

West Windsor Utility Advisory Committee Meeting, June 15, 2015, by teleconference, draft minutes.

1. Meeting called to order at 4:05 p.m. Present: John Bossen, Jim Bonney, Gina Halsted, Ralph Bailey, David Leavitt, Jeff Nelson, Dick Beatty, Tom Kenyon, Martha Harrison, and Clerk Connie May.
2. Changes or additions to agenda: None.
3. Public comments: No public present.
4. Minutes of last meeting: *Motion* made to dispense with reading of minutes. Seconded. No discussion. *Motion passed unanimously.*
5. Proposal for new computer, software and monitor. Point made that ordinarily, Advisory Committee sets tone and rules, but Selectboard, when appropriate, has right to override committee's decisions. Selectboard approved this expenditure for expediency's sake. *Motion* made to approve expenditure of up to \$700. Seconded. No discussion. *Motion passed unanimously.*
6. A&E's Proposal for entire water system excluding tanks. Jeff Nelson has been in communication with Joe Duncan from A&E. Engineering report on system inspection with estimates should be available within next few weeks. Important part of report will be cost of new pump, which we need for back-up sooner rather than later. Jeff guesstimates a \$16,000 figure and recommends we move on that, provided funds are available, before decisions made on other recommendations.
7. A&E's proposal for two new tanks for water system. Tabled until after inspection and cleaning of tanks.
8. Approval for inspecting and cleaning two water tanks. Again for expediency, Select Board approved inspection and cleaning of the two tanks which already had tentative Committee approval but was awaiting costs; work has to be done and will begin June 24th. The hope is for a favorable report after inspection and cleaning, to avoid the cost of replacement (up to \$260,000). *Motion* made to approve up to \$11,000 for inspection and cleaning of two water tanks. Seconded. No discussion. *Motion passed unanimously.*
9. Timeline, status and impact of final acquisition of water system. PSB meeting on June 30th to discuss sale of water system to Town. Hope is for approval; speed of process depends on whether the Deer Run Road issue is settled between Mountainside and the Town.
10. Timing and costs for removing pumps from Base Lodge and modifications. Not yet discussed with engineers; we need to get their report first.
11. Water system connections at Mountainside. MOU between Town and Mountainside states that Mountainside will withdraw its motion to intervene, and in turn, the Town as owner of water system will see that the system circumvents their booster pumps (to avoid potential contamination), and will decommission the well, which will then be on Town land.
12. Sewer and water system budget v cost. Sewer system has \$144,000 available in money market fund; \$130,000 of this is escrow for capital. Windsor is paid quarterly; John will work on more detailed report for July meeting. We are over budget on legal expenses, but under on other items, such as electricity (we anticipate spending half of \$35,000 budgeted). Budget looks good until we deal with issue of water tanks. Overall sewer budget in pretty good shape. Money water system borrowed from sewer account has been paid back. Water system has \$86,500 for on-going expenses. Cathy Archibald setting up new software, so hope is that by July meeting, we'll be able to have income/cost and income/comparisons broken down by month for discussion. Point made that Town should ask engineers for estimate on what needs to be done to ensure that snow-making system can provide fire-fighting protection. Transformer in Town a problem; oil drained out, and water got into transformer during Storm Irene. Cost of testing that is nearly the same as cost of replacement (\$30,000 to \$40,000 range). Issue needs to be researched. As part of Village project, engineers will research whether there are tanks around pump station for sewer overflow.
13. Permit applications. Electrical permit applications to run booster pumps in old lodge continued until November. Hopefully by then, the pumps will be moot. Question asked about any metal salvage value. Sense was: not much.

14. Additional TV work on sewer line. Engineers recommending scoping of the rest of the line as continuation of work done last year to be sure lines are healthy. Proposal sent to members of committee; Jeff Nelson recommends that this work be done. *Motion* made to approve \$14,000 for this expense. Seconded. No discussion. *Motion passed unanimously*.

15. Mountain's Edge tree removal update. Tree has been removed.

16. Request to disconnect Cunningham Building from sewer system. Water has been shut off to building, and sewer lines either capped or valve closed, so sewer system may not be operational. Request made to clarify that. Worry expressed about precedent that property owners could shut off water, and not go through the application process to formally disconnect sewer service. Ordinance states that system can charge for disconnects, that the "Board" makes that decision, and that authorization to disconnect shall not be made except under extraordinarily circumstances. MFW had formerly proposed that fees for use of resort land by Town and by non-profits be waived in exchange for waiver of past-due sewer fees. That request was tabled without a motion at the April meeting, but questions arose as to why any sewer fees were past due in the first place, what interest would be applied, and should any courtesy disconnect be considered when the account was not up-to-date. Since no motion was offered, it was agreed to table the matter, but request was made for an update on what MFW owes in past sewer bills.

17. Review final Sewer Ordinance. The Ordinance that was adopted by the Selectboard has had some subsequent changes that were not contained in the original copy of the Ordinance agreed to by the Selectboard and the POA, and approved by the ACT 250 Commission. Corrections were subsequently discussed and agreed to by Nate Stearns, POA attorney, and by Glenn Seward. Those changes were yet to be adopted by the Selectboard, so the revised copy was presented to the committee for approval. Changes involving makeup of committee were also added, but definition of "discharge permit" still needs to be clarified. *Motion* made to approve copy that was sent to committee members, and to give that copy to the Selectboard for review and approval. Seconded. No further discussion. *Motion passed unanimously*.

Groups encouraged to elect an alternate representative to committee. Assumption made that once Town properties attached to sewer system, Town will have elected rep on WWUAC. Question raised as to how many votes resort owner currently gets: one or two. When ordinance composed, only one was included.

18. Other Business. VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation sent notice regarding a fee of 5 cents/1,000 gallons of water used. Point made that this fee is for "public community water systems." We're not sure if the system is "public" until acquired by the Town. Committee encouraged Town to research this point, as Town might be liable for fees not paid but due heretofore. Martha Harrison and Connie May thanked for their work for committee. Connie agreed to be Clerk until October, after which a replacement has to be found.

19. Next meeting: July 17th, 4:00 p.m. in Town Hall. All encouraged to attend in person.

20. Motion made to adjourn. Seconded. No discussion. *Motion* passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.