

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
BOARD OF VILLAGE TRUSTEES MEETING
November 12, 2019
Immediately following the public informational meeting
Woodstock Town Hall
Draft Minutes

Draft subject to approval.

Present: Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Cary Agin, Keri Cole, Serena Nelson, Frank Heald, Beth Fish, , Mary Riley, Police Chief Blish, Fire Chief Green, Don Wheeler, Sally Miller, Neil Allen, Beth Finlayson, Allison Clarkson, Jill Davies, Brigitte Ambrose, Jennifer Raymond.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeffrey Kahn called the November 12, 2019 meeting of the Village Trustees to order at 7:05pm.

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS- None

III. ADDITIONS TO AND DELETIONS FROM THE POSTED AGENDA - None

IV. REQUESTS FOR PERMITS - None

V. TREE WARDEN REPORT

A. Sooty Mold on Trees

- i. There are few trees in the Village with Sooty Mold on them.
- ii. Solutions to the Sooty Mold are:
 1. Spraying a pesticide on the trees.
 - a. Due to close proximity to the Green, houses, and other human factors, many companies do not want to spray pesticides within the Village.
 2. Spraying a non-toxic dormant oil and pruning the trees
 - a. This could be done in the spring and the oil is non-toxic to humans and plants. It is a neem oil-based product. The pruning would reduce the sooty mold and allow sunlight into the tree canopies.
- iii. The Trustees would like to see a cost for the oil and the pruning of the affected trees. Mr. Wheeler will get that information to the Trustees.

B. Emerald Ash Borer

- i. The Emerald Ash Borer infestations are getting close to Woodstock and the timing is unknown as to when it will reach the Town and Village. Currently, the Emerald Ash Borer is as close as Londonderry, VT. A plan needs to be put in place so that when it happens, the trees can be dealt with in a timely manner.
- ii. Mr. Wheeler has been attending meetings on the Emerald Ash Borer and is gathering information to come up with a plan to deal with the trees when the Emerald Ash Borer gets here.
 1. In the meantime, Mr. Wheeler is going to get an inventory of the Ash Trees within the Town and Village that are owned by the Town and Village and those that are in the right of way.

C. Mr. Heald would like to publicly thank Mr. Wheeler for his prompt response to these issues and his participation in the meetings that he has attended on the Emerald Ash Borer.

VI. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

- A. The Veteran's Day Parade went well. The Turkey Trot is coming up and people are reminded to be aware of possible delays on Thanksgiving morning due to the race.
- B. **Governor's Highway Safety Patrol** - The Police Department will be taking part in the Governor's Highway Safety Patrol enforcement during Thanksgiving. This will include additional high visibility patrols throughout the long weekend.
- C. **Halloween** – The police didn't see or hear of any problems during trick-or-treating.
 - i. The weather limited the people that came out, but Ms. Clarkson thought that it was a great success and that it went very well. Ms. Clarkson didn't see any issues during the event.
 - ii. Ms. Raymond commented that it is no fun for those who are in the Town and Village and want trick-or-treaters, but don't get any due to the closing of the few streets.
 - iii. Residents were happy with the candy donations this year.
- D. **River Street Speed Enforcement and Signage**
 - i. Rotary Club – Chief Blish has obtained permission to tie into their power supply on River Street by the cemetery to install a radar sign. The sign was purchased with grant money.
 - ii. No thru trucks signs have been put up on either end of River Street.
- E. **Coffee with the Chief and stuff a cruiser event** – November 22, 2019 from 7-9am
 - i. The event will be at the Emergency Services Building and the items to stuff in the cruiser will be food items that will be donated to the Woodstock Food Shelf.
- F. **Meters** -The revenue for October 2019 was \$17,846. This is up from last year, which was \$15,412.
- G. **Parking Kiosks** – Chief Blish gave the Trustees a handout on meters and kiosks. He brought the information as a conversation starter, as the meters that we currently have are approaching their end of life. The Trustees would like to form a committee to get more points of view and thoughts about this.
 - i. Jill Davies would like to get rid of the flashing lights on the meters, and the kiosk would enable this.
 - ii. Ms. Clarkson would like to add that the kiosk has it's plus' and minus'. Her concerns are consumer confusion and that kiosks are not as convenient as meters.
 - iii. The kiosks would make it easier for snow removal and would reduce the snowbanks on the sidewalks. The snowbanks are dangerous and hard to navigate.
 - iv. Chief Blish believes that there would be fewer modern costs with a kiosk and would be an overall cost reduction.
 - v. The Trustees are looking for someone to chair the committee to look into this further.
 - 1. Ms. Raymond would like to be on the committee.
- H. **School Resource Officer (SRO)**
 - i. The WCSU, specifically the Woodstock HS/MS has reached out to Chief Blish recently about implementing a SRO program. Chief Blish brought this to the Trustees to begin a conversation and to gauge interest. The WCSU is offering \$50,000 towards a SRO and the Village would have to fund the difference. There are grants available that the Village could apply for.
 - ii. Chair Kahn and the Village Trustees supports the idea of a SRO. Chair Kahn brought up the possibility of hiring a retired police officer for the position that is not with the police department. Chief Blish informed the Trustees that if the person is not affiliated with a department, the Woodstock Police would still be called as it is their jurisdiction.

- iii. Anything not criminally related, the school would handle it. If criminally related, the SRO would be involved. SRO would bring in students to school for discipline for non-criminally involved issues.
- iv. Ms. Finlayson talked about the Freeport, Maine SRO and that he was heavily involved in the community and was very valuable to the community and students.
- v. Windsor, VT Police Department's SRO officer works in multiple towns. It is a new position and they could be a great resource.

VII. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Financial Report – A report was given to the Village Trustees.
 - i. Mr. Heald will investigate the Police Building Maintenance Line and the revenue from the Rockefeller Endowment Fund, as questions were asked about those two lines.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS - None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Short Term Rental Ordinance Possible Adoption
 - i. A Public Informational Meeting was held prior to the meeting tonight and a discussion was had about the ordinance. Please refer to the meeting minutes from that meeting for more information.
 - ii. Amendment: Section III C: consider amending it to read “owner’s behalf” instead of “his, her or its behalf”.

Motion: by Ms. Cole to adopt the Short Term Rental Ordinance as presented with the one amendment as submitted pending lawyer approval.

Seconded: by Mr. Agin

Discussion: Chair Kahn finds that this is worth starting out with and change it as necessary within a year. Ms. Nelson would like to edit Section III C: consider amending it to read “owner’s behalf” instead of “his, her or its behalf”. Ms. Davies would like to see Section VI C: Have a geographic response time as well as defining promptness. The Trustees have agreed to monitor this section and amend as needed.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

X. OTHER BUSINESS - None

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. October 8, 2019 Minutes

Motion: by Ms. Cole to approve the October 8, 2019 minutes as submitted.

Seconded: by Mr. Agin

Discussion: None

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

XII. ADJOURNMENT PENDING REVIEW OF EXPENSE WARRANTS

Motion: by Ms. Cole to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm pending review of expense warrants.

Seconded: by Ms. Nelson.

Discussion: None

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Fish