

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
August 14, 2010**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Christopher Demers called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

**Roll Call:** Beverly Jacobs, Commissioner; Edward Rajsteter, Commissioner; Christopher Demers, Commissioner

**Residents in Attendance:** Laraine King, Ken King, Pauline Bonanno, Michael Bonanno, Randy Berenson, Cindy Berenson, Fred Harris, Cynthia Harris, Bob Wessman, Peter Olander, David Hereth, Deborah Hereth, Paula Vessella, John Vessella, and Marsha Luce

**Guests:** Corporal Trott of the Haverhill Police Dept.

**Neighborhood Watch Program:** The meeting opened with Corporal Trott leading an open discussion about having the Neighborhood Watch Program in Mountain Lakes. It would consist of more input and more work from the residents. It would enable the police to utilize residents in helping the police control certain activities that take place in the community that the police are not aware of or cannot monitor on a regular basis. The Mountain Lakes District is subject to many burglaries. Corporal Trott discussed past burglaries and how residents have helped, being the eyes and ears for the police when they aren't in the area. The Neighborhood Watch Program will work if residents participate because visibility is a huge deterrent. When people start seeing signs up of the establishment of the Neighborhood Watch Program in Mountain Lakes or police cruisers in the area, people are less likely to commit a crime there. Corporal Trott received a lot of positive feedback about the program and personally felt that the Neighborhood Watch Program was a great program especially for the Mountain Lakes District.

Ed Rajsteter asked if he could elaborate on the overtime pay rate. Corporal Trott informed that they do not charge detail rate from the Mountain Lakes District because it's part of Haverhill. However, by law, they do charge overtime pay. Corporal Trott announced that even with a 7 man police department on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, they aren't able to be in Mountain Lakes enough. It greatly help if residents would volunteer their time to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Randy Berenson asked if the Haverhill Police Dept. was in favor of Mountain Lakes doing background checks. Corporal Trott confirmed that Mountain Lakes can do that. Marsha Luce added that it's free for the district to do so. Corporal Trott also said that he would leave a two forms with the commissioners pertaining to a release that a potential candidate would have to sign. One of the forms allows the Haverhill Police Dept. to release any information to Mountain Lakes that the police might have about the individual. The other form includes a criminal background check that would be submitted to the New Hampshire State Police and any criminal convictions on file would then be returned to the Haverhill Police Dept. and shared with the Mountain Lakes District.

Michael Bonanno asked about the individual involved in multiple burglaries in Mountain Lakes. Corporal Trott said that the individual's name is Frank Serer and that he not only was guilty of several burglaries in Mountain Lakes but also in the Haverhill community. Michael

Bonanno added that Chief Williams and Bobby Martin advised him to put a "Private Property – No Trespassing" sign because it would be easier to issue a Trespasser's Warning if spotted on the property. He asked who can give a Trespasser's Warning. Corporal Trott responded that a trespass notice can be given in person or delivered by any person or organization. It should be done in writing, with return address if by mail. People can also solicit the services of the Grafton County Sheriff Department which would involve a fee. The Haverhill Police Dept. can also issues Trespass Notices.

Michael Bonanno brought up an issue with speeding. He asked if the the police could bring out their speed trailer as a visual for people driving over the speed limit. Corporal Trott said it was possible. Ed Rajsteter suggested movable speed bumps which Corporal Trott was in favor of.

Marsha Luce asked if Corporal Trott would suggest establishing the Neighborhood Watch Program and still have police cruisers on a regular basis. He answered that Mountain Lakes could have both if they wished. Ed Rajsteter mentioned that he had a discussion with the Chief about perhaps rather than hiring a security person during the summer months, they would depend on the Neighborhood Watch Program and having police cruisers in the area. However, this will be discussed at a later time.

Cynthia Harris mentioned that her husband checks various houses mainly during the winter. She asked if he should register with the police department. Ed Rajsteter suggested that he get in contact with the Home Patrol which is a volunteer-based program.

Michael Bonanno offered his services to the Neighborhood Watch Program because as a former member of the program in Massachusetts, he felt it was a worthwhile program.

A resident brought up that he had heard gun shots at night but did not know where they came from. He asked how the police would handle it if he had called in. Corporal Trott reassured that an officer would be sent out to check on it. Ed Rajsteter asked what the law is in regards to discharging a gun. Corporal Trott said it was illegal to discharge a gun within 300ft of a dwelling unless they have written permission from their neighbors. This does not include the dwelling of the individual firing the gun.

Corporal Trott announced that the number for the Haverhill Police Dept. is 787-2222. The number for the Twin Mountain Police Dept. is 787-6891. In a case of an emergency though it's best to call 911.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting (7/10/10):** Ed Rajsteter made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Peter Olander seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**Introduction of New Office Personnel:** Ed Rajsteter introduced Marsha Luce as the new Office Administrator. She started on July 27th and received four days of training. She will be in the office from 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. Monday through Friday. Laraine King congratulated Marsha Luce on starting off so well on the job!

**District Report:**

- 1 Christopher Demers announced that they had received the draft audit.
- 2 Also, the uncollected funds for water for the month of July was \$19,189.31.
- 3 Michael Bonanno asked if any homes have had their water shut off for non-payment. Marsha Luce said yes. Christopher Demers said that all those who are not on a payment plan and are making their payments have been shut off. Some of them have been shut off for a couple years.
- 4 Christopher Demers announced that the Fallon sale is proceeding. Ed Rajsteter added that he is going to move the location of the entry way into the court area. He is going to close the gate on the side and open one on the front side.
- 5 Peter Olander asked if there was a time schedule. Christopher Demers said no but that it could be done before winter.
- 6 Christopher Demers made a motion to approve the vouchers for the month of July Expenditures. Ed Rajsteter seconded the motion.
- 7 Laraine King brought up line 5062-1, Fees/Registration-Glen.Op, under Expenditures. She asked why it was \$340 this month.
- 8 Laraine King also brought up line 5072-2, Epuip.Purchase-Rec, under Expenditures. She asked why it was \$339.42 this month.
- 9 Marsha Luce offered to email her the expenditures listed under them because they didn't have it on hand.
- 10 Michael Bonanno brought up line 5054-2, Fuel/Propane-Rec, under Expenditures. Michael Bonanno mentioned that the propane level was just below 20%. It was felt that the supply bought is running low. After Marsha Luce looked into it, it was suggested that another purchase be made for more propane.
- 11 Ed Rajsteter announced that we had received a call complaining about the geese about a month ago. We contacted the local government and we received information on how to get rid of them which was handed out at the meeting. The geese have disappeared as of now. However, if they return we would make application to the state to remove them. They would have to get the approval from the community to do so.

**Water Committee Update:** The water usage for the month of July was:

1 Water Usage:	Artesian Well	3,104 gallons
	Gravel Well	25,822 gallons
	WW&L	11,077 gallons
July 2010	Total	38,955 gallons

- 2 Ed Rajsteter announced that our projects are still going forward. We are in the process of making application to re-drill well #4 to a depth of 1,000ft.
- 3 Our water usage has been very high and we have been using about 20,000 gallons from WW&L to keep up with demand. This typical for the summer months with more people here but we ask to please be aware of water conservation.
- 4 Laraine King suggested that since we do not have a restriction on our water usage, that it be posted at the office, on the website, or the bulletin to remind people to conserve water.
- 5 Ed Rajsteter reported that during July they received a call about a water leak. It was repaired but it is not known how much that effected the water level.
- 6 Michael Bonanno asked if there has been any contact with the Fire Chief about the dry hydrant. Ed Rajsteter responded that they haven't had contact with him as of yet but we are still looking to make contact with the Fire Chief.

7Cynthia Harris asked if the fire hydrant work. Ed Rajsteter reassured her that it works. The purpose of this project was to move the fire hydrant closer to the lake so that the fire department could spend less time drawing it from the lake. There is water sufficient from the hydrant to take care of a fire.

8Michael Bonanno recommended that the money set aside for security be used towards the dry hydrant since they no longer have a security person. Ed Rajsteter said that money will probably be used for the special patrol that we are going to be talking to the Haverhill Police about since its related to security.

9Cynthia Harris had a question regarding Annmarie Godston's comment from the last meeting (#7 under Water Committee Update). She asked if people were drilling their own wells in Mountain Lakes. Ed Rajsteter said that it was a comment made after a discussion and she meant it in a way that if people start drilling wells, we will lose money. Residents are allowed to drill their own wells provided they go through a process, making application to the state. He went on to say that it was simply our responsibility to disconnect them to prevent any contamination from their well into our system. A letter will be sent out Monday, Aug. 16, 2010 and this individual will be cut off within the next 30 days of that date.

10Peter Olander commented that as a member of the Water Committee, he has learned how involved processes are. It takes quite a long time with all the rules and regulations and processes.

11Ed Rajsteter mentioned that the Water Committee would still like more people take the time to show up at meetings and become more involved. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Anyone interested in serving should call the office.

12Randy Berenson asked about the pump house. Ed Rajsteter said that there is ongoing work. We needed new electrical panel to be installed and that's being done. There is also ground work being done. The pump house itself will not be replaced.

13

### **Recreation Update:**

1Beverly Jacobs stated that they hired Kyla Joslin to be Waterfront Supervisor next year.

2Laraine King announced that there was a Rec. Meeting the end of last month. The minutes are posted online. Officers were elected. Karen Rajsteter and Barbara Keating will be the new Chairpersons. Laraine King will be the Recording Secretary.

3The Hawaiian Luau held on Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> was quite a hit! Many people came, there was Hawaiian music, the clean up went well and it was lots of fun. Money was collected at the gate came to a total of \$168.

4The Saturday of Labor Day, Sept 4<sup>th</sup> weekend there will be activities, prizes and a pot luck dinner at 5:30 P.M. concluding the night with fireworks at 9 P.M. It will be an all-inclusive day at the beach. The following Sunday at 10 A.M. there will be a beach clean up. Juice, doughnuts, and coffee will be served. Anyone available to come help out would be appreciated.

5The Pancake Breakfast has been cancelled and has been taken off the calendar.

6Michael Bonanno wanted to publicly thank Kyla Joslin for a great job at the Hawaiian Luau.

7Michael Bonanno asked why a Non-smoking sign hasn't gone up at the pool. Beverly Jacobs said that Don Drew is responsible for ordering the sign. She will look into it.

8Michael Bonanno asked if Beverly Jacobs had looked into having an emergency 911 phone outside on the beach. Nothing has been done as of yet. It will be looked into.

9Michael Bonanno asked why the lock on the pool gate has been changed. Don Drew replaced it as part of maintenance.

10Michael Bonanno asked when the pool was closing. Beverly Jacobs said she was having trouble getting lifeguards. Christopher Demers said it will have to be decided on and talked over with Don

Drew.

11 They are still working towards having everyone temporarily leave the pool and lake once the lifeguards are off duty.

12

**Planning Board Update:**

1 There was one application for a new home build on Swiftwater Circle. The only thing they asked was when the foundation be put in, to have the Zoning Officer check it to make sure it had the correct 12 foot setbacks. No other issues were found with it.

2 The Zoning Officer gave a report with an update of all current zoning applications.

3 Pauline Bonanno had resigned that night as the Chairman of the Planning Board but will continue to be a part of it. Her reason for resigning was because she feels that she does not know enough to be signing her name to the decisions being made. She has been in touch with the North Country Training Council and will be taking classes with them. She is looking into other ways as well to get more information.

4 The Planning Board has had a problem with the wording that is to be sent to the lawyer to tighten up the permitting process for clearing a lot within the Mountain Lakes District. Christopher Demers said he still needed to make time to sit and talk with Beverly Jacobs and Ed Rajsteter about it as well.

5 A resident mentioned that a lot near hers was clear cut with piles of debris left behind which she feels is a fire hazard. Pauline Bonanno said it's considered a fire hazard once the piles are 4ft. tall. Brief discussion followed.

6 Pauline Bonanno asked for extra help at the Planning Board Meetings to tighten up the wording. People are welcome to come and it will be greatly appreciated if more people could help with this.

7 Pauline Bonanno mentioned that at one point the Planning Board had money set aside to spend which she feels would make the process go faster. She asked why they no longer have that option. Christopher Demers said that commissioner have to authorize all the money spent.

**New Business:**

1 Laraine King asked if Mountain Lakes would run background checks. Christopher Demers said that they would now that they know the process.

2 Cynthia Harris asked if the DES has done anything about the asbestos shingles on Swiftwater Circle. Christopher Demers confirmed that they had and the case is theirs.

3 Michael Bonanno mentioned that he would hope that the commissioners would consider switching back to Saturday meetings. Laraine King agreed.

Christopher Demers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beverly Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Faustina Lalmond