

**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
December 17, 2019 @ 5:45 PM  
Town Hall  
Draft Minutes**

**Draft** subject to approval.

**Present:** Chair L.D. Sutherland, Mary Riley, Jill Davies, Ray Bourgeois, John Doten, Frank Heald, Beth Fish, Macy Lawrence, Beth Finlayson, Sally Miller, Tom Weschler, Michael Stoner, Roger Logan, Wendy Marrinan, Phyllis Gerrish, Jennifer Waite, Linda Smiddy, Jim Smiddy, Joanna Garbisch, Graham Hankey, Zoie Parent

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Select Board Chair L.D. Sutherland called the December 17, 2019 meeting of the Select Board at 6:05pm

**II. ADDITIONS TO AND DELETIONS FROM THE POSTED AGENDA,**

- A. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS regarding the Municipal Manager Search. Mr. Heald, Mr. Kahn, and Ms. Cole were invited to attend the executive session.

**Motion:** by Ms. Riley to move into executive session regarding the Municipal Manager's Search at 6:06pm.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Bourgeois

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

**Motion:** by Ms. Riley to move adjourn out of executive session regarding the Municipal Manager's Search and resume the regularly scheduled meeting at 6:12pm.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Doten

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

**III. PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE TOWN ZONING REGULATIONS**

A. Section 103 Definitions

- i. General Store: A small retail store selling groceries and sundry items with ability to apply for an accessory use of up to 25 seats for consumption of food on premise.
- ii. Ms. Miller presented this amendment to the Town Zoning Regulation. By changing the definition, it would allow all general stores to have the same abilities, instead of changing the zoning for the Taftsville Country Store.
  1. They will need to apply for conditional use for the seating for food consumption. No major concerns were brought up by the residents of Taftsville during the Planning Commission.
  2. Mr. Stoner a resident of Taftsville and neighbor of the store is in favor of this amendment and believes that it would make it a place of congregation.

**Motion:** by Ms. Davies to approve the change as proposed.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Doten

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

#### **IV. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

##### **A. Faulkner Park**

- i. Ms. Smiddy is a full-time resident of the Village as well as her husband Jim who is also in attendance. She thanked the Select Board for their work and service. Ms. Smiddy is interested in the possible Faulkner Park transition. Ms. Smiddy would like to propose some questions about the transfer of Faulkner Park from the Faulkner Trust to the Town of Woodstock.
- ii. Ms. Smiddy asked what the real benefits are to Woodstock.
  1. Mrs. Faulkner's Will contemplates a charitable foundation.
  2. Allison Clarkson and Jennifer Waite have been involved with the Trust so far. Select Board member Jill Davies suggested meeting on Friday, December 20 at noon with Ms. Smiddy, Ms. Clarkson, and Jennifer Waite with those who are interested in being involved in the conversation.
- iii. Ms. Smiddy would like to know how this all came about.
  1. There was a meeting in 2018 to discuss this possible transfer of Faulkner Park. Ms. Smiddy is inquiring if there was any public input from users of the park, abutters, and residents.
- iv. Ms. Smiddy would like to know a schedule of when a decision will be made.
- v. Ms. Smiddy would like more information regarding the details about how the transfer amount was calculated. At the November 19, 2019 Select Board meeting the representative of the Faulkner Trust mentioned that it assumed a 5% return, which is an aggressive return. Ms. Smiddy would like to know who or what entity will make up the difference if the value of the assets falls below and what the actual costs are. The range of annual costs were from \$47k to \$79k. Ms. Smiddy would like more information on the cost factors and rate of inflation as well as the cost analysis.
- vi. There will be a proposed meeting on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 12pm at Wendy Marrinan's home with residents, Ms. Davies, Ms. Clarkson, and Jennifer Waite from the NPS.
- vii. Ms. Marrinan believes that it is important to keep the conversation alive and be involved in the decision. Ms. Marrinan would like to make sure the decision will honor Mrs. Faulkner's wishes.
  1. There is a difference between the will and the notes from the Trust. A comma has been removed from a section when used by the Trust, which Ms. Marrinan believes is being used to misconstrue Mrs. Faulkner's wishes.
- viii. A final decision does not have to be made right away and Ms. Davies does not believe that this is an urgent matter.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS - None**

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Our Woodstock Our Future -Woodstock Community Vision**

- i. This has been tabled until the January 21,2019 Select Board meeting.

##### **B. River Loop Trail Introduction**

- i. Mr. Weschler presented the River Loop Trail Introduction to the Select Board. The River Loop Trail is making progress, and this is intended to be a 3.5-mile trail from the East End Park to the east. 95% of the trail is on Woodstock Resort Corporation property and they have given the go ahead with the trail. The group will be going ahead to get the permits.
- ii. The trail would be owned by the Town of Woodstock. There would be some future yearly funding for insurance and such. Maintenance would be done by the group and paid for by fundraising.
- iii. There will be easements with property owners for the trail system. This is not a permanent easement, so they could cancel the easement at any time.
- iv. It does fit in with the East End Park.
- v. The EDC grant request would be for about 60% of the trail cost.
- vi. Mr. Bourgeois is concerned about people using the trail for bicycling. They are going to discourage the use of bicycles on the trail and it will be properly signed.

## **VII. PERMITS**

### **A. Overweight Truck Permits**

- i. Jaben Knapp, Mark Johnson

**Motion:** by Mr. Doten

**Seconded:** by Mr. Bourgeois

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

## **VIII. BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

### **A. Approval of the Sewer Rates for 2019-2020**

- i. Mr. Heald stated the rate has increased by .20 cents per 100 cubic feet. It is now 9.46 per 100 cubic feet.

**Motion:** by Ms. Riley as presented

**Seconded:** by Mr. Bourgeois

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

## **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Manager's Report**

- i. Lincoln Bridge is open ahead of schedule and opened December 11, 2019. The construction company did a really good job.
- ii. The Taftsville Plant is back online, and some non-critical fixes are still needed to be made. The sewer department overtime will be greatly reduced.
- iii. The So. Woodstock Plant is expected to have the final analysis from Stantec back by the end of this week. The expense is going to be significantly more than originally thought. It could range from \$2-\$3 million. The Select Board will determine an amount based off an evaluation from Stantec and will submit that in the budget. At Town Meeting there will be a bond vote for the So. Woodstock Plant refurbishment and the amount on the bond vote will be an amount not to be exceeded. The plan is that the refurbishment will hopefully cost less than the bond vote, and a smaller bond can be taken.

1. So. Woodstock volumes are significantly higher than Taftsville and a different plan will be needed.
  - iv. Auditor's Report – The staff has done a good job at getting on track.
  - v. On January 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30pm and again on January 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am - 1pm there will be an Open House for the Emergency Services Building.
  - vi. Budget work is in its final stages. They are getting closer to a number to bring to the taxpayers.
- B. Financial Report
- i. A report was distributed to the Select Board for review.
- C. Mr. Lawrence asked about the structural steel that is sticking out and the edge of the Lincoln Bridge and could do some damage to vehicles. The Lincoln Bridge before re-construction had ramps to avoid the steel.
- D. Ms. Riley asked about the meeting that is happening on Friday at Ms. Marrinan's house and Mr. Sutherland would like to see two Select Board members at the meeting. The people of Woodstock would like more dialog and communication and Ms. Riley will try to attend the meeting to be another ear and to bring more transparency to the public.
- E. In the future, before any idea is taken on, that idea should be approved by the Select Board. The Board should also be aware when a representative of the Select Board is involved. Having a dialog should be required so everyone is aware.
- F. Mr. Doten stated that the Town Constable would like to see his tenure to extend to a three-year period versus a one-year period. The Constable has contacted the Town Clerk regarding this position.

#### **X. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. November 19, 2019 Rejuvenation Meeting Minutes
- B. November 19, 2019 Minutes
- C. November 22, 2019 Joint Meeting Minutes
- D. November 25, 2019 Joint Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** by Ms. Davies to approve all minutes as submitted.

**Seconded:** by Mr. Bourgeois

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

#### **XI. ADJOURNMENT PENDING REVIEW EXPENSE WARRANTS**

**Motion:** by Mr. Doten at 7:08pm

**Seconded:** by Ms. Davies

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 5-0-0, passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Beth Fish*