

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LUDLOW WATER COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 6, 2014
5:00 pm

Board Present:

David Rose, Robert Gilmore, Ron Bixby

Staff Present:

Frank Heald, Loran Greenslet, Chuck Craig

Others Present:

Mark Youngstrom & Scott Matthews of Otter Creek Engineering

Call to Order:

David Rose called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Approve Minutes:

- a. MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by Robert Gilmore to approve the minutes from April 1, 2014. All in favor and the motion passed.

Comments from Citizens:

- a. None present.

Water Allocation Requests:

- a. David Rose said there are several allocation requests.
- b. Frank Heald said all of the water applications have been reviewed and each request will see an increase in their rates.
- c. MOTION by Robert Gilmore and seconded by Ron Bixby to accept the water request from Jess and Craig Goodman of Goodman's American Pie at 5 Lamere Square to add a total of 49 restaurant seats at the former bike shop. All in favor and the motion passed.
- d. MOTION by Ron Bixby and seconded by Robert Gilmore to accept Steven Rolka's water request to increase the number of bedrooms at 59 Main Street from 2 bedrooms to 3 bedrooms for Unit #1 & #2. All in favor and the motion passed.
- e. MOTION by Robert Gilmore and seconded by Ron Bixby to accept Justin Hyjek's water request to change from an Art Gallery to an Inn at 119 Main Street and add one additional bedroom for a total of 6 bedrooms. All in favor and the motion passed.

Water Reduction Request:

- a. David Rose said there was a reduction request from Andrea Lehtonen at 75 Main Street to reduce the number of bedrooms from 5 bedrooms to 4 bedrooms.
- b. Frank Heald said the residence has been inspected and reviewed.

- c. MOTION by Robert Gilmore and seconded by Ron Bixby to approve the water reduction request from Andrea Lehtonen at 75 Main Street from 5 bedrooms to 4 bedrooms. All in favor and the motion passed.

Revisit Andover Street Freeze Ups with Otter Creek Engineering:

- a. Frank Heald said that a few individuals were unhappy with Water Commission's decision to only pay for ½ of the thawing so he asked Mark Youngstrom and Scott Matthews from Otter Creek Engineering to revisit the freeze ups and give their analysis.
- b. Mark Youngstrom asked Scott Matthews to go through the records and reports to review the project and see where the lines were over/under pipes and where insulation was added.
- c. Scott Matthews asked if the freeze ups had occurred only in the homes that were not occupied full time.
- d. Frank Heald said it was a combination of both.
- e. Robert Gilmore said he had talked with one resident that was away for 4-5 weeks and their water was frozen when they returned.
- f. Scott Matthews said he went through all of the records, reports and drawings to see if he could pinpoint any commonalities to the freeze up locations. He said he was looking for differing conditions that could have the potential to be a driver of the frost such as sidewalks, storm drains and stone walls. He said he found on a few occasions that insulation was added from the existing line to the house, but he did not find any other commonalities.
- g. Mark Youngstrom said he is not dismissing that there was a freezing problem due to the winter we just experienced. He said as an example in Rutland the frost went so deep that an 8" water main froze at the former Hannaford's location because of the difficult weather conditions.
- h. Scott Matthews said he did not find anything really in common. He added that some houses were occupied and some were not.
- i. Robert Gilmore asked what will happen if we go into another cold winter with extreme events?
- j. Mark Youngstrom said the reasonable fix is to have the homeowners bleed their water when their house isn't being used.
- k. David Rose said a note should be included in all of the water bills to trickle their water.
- l. Robert Gilmore asked if there were any other freeze ups.
- m. Frank Heald said two to three residences have already installed the water by-passes.
- n. Loran Greenslet said homeowners also need to remember to turn them on.
- o. Frank Heald said that is what happened on High Street and Main Street where they either didn't know or should have known.
- p. Frank Heald said that the residence on Terrace Avenue was an existing home where the line froze and we paid to have it thawed because children were living at the residence. We then billed the owner.
- q. Chuck Craig said that was the only house on the line at Terrace Avenue that froze. He said the water at the house beyond that service was fine.
- r. Frank Heald said we should encourage homeowners to get a bypass.
- s. MOTION by Robert Gilmore and seconded by Ron Bixby to reimburse the residents at 40, 42, 48, 54, 60 and 70 Andover Street for the other ½ of the pipe thawing as a one-time event and it will be the responsibility of the homeowner to keep their water running during the winter. All in favor and the motion passed.

Other Business:

- a. None.

Set Date for Next Meeting:

- a. Next meeting has been scheduled on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

Adjourn:

- a. MOTION to adjourn by Robert Gilmore and seconded by Ron Bixby. All in favor and the motion passed.
- b. Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cruickshank
Recording Secretary

David Rose, Chairman

Robert Gilmore

Ronald Bixby