



EMERALD LAKE VILLAGE DISTRICT
HILLSBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, 03244

Monthly Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Emerald Lake Village District

June 14, 2018

Gazebo, Eastman Park, Hillsborough NH

Present: Diane Cunningham, Chairman of the Commissioners (in person)
Linda Whiting, Commissioner (in person)
Wayne Held, Commissioner (in person)
Jessica Vitkauskas, Treasurer (in person)
Kim Grondin, Clerk (in person)

ELVD Residents: Brett Taber, Melissa Taber, Greg Klos, Michele Dupont, Brianna Dupont, Joseph Feindel, Eileen Feindel, Richard Whiting, Kathy Coventry, Kiat Maitland, Suzanne Johnson, Stephen Johnson, LuAnne Gomez, Amber Lane, Barbara Winters, Dona Bird, Pat Topper, Jan Howe, and Peter Howe.

The regular Board of Commissioners Meeting was duly convened at approximately 6:01 pm at the Gazebo in Eastman Park, as noticed, with a quorum of three out of three commissioners in attendance. The commissioners would like to inform everyone that the meeting is for the purpose of conducting District business in a public format and on the public record. The main goal is for the District Commissioners to approve vendor payments, discuss issues that need attention and to make official decisions on the issues, in part to allow the District to continue to run, maintain our roads and properties, and deliver safe clean drinking water to our residents. The Board will be discussing and voting on many issues tonight, and only the board can vote on these issues. Any public comment on an issue at hand must be recognized by the Board and only during the public comment period. During the public comment session, the commissioners are asking residents to please raise their hands, be recognized to speak, introduce themselves by name and address, and only address the body of the board. In order for everyone to be heard, we have reserved the right to limit speakers to two minutes. Any resident that raises their voice, becomes threatening, lacking in good taste or causes violence, will be immediately asked to leave. Once the public comment session is over, we are asking everyone to sit quietly and observe the rest of the meeting or move to another location. Anyone who disturbs the meeting will be asked to leave. With that being said, the Commissioners would like to thank all residents for attending the meeting.

- 1. Mellen Tenamly Letter:** BOC's received a letter from Mellen Tenamly, resident stating that she is filing an application with DES to repair the waterfront in front of her home. She has all the proper paperwork, as well as having an engineer. BOC's has approved the work and the resident will keep us updated.

2. **Construction Bids:** Wayne Held, Commissioner states that there are two projects that the BOC's are accepting bids for. The primary project is the construction of the electrical building on Patten Hill Road, where wells 7, 8, and 9 are located. Presently there is a foundation in place, which is a 10x12 foundation completed a couple years ago. The present housing is rotting, so a new one needs to be built. The new building/shed will need to be insulated, a hole and stairway built/made going down into the foundation, which houses all the electrical equipment for the three wells. BOC's state they would like to give the opportunity for any resident with a construction background to give first bids on the project. Brett Taber, resident asks "do you have specs for this"? Wayne Held, Commissioner states that after speaking with WSO, they are asking for approximately 10x12 in size and the ceiling needs to be at least 8ft tall. The building just needs to be an insulated shell and will not need sheetrock. The second project is the gazebo, as it is slowly deteriorating. The floor of the gazebo is rotting out and the BOC's are asking residents to bid on constructing a new floor and possibly the beams below it (depending on their condition). There are signs at the mailboxes and kiosks stating how to put a bid in.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Wayne Held, Commissioner presents workshop meeting minutes dating June 6, 2018. The workshop meeting minutes were reviewed, and a motion was made to accept them, seconded and approved.
4. **Finances:** Jessica Vitkauskas, Treasurer states "the bill payments for all vendors is high because of the MA Bean payment. Overall the total bill payments for the month was \$70,799.56 of which \$10,462.76 came from the water manifest and 60,336.80 came from the general manifest. Motion was made to accept and approve the finances, seconded, and approved.

Wayne Held, Commissioner would like to know that now the tax bills are out, and the money will start coming in, we have already obligated \$60,000 to go into the Water Capital Improvement Program fund and how does that money get put in there. Jessica Vitkauskas, Treasurer states "It will be voted on, approved and made public when the transfer of funds will be transferred. Debbie was saying that big transfers can only be done twice a year and we will have to coordinate when we do it, so it will coordinate with the water bills. I think if we coordinate and agree on when we make that big transfer, we can do it whenever you are ready."

5. **Water Ban:** Diane Cunningham, Commissioner states "We are still in a water ban and we need to be diligent. If you see somebody not doing what they're supposed to, please say something to them and alert one of us. By the time, you call one of us to go check it out, they will be done. I cannot tell you how many times I have received messages, gone there and there is nothing to prove. So, if you see somebody, take a picture and send it to us, let them know, let us know and we will follow-up. The other day, I sent out three letters of warnings, which will be followed by fines for abusing the water policy. I would like to thank residents who have informed the BOC's of these residents.
6. **Public Comment:** Amber Lane, Resident of 39 Spring Street states "we have a problem on our street where there is a lot of drug activity. I know others have drug activity on their streets as well. The police are aware of this drug activity to consist using drugs, selling drugs, possibly manufacturing of drugs, and not marijuana. The users of these drugs are now starting to expose themselves to my children during daytime hours, as this happened three times last week. It is a male and female, the female is exposing all her upper body and the male is not exposing his body parts but pointing at him in his underwear. My children are ages 2, 4, 9, and 11. The first incident happened last Sunday, at my sons' birthday party where there were other children and parents at my home. The police are aware, we have video footage of some of it, but the police say the video is too grainy. They say they are working on it, but I want everyone in the community to know that these people are here and feel it is my job as a mother, as I am doing everything I can to reach out to everyone I can think of for the right justice for my children and the district. One of my children is very very bothered by this and is seeing the school counselor. I am here tonight to let everyone know that this is going on right here in our little place and we can all be diligent and make everyone aware."

Kim Grondin, Clerk asks "are there children that live there"? Amber Lane, resident states "there are no children, but they do have grandchildren that visit on a daily basis that are under the age of four". Stephen Johnson, resident asks "what are the police doing?" Amber Lane, resident responds "they are working on it, but I feel they are dragging their feet as I have been all the way to the chief, as these are my kids". Stephen Johnson, resident asks "how many other adults have witnessed this, and did they make a statement to the police?" Amber Lane, resident responds "there are five other adults, four made statements but one lives in Massachusetts and you have to be in person to file a report". Melissa Taber, resident asked if there is anything that we can do. Diane Cunningham, Commissioner states that there isn't really anything we can do. Wayne Held, Commissioner states "what is good is that you came here to let people know and by word of mouth, we can spread this around and we appreciate that". Diane Cunningham, Commissioner states "I am sorry that you are going through this Amber". Amber Lane, resident states "its not your fault and that is why I made a post on the page, as this is not about all the other nitpicking things, as I am just trying to bring awareness, so people can protect themselves and especially the children of our community". BOC's thanked Amber Lane, resident for bringing this to our attention.

Stephen Johnson, Resident states "I saw a comment on the Facebook page about there being plans to deal with the water. You stated in the beginning that the BOC's are trying to provide safe drinking water, I cannot drink that water, she can't drink the water, I will not give it to my kids, as I feel it is not good enough to give it to my kids. What other plans do you guys have in either mind or action to actually fix the situation, so that we can live like normal people"? Wayne Held, Commissioner states that the water is constantly being treated and that is the best we can do for now. Stephen Johnson, Resident reply's "We have been hearing that since we moved here and that we need to maintain the system instead of actually fixing the system. We are more worried about the wood on our gazebo than we are about what goes in our body or washes our body or feeds are plants, which we can't do because we can't use the water." Wayne Held, Commissioner states "We are a small community and we can only put "X" amount of dollars into the fund to repair the water system. We are projecting that next year, we would like to replace at least two roads of the infrastructure pipeline, the most leaking roads. If we have enough money to do another road, we will do that as well. Also coming down the pike is, in the next two to three years from now, we can replace the Red Fox Crossing Bridge, which is crumbling. It is over 30% deficiency and it will not be long before one of these years, a school bus or big truck will go over it and it will collapse, so we need to concentrate on replacing that in the next couple years. So again, we are putting another large sum of money into our Bridge and Road Fund, so we can do that. Presently, we are just about half way there, as we guesstimate that the bridge cost will be about \$250,000, we are exploring ways of getting grants as well. This year, we have put bids out for engineers and in the next month or so, we will be hiring an engineer to look at some of the water issues we have. So, going forward, we can tackle those issues and start resolving them. By the time it is all resolved, you and I will be long gone because to do it all and do it all at once, it will be five to six million dollars and I don't think anyone wants that on their tax bill. Most states cannot afford that kind of money and we are just a small community of 500 residents. You must figure about 100 of those houses are under foreclosures and having issues, so we don't have a big flow of contribution tax base. We must do things a little bit at a time. We will also have the engineer look at ways that maybe better to improve it the water system." Wayne Held, Commissioner states many ideas but everything costs money. Conversations were had back and forth about the water system. Kathy Coventry, Resident asks "when you replace the leaks, are you using the bigger pipes to fix it or are you using the same pipes"? Diane Cunningham, Commissioner states "when there is a leak, WSO is patching the leak, as we can't have different size pipes all over the place because it won't match". Wayne Held, Commissioner states "earlier in the year, WSO has sat down with DES and had a discussion on the water issues. WSO gave us a 30-year plan on what can be done on replacing certain roads and certain years and the estimated cost. Granted that as time goes on, the cost will be inflated a little bit but at least there is a ball park figure of the costs and where we need replacements to be done." The infrastructure replacing will start next year, it will not be every year, but our goal right now is to find out what grants we can get from the state.

We would like to get more grants than loans, so we are going to keep trying to get money into the CIP accounts. Kathy Rodgers, RCAP is helping us find grants and knows the people to talk to. The plan is to get the fundamentals done this year and start the work next year.

Brett Taber, Resident states "I know right now that you have presented that WSO has given you a 30-year plan, which those quotes are not going to be realistic 5 years down the road, but do you recall how much money you set aside for the water improvement?" Wayne Held, Commissioner states "Article 7 ELVD will raise approximately \$60,000 to be added to the water system CIP fund for the focus of continuing replacing mains, distribution lines, and water infrastructure". Brett Taber, Resident responds "do you foresee, other than trying to get grants, in five to 10 years the ability to get anywhere near the four and six million dollars that we need to get the infrastructure upgraded. If it is not done within 10 years, then in 30 years it will start all over again and you will have not made any grounds. Not at fault of anyone but that is how it is right now. My thought is that throughout the next year looking at whether it is 200 or 400 thousand dollars every year that is allocated in the tax basis, so that within 10 years at 4 million dollars, we will have already done everything within ten years through straight tax base with no loans and a minimal amount on the tax base that goes up every year. I am suggesting looking at that over the next year and that may be an approach to get this problem resolved within 10 years versus 30 years. At the end of the 10-year period, you are putting money away every year, even at \$100,000 a year for 10 years, there is another million saved up towards continuous improvement because the systems are only good for 30 to 40 years, so if you don't have anything other than the 3 million saved for the next subsequent 10,20,30 years, who ever is living here will have the same issues. I believe it would be beneficial for any commissioner base for that to start being developed." Different approaches were discussed, as well as suggestions. Brett Taber, Resident was thanked by the BOC's for his suggestions.

Melissa Taber, Resident states "the flower box that is down by the Meetinghouse Beach by the road has been weeded. I would like to know if I can stain the wood to preserve it"? Diane Cunningham, Commissioner says "yes and thank you very much."

7. Upcoming Meetings:

Next BOC Meeting is **July 19, 2018** at the Gazebo at **6:00 p.m.**

Next Commissioner's Workshop is **July 11, 2018** at the ELVD office at **6:00 p.m.**

Whereupon there being no further business before the Board at this time, it was moved, seconded by public and unanimously voted the Meeting be adjourned.

Adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Diane Cunningham, Chairman of Commissioners

Linda Whiting, Commissioner

Wayne Held, Commissioner

Board of Commissioners.

Certified by the Clerk: _____ 6/15/18

