bond the full amount, but have a Spec. Sheet showing possible substitutions.
33. Wayne Elliott said it would be subject to reductions. This is to give you the best shot at funding.
34. Scott Murphy said that the state separated this into 2 projects. He asked if we could do 2 separate bonds.
35. Wayne Elliott said people may not understand 2 separate votes.
36. David Rose said if we proceed, and get the Wastewater funds, but not the Drinking Water funds, could we keep the Wastewater funds and wait until next year
37. Scott Murphy asked if we would stay on the priority list.
38. Wayne Elliott said yes.
39. David Rose asked Wayne Elliott to review the project and value-engineer it. He thinks the numbers will scare the voters.
40. Bob Brandt asked if we scale back the numbers, would that affect our standing on the priority list.
41. Wayne Elliott said no.
42. George Abraham said we need to educate the voters. He said if we wait, we may lose out on this opportunity for funding. He is in favor of proceeding. If we don't get the funding, we can drop it.
43. Scott Murphy said we need to hold 2 public hearings before the vote.
44. David Rose said the bond vote would just be the Trustees.
45. Ron Bixby asked if the life expectancy of PVC pipe is different.
46. Wayne Elliott said that is a great question. It has only been around for about 30 – 40 years.
47. David Rose said it is pretty widely used. He said it is better with corrosive soil and smoother inside. The negative is that if you are digging around it, you may hit and puncture it.
48. He said in the last 4 to 5 years, the USDA said you can't specify pipe material.
49. David Rose asked Wayne Elliott to take this back and try to lower the numbers.
50. Wayne Elliott asked what David Rose would like to cut.
51. David Rose said the storm water may be scaled back. He asked if we could meet again in a week or 2.
52. Wayne Elliott asked David Rose if he wants it under \$1,000,000. He said he will run the numbers with PVC.
53. Chuck Craig said the whole water system is cast, ductile or copper.
54. David Rose asked Wayne Elliott to also look at the paving. He asked if they need to do the bond vote in December, do they have time.
55. Wayne Elliott said yes, you need 30 days' notice.
56. **MOTION by Earl Washburn and seconded by Bob Brandt for the Trustees to close the joint Trustees/Water Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
57. **MOTION by George Abraham and seconded by Ron Bixby for the Water Commission to close the joint Trustees/Water Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
58. David Rose closed the Joint Meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisha Klaiber

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David Rose, Chairman of Trustees

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Earl Washburn, Trustee

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Bob Brandt, Trustee

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David Rose, Chairman

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Ron Bixby, Water Commissioner

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George Abraham, Water Commissioner