

West Windsor Utility Advisory Committee meeting by teleconference, September 21, 2015
Draft Minutes

Meeting called to order 4:01 p.m. Quorum established with Jim Bonney, Lew Iadarola, Gina Halsted, David Leavitt, Steve Hawco, and John Bossen present. Select Board member Tom Kenyon, Town Administrator Martha Harrison, and Clerk Connie May also present.

Changes or additions to agenda: Martha noted that hydrant at sports and fitness center was dug up and shut off by Dennis Brown. John added discussion of Treasurer Report.

Public comment: No public present.

Minutes of last meeting: *Motion* made to dispense reading of minutes. Seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer report: Steve will work with John in overseeing finances and will be giving Treasurer Reports at meetings.

Timetable, status and final acquisition of water system: Select Board signed MOU with Mountainside last Friday. David expects that Mountainside will withdraw motion to intervene with PSB before October committee meeting. Then up to Town to communicate with PSB regarding Town's acquisition of water system.

Follow-up to resolutions from last committee meeting (July 17th):

- "To waive notice if emergency meeting necessary to discuss PSB Hearing and moving ahead with Town's acquisition of water system." Motion passed; but emergency meeting not necessary now with Mountainside's withdrawal of motion to intervene.
- "To recommend to Select Board that they approve Cunningham's disconnection from sewer system without charge." Motion did not carry. Select Board decided nonetheless to allow Cunningham's to disconnect. This will be issue for discussion at next committee meeting in October.
- "Provided funds are available, to recommend that Select Board proceed with pre-purchase steps to acquire pump for well head, and such moneys as needed to come from operating funds." Motion passed. Subsequent to motion, engineers determined that new pump not necessary. Patricia Beavers said company in Brattleboro area can pull pump as necessary for repairs; replacement would take 5 days. Lew commented that if pump is replaced, Town consider variable frequency pump; would last longer, with softer start and less shock to pump. Added that funds for replacement might be available from power company. John asked Lew to confer with Jeff Nelson about this issue. Question of status of Base Lodge arose. Vermont Division of Drinking Water doing sanitary survey on Friday, which will include looking at Base Lodge. Vermont Drinking Water Division also evaluating capacity as part of system purchase. Town presented Snowdance with draft agreement to purchase Lodge; negotiations on-going. Town would only acquire Lodge if grant funds available to tear it down. We are also waiting for engineers' final recommendation regarding water-system components in Base Lodge; hope expressed that we have that recommendation by our October meeting. Options included rendering pumps in Base Lodge obsolete with changes in system, or securing basement of Base Lodge where pumps currently located. To enable the continued operation of the water system this winter, the town may have to consider capping stairwell to seal basement of Base Lodge in order to prevent rainwater intrusion, and cleaning and heating basement. Waiting on feedback from State regarding sanitary considerations; hope is for some clarification by October meeting.

Lew raised question of water tanks in/near base lodge, making point that these are important for fire-fighting. Martha answered that those tanks are in good condition. Lew expressed concern that we

maintain fire-fighting capacity; John said engineers have a plan to do so, and encourage Lew to confer with Jeff Nelson, who has been liaison between committee and engineers.

Disposition of final Sewer Ordinance: Motion made to again encourage Select Board to finalize latest version of Sewer Ordinance. Seconded. Discussion: This motion is renewal of our recommendation to Select Board to approve this document, which we need as basis for water system ordinance. Issue was on Select Board agenda for July 27 meeting, and motion approved then to take document under advisement. No action taken after that. Tom said the issue will be added to Select Board agenda for meeting on 4th Monday this month.

Role of Advisory Committee: Tabled until October meeting.

Other business: Lew asked to be notified if there is technical information he should know or can assist with. John encouraged him to get in touch with Jeff Nelson prior to October meeting. Jim said he's working on getting an alternate rep from Mountain Village.

Next meeting: Friday, October 9th at 4:00 p.m. at Town Hall, Brownsville, VT. Agenda will include review of financials.

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn. Seconded. No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.