

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

September 9, 2013

APPROVED

Call to Order: Chris Demers called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Roll Call: Bob Long, Beverly Jacobs, Chris Demers

Residents in Attendance: Ken King, Laraine King, Dan Brady, Roger Warren, Barbara Warren, Fred Garofalo, James Cole, Barbara Keating and Dottie Long

Approval of Minutes from August 10 meeting: Chris Demers moved to approve the minutes, Bob Long seconded and motion passed.

District Business:

- **Manifests:** Chris Demers moved to approve the District and Water Department manifests from August 8, 2013 to September 9, 2013. Bob Long seconded and motion passed.
- **Financials:** Financial reports for Water Dept. and District accounts for the period ending Sept. 4, 2013 were reviewed and approved.
- **2012 Audit/District Account Recommendations:**
 - **Investment Policy:** Amy Baker, district accountant, sent an email recommending Mountain Lakes adopt a written investment policy. She is putting one together for commissioner approval at the next meeting. Issued was tabled until next the next commissioner's meeting.
 - **Collateralization Agreement:** Wendy Hazlett of Woodsville Guaranty Savings bank gave a presentation on possible solutions when Mountain Lakes' deposit accounts exceed the \$250,000 limit for federal insurance, including "Insured Cash Sweep" or ICS which would transfer excess funds to partner banks as needed at no charge. Chris Demers made a motion to participate in ICS, Bob Long seconded and motion was approved.
 - **Asset Capitalization Threshold:** Amy Baker recommended raising the threshold of items to be depreciated from \$500 to \$2000. Issued was tabled until the next commissioner's meeting.

Maintenance/ Water Update: Chris Demers read highlights of the monthly report from Don Drew, Maintenance/Water Supervisor: the play set is in place and the see saw should be installed this fall; the current swing set was deemed unsafe by LGC so will be looking at replacement options; the pool is closed and winterized; a new tennis practice back board has been installed; and the snack bar was closed down by the state due to a permitting issue – possibilities for re-opening next season will be considered over the winter.

Don Drew reported it may be possible to reduce mowing of the causeway banks if the dam can be easily inspected for erosion, weeping and damage from wildlife. Water usage is down to around 22,000 gpd and a couple of minor incidents (two different homes on Montview – one reported sand in sinks and one had an outdoor faucet leaking) were not a water system problem. New siding and roofing is planned for the pump house exterior this fall.

Water Committee Update: Bob Long stated the Water Committee continues to work with engineering firm Dubois & King and the state on alternate water sources. They are talking with vendors now to get pricing for water systems.

Planning Board Update: Bob Long said a question came up about whether Mountain Lakes residents can have a pool on their property. He said he researched both the planning documents and the water tariff and could find no regulation against pools. The language in the zoning ordinance concerning approved "accessory uses" includes

tennis courts and pools. Bob Long said he would bring up the possibility with the Water Committee of charging differently for filling pools if people start building them since it would be a big draw on our water system.

Several residents expressed concerns about unsafe road conditions within the District. Bob Long is collecting information and resident letters to present at a meeting with town officials. He is working with selectman Robert Roudebush and plans to strongly encourage the town to set up long-term ditching and road maintenance plans.

Forestry Committee Update: Dan Brady reported the Grafton County Forester did a nice job outlining the approach to creating a forestry plan. Chris Demers checked with the state to find out about possible financing, but hasn't heard back. Chris Demers also reported Mountain Lakes can't use fire safety as a consideration when applying for grants because our area has a low danger of forest fire. The next forestry meeting is tentatively set for Sept. 25.

Recreation Update: Beverly Jacobs said the Block Party on Labor Day weekend was one of the biggest events the Recreation Committee has held. The ice cream social served 77 people and the beaches were packed for the potluck dinner and fireworks. The next big Recreation event is Octoberfest on October 12.

Bob Long said the Oliverian School will hold an open house Oct. 5 to encourage use of the school's facilities open to the public. *Bob Long will get more information about the open house and send out a District email.*

Review – Commissioners Action Items List:

Bob Long:

- Tractor/York Rake: asked Don Drew to gather pricing information for the budget committee about purchasing a tractor and York rake attachment to use for mowing and beach maintenance.
- Deck Permit: reviewed with the Planning Board the deck recently completed without a permit. The Board revisited the question and issued the permit retroactively.
- Clean Fill Dirt Wanted sign: reviewed the sign issue with the Planning Board; the Board asked the zoning officer to contact owner or if he can't locate the owner, to remove the sign.
- Zoning officer reports: it was asked if zoning officer reports could be added to Planning Board minutes; Bob Long reviewed recent minutes and reported the requested information is already in the minutes.
- Minutes requirements: contacted all District committees about the need to keep and post minutes of their meetings. He also found posting online qualifies as one of the required places for posting.

Chris Demers:

- Land trust for Mountain Lakes common areas: found a land trust cannot be formed because Mountain Lakes is a municipal district, not a private foundation.

New Business:

- **Stair Lift for Lodge:** Several residents signed a letter requesting installation of a stair lift at the Lodge for safety and accessibility. Barbara Warren pointed out the need for accessibility for the District office building as well. Bob Long made a motion to create an ad hoc committee with Dan Brady as chairman to work with Don Drew to investigate accessibility options at the Lodge and office. Chris Demers seconded and motion was approved. Dan Brady asked if an email could be sent out asking for volunteers to serve on the committee. *Kristi Garofalo will send out an email this week.*

Chris Demers made a motion to adjourn and Bob Long seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Garofalo