



Village of Manchester, Vermont

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DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Village of Manchester Board of Trustees

Monday, October 1, 2018

4:30 p.m., at the Village of Manchester Office, 45 Union Street

In Attendance: President, Brian Knight; Trustees: Jim Lewis, Tom Deck, Nina Mooney and Bill Mariano; Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector, Julia Arvin; Assistant Clerk/Treasurer and Secretary, Missy Bell-Johnson

Public: Richard Moore, Brad Myerson, Marian Haines

President Knight opened the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Trustee Mariano motioned to approve the minutes for the last Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held September 10, 2018. Trustee Mooney seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Brad Myerson briefed the board about locations in the Village experiencing early morning trash pick-up. He stated that the noise generated by the pick-up is intolerably loud and has been going on for years. He has spoken with representatives of Casella to see if something could be worked out but was not successful. Mr. Myerson distributed a written proposed ordinance, that was previously considered by the Town of Manchester, which would eliminate the problem. He continued by explaining that this was a quality of life issue and briefly discussed the benefit of such an ordinance versus the burden to the trash collection companies. President Knight thanked Mr. Myerson for taking the time to bring the matter to the board, indicated that matter was being assigned to the Planning Commission for consideration, and asked Mr. Myerson to attend the upcoming Planning Commission meeting on October 4, 2018.

Trustee Lewis provided the Road and Tree Report. Paving will start the 2nd or 3rd week of October on Brightwood and Witherall. The intersection project is progressing and is anticipated to be finished within a week or so. Questions were posed by the public and the trustees and answered by Mr. Lewis. Tom Deck talked about the traffic flow in front of the Equinox and stated it was not working. Trustee Mariano stated that the Town of Manchester Fire Department is concerned about emergency vehicles getting through that area when vehicles are parked on Route 7 and blocking traffic. At this time, it does not appear the Equinox is planning on creating the driveway to the side of the building as previously agreed. Trustee Deck noted that this problem will be handled by the Trustees.

The solar powered speed signs have not been purchased yet. The bids will be available for opening at the next BOT meeting. Locations for the speed signs were discussed. Ms. Arvin mentioned that the speed signs are designed to be moved.

Richard Moore asked if a 3-way stop sign can be placed at the end of Taconic and Prospect and noted that a sign in this location may slow down traffic.

Ms. Arin provided the Treasurer/Tax Collector's Report. It was a busy month. She recently attended a budgeting workshop held by VLCT and was pleased to report that Village procedures, in relation to establishing the fiscal year budget, are on point. The Village is also compliant with all legal requirements relating to the budget. She was provided with a number of ideas for communicating important and/or inevitable expenses to the public.

Ninety-four percent of the taxes were collected before the deadline this year – a higher than normal average. Written reports were distributed. The current year budget allocation to the Heavy Equipment Fund was completed and the bridge loan taken from that fund has been repaid.

There was discussion on the purchase of the new truck and it was stressed that the purchase must go out to bid. Ms. Arvin provided that the commitment to the purchase needs to be made now in order to get the truck by next summer

President Knight brought up the issue of legal fees and the likelihood that fees will exceed the budget this year. He briefly discussed two matters the Village attorney is working on and explained the need to seek legal assistance with each matter. Marian Haines asked for clarification regarding one of the legal matters and also asked if Certificates of Occupancy were provided for newly constructed homes.

Trustee Deck asked questions regarding a couple of line items provided in the month end financial report for August. He then raised the issue of changing the date of the town meeting. It was discussed that if the date of the town meeting was changed, that the fiscal year should change as well. President Knight outlined the procedure for changing the date of the annual meeting and the fiscal year. Tom Deck expressed his desire to see these items through to a vote. Discussion on property values and trends took place. Additional discussion on the budget and processes in use by the Village followed.

Richard Moore asked about the status of the request for PILOT payments from nonprofit organizations in the Village. President Knight responded and directed Mr. Moore to the minutes of the last BOT meeting.

President Knight explained that the Administrative Officer has established a list of concerns voiced by residents that will be considered by the Planning Commission at its upcoming meeting. Nina Mooney voiced disapproval of leaving these matters to the PC. President Knight explained the PC had the option to ask for direction from the trustees if needed

As there was no other business, Trustee Mariano motioned to end the meeting. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The meeting ended at 5:28 pm. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for November 5, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Missy Bell-Johnson, Assistant Clerk & Secretary