

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2008

(Not approved)

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 AM. Commissioners present were Commissioner Schmid, Commissioner Demers and Commissioner Farr.

Residents in attendance were Mike & Pauline Bonanno, Beverly Jacobs, Robert & Josephina Roudebush, Kerry McCall, Karen Rajsteter and Mr. Brady.

The motion was made by Mike Bonanno and seconded by Robert Roudebush to accept the minutes.

The minutes of the January 12, 2007 Commissioners Meeting were accepted as written.

Planning Board Update:

The regular Planning Board is moved to Feb 13, 2008. We had an abbreviated meeting for a Zoning Permit. The permit was approved.

The month of December, Steve Robbins did his routine driving and checking of the District. Everything looks good.

Renee and Steve are sending letters out that include one to the Bank that owns the property formally owned by the Avery's and to demand that the partially built garage on Wildcat be finished or torn down by April 1st. Steve reviewed and responded to 2 complaints in January 2008. The complaint forms are on file at the District Office.

Steve made a recommendation that Mountain Lakes District asks the Bazzell's to install a silt fence around the debris to restrict run off into the lake when the snow begins to melt.

Further Steve made a suggestion for the future the zoning ordinance to be amended to read, concerning unregistered vehicles, inspected and roadworthy instead of just inspected.

Commissioner Demers stated that if you see anymore zoning violations please come into the office. Mr. Roudebush stated that he has been working with the District Manager on the zoning violation process.

Mr. Brady asked about the silt fence around the Bazzell family home. Commissioner Schmid stated that yes, it sounds like it should be done before the snow melts.

Recreation Update:

Mr. Bonanno stated that the game night was poorly attended because of the Patriots game that night. However six people did attend and stayed until 10 p.m. Today we are having a sledding and skating party at the Lodge. We will be serving hot chocolate and will have a bon fire. We will be there from 1pm until 5pm today and next Saturday the 16th as well. We didn't have out recreation meeting yet this week because we are working around Glen Hatches' schedule. The Winterfest will be our major topic of discussion when we have our meeting on this coming Tuesday Feb 12, 2008 at 6pm. The Winterfest will be on March 1, 2008. The Winterfest will begin at 1pm. There has been ice fishing, cross-country skiing and ice-skating on the lake this winter.

Water Update:

We had a 6” ductile iron water main break on Wildcat road on January 18, 2008 (reported by the Haverhill Road Crew). It was a clean fracture caused by a large rock under the pipe. The break was repaired using a stainless wrap, and took about 5 hours to restore service. Kevin Horne was on vacation but his crew responded and was on scene in about 1 half hour. Others on scene were Harold Clough, Karl Schmid and Don Drew.

While I was whistling valves to look for leaks I found a service line leaking on Valley Road. The water was turned off at the curb/stop and the homeowner was notified. (Estimated to be about 10,000 gpd)

Mr. Roudebush asked what whistling valves are. Commissioner Schmid explained that first you have to shut the main off then open it slowly. It will make a noise and should tell whether there is water flowing and that process helps determine leaks. Also with the crazy weather we have been having we have had multiple leaks. We are pleased with the speed of Horne Excavating and Harold Cough’s response time.

We have had a lot of reports of water main leaks on roads from different people but they have turned out to be ground water. (KEEP CALLING ABOUT ANY AND ALL SUSPICIOUS WATER, WE WILL FOLLOW UP ON EVERY CALL.)

As we mentioned in previous meetings we are updating the pump system by adding a soft start system to the 20 hp. main pump. This will cut down on the electric bill; and increase the life of the pump by decreasing the wear and tear on the Direct Water Line. Eastman Electric will be doing the installation of the soft start system for \$2,800 dollars. This price includes parts and labor. For an additional amount we will be having Eastman Electric add some switches to the individual feed pumps that include the bedrock well and gravel well. Additionally they will clean up some of the loose wires around the pump house building, for an estimated price of \$1,000 dollars. The parts have been ordered and should be in within 3 weeks.

Commissioner Schmid stated that water usage has been working its way up but now it is back down to 35,000 a day which is normal.

We are putting an average of 155 miles a week on the truck during the winter months; the rack for carrying the large wrenches has been installed. We are now buying fuel for the truck through the NH DOT FUEL DISTRIBUTION. The fuel price can vary some but it should be \$2.49 per gallon this month.

Mr. Bonanno asked about the truck and could the Commissioners purchase it without going to the residents. Commissioner Schmid replied yes we could because we paid for it out of Capital Reserve money. Mr. Bonanno asked if the truck purchase had been discussed at other Commissioners Meetings. Yes, Commissioners Schmid & Demers replied.

Mr. Bonanno asked about fire hydrants in Mountain Lakes. Commissioner Schmid stated that Mr. Drew has spoken to Mr. Hammond on the subject. Also the draw is bad and the hydrant was put in the wrong place. They told us to put a bag on it. The fire dept almost burnt up their pumps trying to use it. It has to be fixed. It was installed in the wrong place. Commissioner Schmid stated that the fire dept. is supposed to check the hydrants twice a year. The last time they checked it was

June. Mike asked how they will rectify the situation. Commissioner Demers replied that the fire dept will tell us what they want us to do. Mr. Bonanno stated that we should begin the process to fix this issue now. Also, are we providing a false sense of security with the hydrants on Valley Rd. Commissioner Demers replied that they will never be hooked up and maybe we should have them removed. Commissioner Schmid suggested that Mr. Bonanno head up a sub committee of the Water Committee to address these issues' for Mountain Lakes and invite Woodsville, North Haverhill and Bath Fire Depts. to be involved. Mr. McCall asked if there are fire hydrants throughout Mountain Lakes District. Commissioner Schmid said that an analysis in the 1980's of our water system stated that Mountain Lakes storage system can not service hydrants.

Mr. Bonanno further asked about the rumors that Mountain Lakes will be installing water meters. Commissioners Schmid replied that was bunk. Commissioner Demers replied that the cost of installing, maintaining, and reading them is more than your current Water Bill now. Just the parts are \$300.00 with installation that could be \$500.00 per home.

District:

We had a meeting with our lawyer before the PUC hearing. Mr. Waugh felt that he should go alone and represent us that the PUC has no jurisdiction. The meeting didn't go well. They said that the 1986 letter was in error and we are not a municipal district. They feel that they have something before them now and they need to rule on it. We have had a number of letters back and forth between the PUC. We have sent a letter to the PUC stating that we are not relinquishing our right to be a municipal water system. We will sit down and work out a fair and equitable billing system with the PUC to bill the Bath residents. Mr. Bonanno asked if there is a deadline. Commissioner Schmid replied yes it is out budget. We are also not planning on disconnecting the Bath residents at this time.

Commissioner Farr and Commissioner Demers voted to give Commissioner Schmid the right to administer the Local Source Water Protection Grant.

New Business:

Mr. Bonanno made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Jacobs seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 10:29a.m. The next Commissioners meeting will be on April 12, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee L Cota
District Manager