

VILLAGE OF WOODSTOCK
BOARD OF VILLAGE TRUSTEES MEETING
February 9, 2021
7:00 PM
Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Seton McIlroy, Daphne Lowe, Brenda Blakeman, Bill Corson, William Kerbin, Nikki Nourse, PJ Eames, Patrick Fultz, Ray Bourgeois, Roger Logan, Karim Houry, Beth Finlayson, Isabelle Chicoine, Zoie Parent

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Chair Kahn called to order the Trustees meeting of February 9, 2021 at 7:02 pm.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS – none.

C. ADDITIONS TO AND DELETIONS FROM THE POSTED AGENDA

1. Middle Covered Bridge lights
 - a. Ms. Finlayson stated that Jim Bradley from Mountain Avenue approached her and expressed interest in recreating the copper lighting that was on the bridge before it burned down. It would be no expense to the Village. He would work with an electrician to have them installed.
 - b. Chair Kahn stated that these lights once existed before the fire in 1969.
 - c. Mr. Kerbin stated that this probably needs to go before the Village Design Review Board.
 - d. Ms. Finlayson stated that the lights would go on each end of the bridge.
 - e. Chair Kahn stated that there is already electricity on the bridge.
 - f. Ms. Finlayson stated that she would work with an electrician and Mr. Kerbin.
 - g. Ms. McIlroy stated that they need to know how much it would cost to have the lights installed.
 - h. Chair Kahn stated that he thinks they could find the means to install the lights.
 - i. Ms. Finlayson stated that Mr. Bradley has lived in Woodstock a long time and remembers the lights. He is a skilled copper worker.
 - j. Chair Kahn stated that he does not think installing the lights would be a lot of funds.
 - k. Ms. McIlroy would like an estimate before deciding.
 - l. Chair Kahn stated that they can approve the project without the financial commitment subject to the approval of the Design Review Board. He thinks they could fund them privately or through the Economic Development Commission.
 - m. Mr. Corson stated that there may be a local electrician who would volunteer their time.
 - n. There was a consensus of the Board of Trustees to approve the copper lights to be created subject to the approval of the Design Review Board and funding.

D. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. General Report

- a. Mr. Kerbin stated that he and Mr. Houry had a meeting last week about potential revenues and cost savings. They have two meeting dates proposed to the State for informational meetings for the State paving project. Patricia Martel is the new Accounting Assistant. Brooke Blish is the new Land Use Coordinator. They are both fitting in nicely and are assets to the team.

2. Financial Report

- a. Mr. Kerbin stated that the water chlorine tank at the wastewater main plant is leaking. They have a temp one and are ordering a new one.
- b. Chair Kahn asked about the money that comes from the Rockefeller Endowment Fund. How much is this?
 - I. Ms. Parent stated that \$10,500 is to the Village. 13.7% of the endowment goes to the Village. It is based on amount of land in the Village versus the Town. Government accounting is different. That is why it does not show up on the Village financial report.
 - II. Mr. Corson stated that they should show it in the budget for people to see it.

E. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

- 1. Chief Blish stated that the new meters have been installed. They are missing six posts that have been damaged and taken out by snow removal. The meter revenue for the past eight days was \$1,130.50. Kiosk revenue was \$167.50. Meter revenue was \$612.80. Park Mobile revenue was \$350.20. The new parking meters and kiosks have been pretty well received. There were some glitches with the single space meters initially. They also had an issue with a credit card getting stuck in the slot of the meter. He hopes that was just a one-time issue.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Event parking around the Green discussion

- a. Chair Kahn stated that traditionally with Market on the Green have not enforced parking. They need to discuss if there should be free parking for all events. They could also handle it on an event-by-event basis.
- b. Ms. Finlayson stated that for six or more years there has been free parking on the Green for events.
- c. Chair Kahn stated that they can keep free parking for the Market on the Green.
- d. Ms. McIlroy stated that she does not think they need to give people free parking. She thinks it is okay for extenuating circumstances.
- e. Mr. Fultz stated that people are going to pay anyway. He does not think the Trustees should be giving free parking on the Green.
- f. Chair Kahn stated that with Market on the Green, vendors have to park on the Green to unload.
- g. Ms. Finlayson stated that there are people who go to the Market on the Green who have financial needs.
- h. Chief Blish stated that they do not bag meters. The parking attendants do not enforce parking on the Green during the events. People still pay though.

- i. Chair Kahn stated that there will be no free parking for events except for Market on the Green.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Marijuana dispensaries discussion

- a. Chair Kahn stated that this is a preliminary discussion about something that is happening around the State. He does not think that they have enough information. This would be for shops to sell cannabis for recreational use.
- b. Ms. McIlroy stated that the Village has to vote to have stores sell cannabis and/or produce products that contain cannabis
- c. Chief Blish stated that stores could potentially start selling October 2022. The rules should be finalized by the State by March 2022.
- d. Ms. Eames stated that the Village has to opt in to allow the voters to vote on it. Woodstock can create their own ordinances about it.
- e. Chair Kahn stated that he likes the idea of a committee looking into this.
- f. Mr. Houry stated that a lot of research that needs to be done. He is neither for nor against. At the Federal level there is talk of decriminalizing cannabis.
- g. Ms. McIlroy stated that she will be a part of the committee. She would like Chief Blish to be a part of the committee or come to the meetings.

Motion: by Chair Kahn to create a committee to investigate all the ramifications of a public marijuana dispensary in the Village of Woodstock, with the initial member of the committee being Mr. Houry as Chair with Ms. Eames and Ms. McIlroy and other committee members to be added.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

2. Village Warning review and approval

- a. Mr. Kerbin stated that the public information meeting is set for the regular Trustees meeting on March 9th. Article numbers need to be changed.
- b. Ms. Riley stated that Australian Ballot voting will be between 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.
- c. Ms. McIlroy stated that they should change the word meet to vote.
- d. Ms. Nourse shared the Village Warning and made necessary changes.

Motion: by Mr. Corson to approve the Village Warning with the added changes.

Seconded: by Ms. Lowe.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

e. Informational Meeting & Australian Ballot process

- I. Chair Kahn stated that in years past they broke the budget up in sections. This year they want to present the summary of the budget.
- II. Ms. Riley stated that they need to read all the articles. The Select Board is going to have some people on Zoom and some people in the conference room. Matt Maxham is their moderator. He has always been elected by Australian Ballot.

- III. Ms. McIlroy stated that she wants everyone to be able to ask their questions and comments.
- IV. Ms. Riley stated that Town Meeting is March 2nd. They start giving out the Village Reports out the next day. Otherwise, people get them mixed up with the Town Report.
- V. Ms. Nourse stated that the Village Report will also be online.
- VI. Chair Kahn stated that someone should give an update on the paving project. Ms. Lowe will talk about this. Mr. Corson will talk about East End Park regulations and fees. Ms. Blakeman will talk about the parking meters and speed signs. Chair Kahn stated that someone should talk about how Woodstock was the first in the State in Vermont to create a mask ordinance. Village Meeting is not generally a huge crowd.

H. OTHER BUSINESS – none.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2021

- a. D.l.a – change fro to for

Motion: by Mr. Corson to approve the meeting minutes of January 12, 2021 with the noted change.

Seconded: by Ms. Lowe.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

2. Special Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

Motion: by Mr. Corson to approve the special meeting minutes of January 19, 2021 as submitted.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Mr. Corson to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse*