

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

June 14, 2008

(Not approved)

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

Residents in attendance were Mike & Pauline Bonanno, Joel & Annemarie Godston, Sandy Schmid, June Soule, Mr. & Mrs. King and Janice Neubauer.

Commissioner Demers made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Karl Schmid seconded it.

The minutes of the May 10, 2008 & May 22, 2008 Commissioners Meeting were accepted as amended.

Mrs. Schmid asked about last month's meeting concerning the \$450.00 Bath Recreation fee that speaks about zoning and what it is. Commissioner Schmid replied that this is a Bath recreation fee calculation. There are multiple factors that apply when calculating it. They include water, recreation, and zoning costs. When calculating the water costs we split the District budget into two groups, which are water and the rest of the budget. Consequently, when calculating the recreation fee we needed to take the part of the budget not used for water and remove zoning costs to determine a fair cost of recreation and then using the same cost distribution method we determined that \$250.00 was a fair rate at the last Commissioners meeting. Mrs. Schmid then asked about the paddleboats and stated that they are the only thing available to the public and why are we getting rid of them. She challenged the statement that they don't work and we should not get rid of them. Commissioner Demers replied that if we need to review a decision that may have been made in error we would do that later in the meeting.

Water Committee Update:

Commissioner Demers stated that there was not a Water committee meeting in May because no one was available.

We have passed our lead and copper testing now; we will have to do this testing once every three years instead of multiple times a year. In addition, we will only have to do 10 sites instead of 20.

The fencing around the pump house has been started. The posts are already in and the ground and the fencing will be installed today. Mrs. Schmid stated that this is paid for with a DES grant with the purpose of protecting our water supply. It keeps oil leaks from cars away. The Milford Cir. Replacement was completed. We found that leak in February. Mr. Godston asked what size and kind of pipe was installed. Commissioner Schmid replied a 2" PVC and the valve was also replaced. Mr. Godston then asked if a drawing of the new line had been done and Commissioner Schmid replied yes.

Commissioner Schmid said that we have had some discussion concerning seasonal shut-offs. The water committee had recommended that we shouldn't charge people to shut off their water for seasonal shut-offs. Commissioner Demers said that we have discussed not charging for this service because the seasonal people should not have to pay more for their water than the full time residents do. We may have more people stop leaving their water run. Commissioner Schmid said that a reduction in revenue would be one consequence of this policy. In addition, we don't want to

advertise that it is for free. Commissioner Demers stated that it would be one turn off in the fall and one turn on in the spring for this specific purpose only. If for any other reason or in the middle there would be a fee. Commissioner Schmid said that also we would have to change the Tariff. We will have to have a separate meeting and can do it after the next Commissioners Meeting. Mr. Godston stated that it is a great idea. Commissioner Schmid said that we don't want to have people running water all winter. Mr. Bonanno asked how many people have been shut-off at this time for non-payment of the water bill. Mrs. Cota replied three have currently been shut –off and 5 or 6 have been shut off for more than a year. Donald Drew stated that some curb stops need to be repaired before we can turn some of the delinquents off.

Mr. Drew stated that we are currently in the mid 40,000 gpd range for water usage and he would like to see us in the low 30,000 gpd range. Additionally, one of our pumps was hit by lightning on June 12 and we are in the process of getting an estimate for its repair and submitting a claim to the insurance company.

Recreation Update:

Commissioner Jacobs asked if the lifeguards and employees could buy items at the snack bar for wholesale. Mr. Godston said no because they might be buying stuff for their friends. Everyone thought that was a bad idea but offering a free lunch once, a week was a better one.

Next, Commissioner Jacobs brought up the idea that the grounds need to be ready for Memorial Day next year. Commissioner Schmid said that we would need to ask Don if it is possible to be done. Mrs. Schmid said that if we could get the beach ready by Memorial Day we should rent out the boats as well. We need some things available such as the boats. Mr. Bonanno said that we should table that thought until the next recreation committee meeting. Mrs. King stated that we are liable aren't we if someone takes our boats out and gets hurt even if we haven't given them permission. We need to lock up the boats. Mr. Bonanno asked why weren't the paddle boats gone already since the commissioners at the last meeting voted to get rid of them. Also, if they had been removed than we wouldn't have multiple people using them without permission. They just don't work and we can't rent them out. Mr. Drew stated that he has repeatedly pulled them up to the rocks and the kids keep carrying them back. They will be gone on Monday. Commissioner Demers asked if the paddle boats work. Commissioner Schmid stated that it's not a question of repairing them they are just junky boats. Commissioner Jacobs stated that she cannot rent them out and Commissioner Schmid agreed. Mrs. Godston said that we should offer them for sale. Commissioner Schmid asked if they could be locked up and Mr. Drew said that the eyelets were broken. They will be removed on Monday.

Mr. Drew stated that the yellow raft had an eyelet broken over the winter and cannot go into the water until it's fixed. The kit has been on backorder. The beach being ready for Memorial Day was brought up again and Mr. Drew said that if that's what we need to shoot for then that's what we'll do. Mr. Drew said that he thought there weren't many people here on Memorial Day. Mrs. King said that indeed, there are many and the recreation committee should work on having the boats available.

Mr. Bonanno asked Mr. Drew if the pipes at the pool were cracked because the company closed the pool last year. Mr. Drew responded that he has a new valve to put in and the pool will be ready for June 21. Mr. Drew said that the building next to the canoes could be fixed. Mr. Bonanno said that the pancake breakfast went well and they made \$158.00. Mr. Godston stated that the Pancake Breakfast reminded him of events that were done in the 1960's and it bought back many great

memories. Mr. King said that in the past they had lobster bakes and they brought people together. Mrs. Bonanno said that she would like to see a pig roast planned.

Mr. Bonanno said that he understands that the canoes and kayaks were lent out last week and do we have a written policy for this. In addition, have they been cleaned since they were returned and if not that needs to be added to the policy? Mrs. Bonanno said that they should not be lent out for use off Mountain Lakes property. Commissioner Schmid said that makes sense and maybe we should not allow boats to go off the property. Mr. Bonanno recommended that the Mountain Lakes boats stay at Mountain Lakes. Mrs. Cota mentioned that we have a group of school kids that come each year with their new canoes to boat on our lakes. Commissioner Schmid stated that the new policy would say that we don't lend out boats outside of Mountain Lakes waters but we will let schools groups use them in Mountain Lakes. Mrs. Soule said that once they leave Mountain Lakes we can't be sure that they will come back clean. Mrs. Neubauer said that she is in favor of not letting the boats leave the lakes. Commissioner Demers still wants to let the group use the boats each year but make them wash the boats off in front of us when they are returned. Mrs. Godston felt that it's a good cause but they can find other boats. Commissioner Demers said that we couldn't control other boaters when they bring their boats here and we should not cut ourselves off from the rest of the town because we are a part of the whole community of Haverhill. Mrs. Soule said that we need one policy that affects everyone without exceptions. Commissioner Schmid and Commissioner Jacobs voted to approve the new policy concerning lending Mountain Lakes boats. Commissioner Demers voted against the policy.

Mr. Bonanno stated that the roller needs to be used for the pool cover instead of leaving it in a heap. Commissioner Schmid replied that the roller is for the thermal cover.

Also the recreation meetings will be at 6pm from now on. We have purchased horseshoes, volleyballs and basketballs. Commissioner Demers asked if we have horseshoe pits. Mr. Bonanno replied yes at the mailboxes.

Mr. Bonanno stated that we need to look into buying an AED for the lifeguards. They cost about \$2000.00 Mr. Bonanno said that he will try to get one donated by maybe Wal-Mart. In addition, Luke will be working on an emergency action plan for the beach. Mrs. King said it sounds great to have printed steps. Mr. Godston said that the town has one for their pool and he can check onto that one.

Mr. Bonanno asked if the activities can be put on the web site and if only Commissioner Schmid uploads the updates. Commissioner Schmid stated that it is a big deal to update the web especially when he has to create the documents.

Fishing is still Catch and Release. Commissioner Schmid stated that he thought that the fish cycle is late this year because of the thick ice we had and he has seen large bass, minnows and frogs that look good.

Planning Board Update:

The planning board has a subcommittee working on the Master Plan. It is going well. The deadline is December 1, 2008. It has to be updated every 5 years.

Mrs. Neubauer said that the Planning board voted to have the zoning enforced and to have the commissioners enforce it or the agent of the commissioners the zoning officer. It would be easier if

we have proper documentation such as form letters etc. The board would like to work with the commissioners.

Commissioner Schmid stated that they would have an executive session to discuss this matter. Commissioner Demers said that we should have it at the end of the regular meeting.

District:

Commissioner Schmid said that we had a request of the PUC to provide additional documents. We put together a well over 100 page documents for the PUC. The lawyer wrote an eloquent letter to the PUC. We have not heard anything back as of yet. We don't know what we can charge Bath water customers yet.

We updated the Tariff concerning permanent disconnections. We cannot tell people that they cannot disconnect. To disconnect they would have to get DES approval.

The lodge roof color will be Harford Green.

There is not much to say concerning the financials because there are no new large expenses that are out of line. The projects will be paid for out of Capital Reserve.

Commissioner Jacobs said that there are big bugs at the Lodge. Commissioner Schmid said that Mr. Drew can buy Ortho Home defense at the hardware store and apply it to the perimeter of the Lodge.

At 11:16 am the Commissioners adjourned to executive session. At 12:18 pm the Commissioners reentered the regular meeting from executive session.

The Commissioners stated that they would pursue discussions with Steve Robbins and Renee Cota. They asked Renee Cota to set up a meeting with Steve Robbins on June 25, 2008.

Karl Schmid made a motion to adjourn and Chris Demers seconded it

Adjourned 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee L Cota
District Manager