

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW
WATER COMMISSION**

5:00 PM

ZOOM ELECTRONIC ONLINE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday May 5, 2020

JOIN ZOOM MEETING LINK: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/646238267](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/646238267)

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Rose, Chairman Ron Bixby Bob Gilmore

STAFF:

Scott Murphy Chuck Craig Rose Goings

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Baitz Ed La Montagne Ted Reeves
Paul Carrocchio Tom Macari Bill Schlosser
Patrick Egan Jim Pawlak John Watanabe
Peter Kolenda

1. **Call to Order**

- A. David Rose called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., all members present.
- B. Scott Murphy advised the Electronic Meeting Guidelines had been posted in the minutes from the meeting on April 7, 2020 and will still be followed. He asked that board members identify themselves:
 - i. David Rose – advised that he is the board chair and is present
 - ii. Ron Bixby – aye
 - iii. Bob Gilmore – aye.

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 April 7, 2020.
- B. **MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by David Rose to approve minutes from the meeting of April 7, 2020 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. There were none.

5. **Discuss Water Hydrants & Possible Water Line Extension at Kettle Brook and Other Associations**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that this was discussed in the fall and since then, there have been more discussions. This involves Kettlebrook and other villages on the mountain. If we extend the water lines, the interested parties may pay to join on. There was also the issue with the fire hydrants and fire flows.
- B. Tom Macari said that Kettlebrook is interested in obtaining domestic and fire protection water from the village.
- C. David Rose said that as Water Commissioners, we are open to look at extending the water lines, but at no expense to the Village and the Village tax rate payers. It would be the responsibility of those hooking on to fund the projects.
- D. Tom Macari said they understand and asked what steps need to be taken, what are the costs and requirements.

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- E. David Rose said they would start with a study of flows and capacities of the Village water source. He advised that ours is a spring fed system and we have backup wells.
 - F. Tom Macari asked if the Village would commission the project and Kettlebrook would pay for it, or does Kettlebrook do it all.
 - G. David Rose said he would like to talk to our engineers, but that the Village would not pay.
 - H. Ron Bixby said the costs would be taken care of by the associations interested in looking on, but asked who would hire the engineers.
 - I. Scott Murphy said if the Village controls the projects, there may be funding available through the State.
 - J. Ted Reeves said that the State has a Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund and money is available. The State is looking to fund projects like this.
 - K. David Rose said the process would start by hiring an engineer by an RFP.
 - L. Ted Reeves said there is Planning versus Construction grants. This would start as planning. The State has a priority list and projects for 2020 have been chosen. We would have to get the planning ready by November and get the application into the State by December. The State will compile the list by February 2021.
 - M. Scott Murphy asked if the Bull Run projects were on the 2020 list.
 - N. Ted Reeves said no, the funds were committed in 2018, but they have since rolled the funds over.
 - O. Bob Gilmore asked if this would be for one entity or a multitude.
 - P. Rose Goings said that Winter Place is interested in the water line. They are not in violation. The Bull Run system, which includes Kettlebrook, the Okemo Mountain Lodge and the Okemo Administration building, is in violation, along with other complexes. Should the town allow any permits or Bianchis for them? Are the homeowners aware that there is not enough domestic and fire flow water? This has been going on for a long time. She said that she has spoken to Tom Macari and his predecessor about this. If there was a fire up there at one area, another part of the system could be without domestic water. The Fire Marshal and the Fire Chief have been in on these conversations.
 - Q. Bob Gilmore asked if there is any liability on the part of the Village.
 - R. Scott Murphy said he doesn't know the answer. We have put them on notice and Pete Kolenda has sent them several letters. The State does see them moving in the right direction.
 - S. Peter Kolenda said that he has looked at the water system. The Village of Ludlow water system is lower than Kettlebrook and Winterplace and we would need pumps to get the water up there. He said he does not think there would be a pump big enough for that.
 - T. Ted Reeves said that one pump may get the water to Winterplace and there should be a storage tank there that would accommodate the average daily usage for all of the units, plus at least 50,000 extra gallons.
 - U. John Watanabe said this is the first time that he has heard about a possible reservoir on Winterplace property and he does not think the homeowners would want it.
 - V. Ted Reeves said it would have to be located near the first user on the system.
 - W. Tom Macari said he spoke to engineers who thought there would need to be 2 pump stations.
 - X. John Watanabe said that he spoke to Scott Murphy and Weston Sampson Engineers regarding an audit and what is needed, not Bull Run and Kettlebrook.
 - Y. David Rose said the first step is to find out if we have the capacity. That would be a first phase engineering study. If we have the capacity, the Village will sell you the water and it is up to you to distribute it. The Village will not pay for infrastructure or maintenance of the new system.
 - Z. Ron Bixby agreed.
 - AA. John Watanabe asked who the Village would work with to put together the flow needs. He said he can put some of it together.
 - BB. David Rose said we first need to do a study to see if we have the capacity.
 - CC. Scott Murphy said that they have not done a study on this in the past.
 - DD. David Rose said the first step is the study; who pays for it, who sets it up and who gets the engineer are the questions.
 - EE. Scott Murphy said he will get some information together regarding water engineers that we have worked with in the past and what are the State requirements.
 - FF. Ted Reeves asked if there would be a need to set up a separate company or fire district.
 - GG. David Rose said he thinks there are enough entities on the mountain to possibly set up a separate fire district or something like it.
 - HH. Ted Reeves asked, if this goes through, would the Village collect the fees or have someone else collect the fees and pay the Village.
 - II. David Rose said he does not think they would be customers of the Village; the Village would sell the water to an entity.
 - JJ. Scott Murphy said that Chuck Craig mentioned a Consecutive System.
 - KK. Bill Schlosser asked if the Village could see water to an entity.
 - LL. David Rose said that the City of Rutland sells water to West Rutland. He said a project like this would require a lot of infrastructure and capital to get the water up there.
 - MM. Bob Gilmore said we have a gravity fed system and service customers in the Village. Any place outside of that would be expensive.

- NN. Bill Schlosser said it would be a revenue producer for the Village.
- OO. David Rose said that his first reaction is for the Village to take care of the Village rate payers. He said that there are two existing reservoirs in the Village for fire protection.
- PP. Tom Macari said he thought the reservoir was at a higher elevation.
- QQ. Ron Bixby said it is not high enough to support flows higher than the reservoir.
- RR. Tom Macari said, depending on the height, we may be able to go ¼ of the way up and then pump.
- SS. David Rose said that would all have to be engineered. He said that the current Village water lines end just above the railroad crossing on West Hill Road.
- TT. Bill Schlosser asked if the reservoir on Kettlebrook was included in the assessment.
- UU. David Rose said that Kettlebrook is not on the Village water system.
- VV. Bill Schlosser said that Rose Goings mentioned an issue.
- WW. Rose Goings explained that the original permit required a number of gallons be set aside for fire protection. They added Okemo Mountain Lodge and the Administration Building without permits. We did not know that the pond grew smaller and places were added to the system. There is not enough water up there for fire protection and domestic use. She added that Ted Reeves has been trying to work with the property owners.
- XX. Ted Reeves said the Average Daily demand total for Kettlebrook and Okemo Mountain Lodge is 35,000 gallons and the tank was only sized for that. The state fire marshal wants an additional 60,000 gallons for fire protection. We propose to include 100,000 gallons for the Bull Run system.
- YY. David Rose said we will continue this discussion next month. He asked Scott Murphy to look into information about a study and loans.
- ZZ. Scott Murphy said he will bring the information next month.

6. **Update on High Street Water Line Potential Replacement Project**

- A. Scott Murphy advised that he has worked with Robert Clark of Otter Creek Engineering about the project priority list for project that could be funded in the future through the DEC for drinking water and clean water. We submitted an application and received eligibility for Clean (sewer) water, but were not eligible for the drinking water one. He said that Bull Run has 2. He is looking into this and will have more information next month.
- B. David Rose said that this project was originally looked at 4 years ago and there was a rough engineering estimate that was very high. He asked if we should look at it ourselves and try to trim it down.
- C. Scott Murphy said he needs to talk to Robert Clark as to why we qualified for one and not the other.

7. **Other Business**

- A. **Town Hall Gate Valves**
- i. Scott Murphy advised an RFP will go out for 3 gate valves to be replaced for the water main and sewer connection by the town office. Two contractors have already submitted estimated bids. We hope to get the RFP out in the near future and have results for you at the June or July meeting.
- B. **Godfrey Tank**
- i. David Rose asked about this project.
- ii. Scott Murphy advised that it will be finished tomorrow. The contractor will finish and clean up. They were held up because of the COVID restrictions.
- C. **Back Flow Valve at the Plant**
- i. David Rose asked about this project.
- ii. Scott Murphy advised that contract has been awarded.

8. **Set Date for Next Meeting**

- A. Meeting set for Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

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

- A. Representatives from Kettle Brook & Winterplace Associations to Discuss Possible Water Line Extensions

10. **Sign Warrant Orders**

A. Warrant orders were signed.

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

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

12. **Adjourn**

A. **MOTION to adjourn by Ron Bixby and seconded by Bob Gilmore. 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

Zoom Instructions

Topic: Ludlow Water Commission

Time: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 – 6:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

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