

TOWN & VILLAGE OF WOODSTOCK
SELECT BOARD & VILLAGE TRUSTEES JOINT MEETING
JULY 30, 2020
8:30 AM
CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES

Draft subject to approval.

Present: Chair Mary Riley, Jill Davies, L.D. Sutherland, Keri Cole, Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Cary Agin, Ana DiNatale, William Kerbin, Nikki Nourse, Police Chief Robbie Blish, Zoie Parent, Roger Logan, Julia Cooke, Patrick Proctor.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Select Board

1. Chair Riley called to order the joint meeting of July 30, 2020 at 8:30am.

B. Trustees

1. Chair Kahn called to order the joint meeting of July 30, 2020 at 8:30am.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. River Loop Trail easement

1. Mr. Kerbin stated that this gives an easement for the town and village to use the land on Woodstock Resort's land for this trail. Any construction will be done by the Riverwalk Committee.

Motion: by Mr. Sutherland to approve the River Loop Trail easement and give Mr. Kerbin permission to sign the document.

Seconded: by Ms. Davies.

Discussion: Mr. Kerbin stated that this should be included in the regular insurance policy.

Chair Riley stated that they will have a certificate of insurance naming the Woodstock Resort as insured.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Motion: by Mr. Agin to approve the River Loop Trail easement and give Mr. Kerbin permission to sign the document.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

B. Discussion of COPS Grant for School Resource Officer

1. Chief Blish stated that last summer the school approached the police in providing a School Resource Officer. The school would give them \$50,000 towards this. There is a grant for \$125,000 for this position. It would be split up for three years while the school pays the \$50,000 yearly. The fourth year the municipality would need to pay the other half of the salary. The school is not in a position to accept the grant at this time. They would like to delay this a year due to COVID. They can apply to extend the grant. They have until August 8 to accept the grant. They want to make sure there are no penalties if not used. This is also to give the youth and officers a positive interaction. A study that

was done at the high school showed that 31% of students had access to drugs, 79% had access to alcohol and 70% had access to marijuana. The officer could also help with bullying as well as combating drug issues. They will be a resource for students. They would carry a gun and be in full uniform. They would be an experienced full time officer. The person would have to be a good fit for the school. He knows someone who is interested. He has talked to the principal and superintendent about this. The officer would also respond to truancy issues. They would use the grant for the next school year. They would apply for an extension. They were called to the high school 109 times last year. This was for a wide range of things ranging from behavior, cigarettes, marijuana, traffic issues, alarms, and school violence. The officer would be trained in the LEADS program which is Law Enforcement Against Drugs. There are counseling aspects.

2. Ms. McIlroy stated that there is a different way to do this. There are studies that show an officer in school does not help with bullying or drugs. Counselors are better suited for this.
3. Chief Blish stated that the school came to them. This is for crime prevention. They can help with conflict resolution.
4. Ms. McIlroy stated that crime rates are falling in schools. It takes a person very trained to deal with kids with disabilities. This will not make kids feel safe. There are many other projects right now and with COVID she does not think this is a good idea.
5. Ms. Coles stated that this would require more work on the school's part to give them a better idea of what is needed and why.
6. Chair Kahn stated that this is something that the Select Board would cover in their budget. This serves many towns. Would the other towns chip in?
7. Mr. Sutherland stated that the other towns should contribute.
8. Chief Blish stated that this is another reason for the extension. This gives them time to fully understand and plan.
9. Ms. Davies stated that this is the wrong time to take an action like this.

Motion: by Ms. Davies to take the School Resource Officer off the table and to not ask for the extension on the grant.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Discussion: Mr. Logan stated that more people would be interested in this topic. They need more detail on the agendas.

Mr. Proctor stated that he would like some justification for this from the school. They already have a large police force. This does not seem like something they fully need right now. He thinks it should be voted on by taxpayers. He does not like the idea of an armed School Resource Officer in the school.

Chair Riley asked if there are drug dealers in the high school?

Chief Blish stated that according to the survey students say they have access to drugs in the school and therefore someone is selling in the school.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Motion: by Chair Kahn to take the School Resource Officer off the table and to not ask for the extension on the grant.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

C. Mask Ordinance at Faulkner Park

1. Chair Riley stated that this is a privately owned park. However, starting Saturday August 1 there is a state mandate requiring the wearing of masks in all open spaces. People should wear them there.
2. Chair Kahn stated that they can put signs there.
3. Mr. Kerbin stated this was requested from Scott Johnston.
4. Ms. Davies stated that they have had requests from private properties for the signs. These businesses just need to pay for them.
5. Chief Blish stated that about 99% are complying and accepting masks. Only two or three people declined.
6. Chair Kahn noticed that the compliance on the street is more than it was a few weeks ago.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Mr. Sutherland stated that he put stakes in across the street from the Town Hall for curbing so everyone can go look at it.
 1. Ms. Davies stated that there is a bad section of curbing down by Sonny Salls place past East End Park.
 2. Mr. Sutherland stated they can take a look at these to see the curb work we need to do.
 3. Mr. Sutherland stated that someone has located some boulders for the Park and Ride. They are going to be large enough to be seen from a car. They are taking the curbing for Elm Street. They will save money there. The curbs cannot be flipped. They are not the same on the bottom.
- B. Mr. Kerbin stated that a month ago it was suggested to do a meet and greet for himself and Neil Leitner. He is thinking Thursday August 13 at 6pm. This is a good opportunity to meet people in the community.
 1. Chair Kahn suggested putting it in the paper.
- C. Chair Riley stated that she thinks it is a good time to get the League of Cities and Towns to come down and describe the roles of the boards and the role of the manager. This will help new members of the boards.
- D. Ms. Davies noted that on the vacancy notice for Trustees it should state that the applicant needs to have attended a meeting. This is in the list of requirements.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A. Select Board

Motion: by Mr. Sutherland to adjourn the joint meeting at 9:20am.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

B. Trustees

Motion: by Mr. Agin to adjourn the joint meeting at 9:20am.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikki Nourse