

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
WATER COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING
HEALD AUDITORIUM**

5:00 PM

Tuesday December 7, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Rose, Chairman George Abraham Ron Bixby

STAFF:

Scott Murphy Chuck Craig

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bob Brandt Rebecca Devereux (Okemo Valley-TV)

1. **Call to Order**

A. David Rose called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., all members present.

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

A. Scott Murphy advised that they will need to add High Street Infrastructure Project Final Costs.

3. **Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings**

A. David Rose advised the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of November 2, 2021.

B. **MOTION by George Abraham and seconded by Ron Bixby to approve minutes from the meeting of November 2, 2021 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

.3A **High Street Infrastructure Project Final Costs**

A. Scott Murphy advised that the original estimated cost of this project was \$990,000 and the final cost was \$833,382. We were bonded for \$550,000 on the sewer side and \$222,000 on the water side. Since there was a 75% subsidy, the Water Department has approximately \$137,000 to repay on the bond.

B. David Rose said that the total water cost was \$367,810.

C. Scott Murphy said the first payment is due in July or August, 2022 and will be \$4,900.

4. **Comments From Citizens**

- A. There were none.

5. **Water Allocation Request – 71 Main Street – Change of Use and Allocation Increase**

- A. Scott Murphy said that this is the old Birmingham & Moore Law office. The applicant wishes to change the use of the building from commercial to residential as a 6-bedroom single family home, (adding 3 bedrooms.)
- i. Water Allocation – Change of Use – no allocation fee is due. Change of use to residential and water service rate will be adjusted to reflect 6 bedrooms.
- B. **MOTION by George Abraham and seconded by Ron Bixby to approve the request for a change of use from commercial to residential. Motion passed unanimously**

6. **Review and Possibly Consider Changes to Water Rates**

- A. Scott Murphy said that they usually look at the rates in May and any change. Currently, the capital account has a balance of \$47,000 and our rates are still low compared to other towns.
- B. David Rose said we will get more money for the capital account in June. He said we will review the rates in May.

7. **Set Dates for FY2023 Budget Workshops**

- A. Scott Murphy said that the Select Board hopes to finish theirs the first week in January.
- B. David Rose suggested starting ours at our next meeting.
- C. Scott Murphy said that would be January 4, 2022.

8. **Municipal Manager Updates**

A. **Water Main Leak**

- i. Scott Murphy said that there was a waterline break by the Timber Inn and M&M Excavation was very helpful. He said that Chuck Craig did have concerns about the line. It was installed in 1972 and in the area of the leak, the line is on ledge, there are vibrations, and it is swap. Last week, they dug two test holes; one near the car wash and the other by Pleasant Street Extension and Soapstone Road. They found the pipe to be okay. They want to dig 2 more test holes, closer to the Timber Inn, in the spring.
- ii. David Rose said we should do that and see what needs to be done.
- iii. Chuck Craig said they had a leak, they changed a couple pieces of the pipe.

B. **Flows**

- i. Scott Murphy said they are flowing well.
- ii. David Rose asked when they had the break by the Timber Inn, the wells had to be used and how did it go.

- iii. Chuck Craig said they couldn't use the surge tank at the 12' well to cycle the pump due to a control problem. We need electrical repairs in the control panel and had to turn the pump on manually. He said we should get the repair to the panel done soon.
- iv. David Rose asked about the low tank alarms.
- v. Chuck Craig said they are sent to the town-owned cell phone that he carries and to the computer at the waste facility. He said that 2 of the employees have offered to use their private cell phones to receive alarms.
- vi. David Rose asked about Countryside Alarm.
- vii. Chuck Craig said they do more of the security. He said wastewater alarms go to Dispatch at the Police Department.
- viii. David Rose asked if these alarms could also be sent to dispatch.
- ix. Scott Murphy said yes and they should be doing it.
- x. Chuck Craig said he will contact them.

9. **Other Business**

- A. None

10. **Set Date for Next Meeting**

- A. Next regular meeting – January 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

11. **Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- A. Budget Workshops

12. **Sign Warrant Orders**

- A. David Rose said the warrants have been signed.

13. **Possible Executive Session/Personnel/Contracts/Legal Issues**

- A. Scott Murphy said that an Executive Session is not needed.

14. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by George Abraham to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber
Recording Secretary

David Rose, Chairman

Ron Bixby, Vice Chair

George Abraham, Clerk