



Village of Manchester, Vermont

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DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Village of Manchester Board of Trustees

Monday, March 5, 2018

4:30 p.m., at the Village Offices, 45 Union Street

In Attendance: President, Brian Knight, Trustees: Jim Lewis, Andrea Ross (by phone), Tom Deck and Bill Mariano; Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector, Julia Arvin; Assistant Clerk/Secretary, Missy Bell-Johnson

Public: Donald Brodie, Marian Haines, Marian Mueller

President Knight opened the meeting at 4:30 pm. Trustee Deck indicated a mistake in the minutes. Trustee Lewis motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Trustee Mariano seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Trustee Lewis then motioned to approve State of Vermont Liquor Licenses for the Wilburton Inn, Reluctant Panther, The Silver Fork, Mulligan's of Manchester, The Crooked Ram, The Equinox Resort. There were no comments from the public. Trustee Deck seconded the motion and all voted in favor

President Knight mentioned that he was in receipt of a letter from Marian Haines regarding the use of cell phone at public meetings and expressed that he was in agreement with her concerns.

Reports:

- a. **Roads and Trees (J. Lewis);** The two tree bids received were opened and both were a great deal higher than was expected. There was discussion regarding the budget constraint. Questions were posed and answered regarding the bid process. Marian Haines inquired about the location of the trees and whether the stumps would be removed. It was mentioned that the stumps are taken down as far as possible. President Knight motioned to postpone the decision until the Road Commissioner and Road Forman could discuss. Jim Lewis seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Donald Brodie mentioned the Village should take care in not replacing trees which might saddle the Village with removal expenses in the future.
- b. **Treasurer/Tax Collector (J. Arvin);** We are over budget for road salt this year. There are a couple of expenses that can be postponed in order to keep the bottom line in check. Other updates include: The traffic study project has ceased and the Ways Lane guardrail

repair was reimbursed in full. There is only \$2,200 taxes outstanding for this year. A property recently sold and the Village obtained approximately \$15,000 in back taxes from that sale. Overtime for the road crew was discussed. The Village clerk is required by the state to file a report with the state treasurer – that was recently completed.

- c. Administrative Officer (E. Scott) – Written Zoning Report submitted and on file; there has been a recent increase in permits.

In other business, Marian Haines mentioned that she was disappointed in the number of trees scheduled to be taken down and not replaced. Jim Lewis mentioned that the trees identified were dead or dying and some would be pruned. It was also mentioned that often times homeowners will voluntarily replant trees when trees are taken down near their homes. Marian Mueller had questions about planting of the trees and expressed that trees were an integral part of the Village. Julia Arvin agreed and added that the trees were planted at a time when modern plowing and other road maintenance was not a concern. President Knight expressed an interest in keeping the right-of-way free of growth in the interest of keeping future costs in check. Encouraging homeowners to plant trees on their property is in the interest of the community and direction on this subject should come from the Planning Commission.

At 5:04 pm President Knight motioned to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Before a second to the motion was obtained Marian Mueller asked the trustees to introduce themselves. Marian Haines then asked if the trustees would consider having “name tent cards” on the table during the meetings. Trustee Mariano will take care of this request.

Trustee Deck seconded President Knight’s motion and all voted in favor. The executive session began at 5:09 pm.

At 5:29 pm Trustee Lewis motioned to come out of executive session and Trustee Mariano seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

There being no further business, Trustee Lewis motioned to end the meeting. Trustee Ross seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

The meeting ended at 5:30 pm. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for April 2, 2018 at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Bell-Johnson, Secretary

