

# MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

**January 12, 2008**

(Not approved)

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM. Commissioners present were Commissioner Schmid, and Commissioner Farr. Commissioner Demers was excused.

Residents in attendance were Sandy Schmid, Mike Bonanno, Janice Neubauer, Beverly Jacobs, Robert Roudebush, Don Drew, Carol Modrell, Florence Hartman and Mr. Brady.

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

The minutes of the December 8, 2007 Commissioners Meeting were accepted as written.

## **Planning Board Update:**

Mrs. Schmid stated that Marge McGovern has resigned her seat on the Planning Board due to health reasons. We need to have the Commissioner approval to add Carol Modrell as a member and Florence Hartman as an alternate. The Commissioners unanimously approved Carol Modrell and Florence Hartman as member and alternate respectively. Mrs. Schmid further stated that there were no new zoning permits this month. Haverhill is planning to repeal the Health Ordinance in March. We have added the septic regulation to our Zoning Ordinance for vote at the March meeting. We will have two public hearings, one on January 19 and the other on February 2 at 9:30 a.m. The voters will be able to vote on it at our Annual Meeting on March 8, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. The tiny difference between the new Zoning Ordinance and the old town Health Regulation is that when you pump your tank and you will have to have it verified that your leaching systems works every four years or verify that it is only 1/3 full of sludge.

Commissioner Demers said we could notify the septic pumpers of our new Ordinance. Commissioner Schmid stated that Mountain Lakes might have to create a document to have the septic pumping company sign to verify the septic system is 1/3 or less full and that the leaching field is working. Mrs. Schmid stated that this is a serious health hazard.

## **Recreation Update:**

Mr. Bonanno stated we have a game night tonight. Bring your own game, snacks, and drinks. We have a sledding / skating party on Feb 9 and the Winterfest on Mar 1<sup>st</sup>. Also Tom from the bike shop in Haverhill will come and talk about hiking and bike trails around the Lodge.

## **Water Update:**

Commissioner Schmid stated that there was no meeting in December. The water levels were reasonable in December but since then we had a break on Monday. It was completely done in 5 hrs from beginning to end.

We have had a water main break on a 4 inch line as well as three houses freeze up this month. The water main break was located on Deerfield Drive. It was approximately 100' up the road from Lakeside Drive. There was a very quick response from the entire water department thanks to Horne Excavating, Commissioner Schmid and District Manager Mrs. Cota. The break took about five

hours to be repaired and service restored. Also we have been working on putting new covers on the wells in the pump house. This will be an ongoing project and should be done in a couple of weeks.

Please remember to check and protect your water service lines from the cold. Running water to keep the lines from freezing is a waste of water and can be very harmful to your septic system. The best solution is to protect your lines or drain the system.

Mr. Drew said right now it's about 45,000 gal a day for water usage. Commissioner Schmid stated that we have not sent out anything out to tell the public that our Lead & Copper was successful. We are going to send that email. We will be doing another round of 20 homes in 2008.

**District:**

Commissioner Schmid stated that we have a letter form PUC to have a prehearing preceding. Two of Bath homeowners have sent letters to the PUC. We spoke to Mark Naylor to decide whether the PUC has justification. This will also recommend the process by which we bill the Bath residents. The hearing is on Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. We are leaving from the office at 7:30 a.m. If you want to follow us down meet at the office.

Another year is over and a productive one at that. We accomplished our main objectives for the district as well as some surprises. I will hit on some of the high points. The Lodge ceiling was insulated in 2006 and painted in 2007, the O'Brien room floor tile has been purchased and will be installed winter 2008 and the Lodge carpet was steam cleaned. The bathrooms at the district office were completely redone, and the men's bathroom at the Lodge was repaired. The tennis courts were resurfaced and brush was removed around them. The materials for a retaining wall at the snack bar have been purchased and will be installed in the spring of 2008. The pool house and office buildings received painting and may need some more in the spring of 2008. Two boat docks were ordered and installed, the new raft diving board was installed and the raft was repaired. Also a boat that leaked was repaired. We stocked the lakes with fish and many of them died as a result of the lakes being without water for an extended period of time. The District Office was broken into during the summer of 2007 so a new door was installed and painted and new locks in the snack bar were purchased. Those are the highlights.

We have more activities this year for all ages and our summer program went well. We had some of the best lifeguards this past summer and we stayed within our budget.

We have spent a considerable amount in lawyer fees this year as a result of issues with Bath residents of Mountain Lakes and tree removal ordered for the Dam repair. These issues have not been settled so going forward into 2008 we need to be prepared for further legal expense.

The Dam project has been wrapped up and there is water in our lakes, a new trash rack is on the spillway. We have eliminated the heating costs for the storage of our chlorine by changing by how we purchase it.

Financially speaking we accomplished a lot with in our operating budgets. We have ended the year with an adequate fund balance to take us through until the 2008 budget is adopted.

We are in better shape going into 08' them we were coming into 07'.

**New Business:**

Mr. Bonanno is frustrated with the messy yard and vehicle that does not have four tires in the Avery yard on Windsor Ln. He would like Mr. Robbins to look into it.

Mrs. Neubauer stated that they changed their process about the Haverhill dealing with the septic. She wants the town to know that we are part of the town of Haverhill and they are supposed to represent us.

Mr. Bonanno made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Roudebush seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 10:29a.m. The next Commissioners meeting will be on February 9, 2008 at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee L Cota  
District Manager