

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
WATER COMMISSION**

5:30 PM

ZOOM ELECTRONIC ONLINE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday April 7, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Rose, Chairman Ron Bixby

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bob Gilmore

STAFF:

Scott Murphy Chuck Craig

1. **Call to Order**

- A. David Rose called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m., all members present, except Bob Gilmore.
- B. Scott Murphy advised the following Electronic Meeting Guidelines:
This open meeting of the Village of Ludlow Water Commission is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Scott's Executive Order of 01-20 Act 92, due to the current State of Emergency given the outbreak of the coronavirus.

In order to mitigate the transmission of the virus and reduce the risk of COVID-19 illness, we have been advised and directed by the State of Vermont to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. All members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

- C. Scott Murphy asked members, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative.
 - i. David Rose - aye
 - ii. Ron Bixby – aye
- D. Scott Murphy advised that Chuck Craig is also present.
- E. Scott Murphy advised that all votes taken during this meeting not voted unanimously will be taken by a roll call vote.

2. **Consideration of any Changes, Additions or Removals to the Agenda**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that no changes are needed.

3. **Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings**

- A. David Rose advised the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of March 3, 2020.
- B. **MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by David Rose to approve minutes from the meeting of March 3, 2020 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. There were none.

5. **Report on Mr. Franke’s Water Situation on Pleasant Street**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that, over the years, there have been water issues at Mr. Franke’s property. Chuck Craig tested that water and Mr. Franke was using filters. A Godfrey tank was installed and is up and running. The water has clarified and Mr. Franke is now drinking the water.
- B. Ron Bixby asked if the village had bought filters for him.
- C. Scott Murphy said no and he hadn’t asked.
- D. Ron Bixby said that Mr. Franke had not contacted him either.

6. **Water Hydrants at Kettlebrook & Trailside Condominiums**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that representatives from the Condominiums will be at next month’s meeting. There have been issues with the water supply for years and Rose Goings and the state are “cracking down” on them. The associations have sealed the fire hydrants. For the past several years, they have promised to do something about this, but have not. Landon Wheeler, Assistant State Fire Marshall has been up to the properties and seen the hydrants and put them on notice. If the situation is not rectified, the state will issue violations. Representatives from both units, as well as Winterplace will be here next month and will ask to consider extending the water line and they will cover the costs. Chuck Craig is researching the capacity of the water system and will advise if there is capacity to add the condominium units onto the system. The homeowners have been notified about this and the state will not permit sale of any of the properties affected by this.
- B. David Rose said that it could be years before this can be fixed.
- C. Scott Murphy said that the state fire marshal and Rose Goings want evidence that the condominium associations are starting to do something about this.
- D. Ron Bixby said that he and Pete Kolenda have also been working on this.

7. **Possibly Authorize One Commissioner to Sign Warrants During Current Coronavirus Crisis**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that the state has offered towns the option of having one- or two-persons sign warrants during this time to keep people out of town halls. At their meeting last night, the Select Board accepted this option. He said that he recommends this board select one person with a back-up person. The Select Board chose to limit this to 30 days.
- B. David Rose said it is a good idea.
- C. Ron Bixby said that he is very close to town hall and would be willing to do it.
- D. **MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by David Rose to authorize Ron Bixby to sign warrants, with David Rose as a back-up person for a period of 60 days, to be reviewed at that time. Motion passed unanimously.**
- E. Ron Bixby asked Scott Murphy what days would be the best to come in.
- F. Scott Murphy said Thursdays are good.

8. **Other Business**

- A. Report on Bob Gilmore

- i. Scott Murphy advised Bob Gilmore had fallen and had cracked his ribs. This resulted in him getting pneumonia. He thinks that Bob hopes, if possible, to address people at Village Meeting and Scott Murphy thinks that it may be his intent to resign.
 - B. Annual Village Meeting
 - i. Scott Murphy advised Ulla Cook feels that it would be okay to hold the annual meeting upstairs. She thinks that they could keep appropriate spacing and limit number of people at one time during the day. He said that may have ZOOM capacity for that meeting.

9. **Set Date for Next Meeting**
 - A. Meeting set for Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

10. **Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting**
 - A. Representatives from Kettle Brook & Winterplace Associations to Discuss Possible Water Line Extensions

11. **Sign Warrant Orders**
 - A. Warrant orders were signed.

12. **Possible Executive Session/Personnel/Contracts**
 - A. Scott Murphy said that an Executive Session is not needed.

13. **Adjourn**
 - A. **MOTION to adjourn by Ron Bixby and seconded by David Rose. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - B. Meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber
Acting Recording Secretary

David Rose, Chairman

Robert Gilmore

Ron Bixby