**VILLAGE DISTRICT OF EIDELWEISS**

**Commissioners Meeting**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners met at 10:30am on Thursday March 2, 2023.

In attendance for the public meeting are Commissioner Ralph Lutjen, Commissioner Mike Smith, Commissioner Jay Buckley, Donna MacKinnon-Administrator, Alexis Wagoner-Administrator & Kelly Robitaille-DPW Forman.

Meeting videotaped by Kasia of Madison TV

At 10:300am Commissioner Ralph Lutjen calls the meeting to order.

**Public Meeting**

**Mike Smith makes a motion to approve the agenda, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Mike Smith makes a motion to approve the 2/22/23 Minutes, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Mike Smith makes a motion to approve the 2/24/23 public hearing Minutes, Ralph Lutjen 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Ralph Lutjen makes a motion to approve the Operating Account Manifest for $30,218.46 Mike Smith 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Mike Smith makes a motion to approve the Water Assessment Fund Manifest for $2,774.81, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Admin**

Discussion on TAN Note, Bank of New Hampshire gave an interest rate of 5.5% and Northway Bank gave an interest rate of 4.5%.

**Ralph Lutjen makes a motion to accept the Northway Bank offer for a TAN Note of 4.5%, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

Discussion on the HESM Grant. The grant is a 50/50 matching grant, but we do not have a cost estimate yet.

**Ralph Lutjen makes a motion to pursue the HESM Grant, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

Discussion on the petitioned warrant articles that will tie the hands of the commissioners with the Water Line Extension Fund. The Commissioners would only be able to expend money if a hearing is held for an emergency. This would take away the Commissioner’s ability to apply for and pay for grants. Mike Smith suggests waiting until after the Annual Meeting before moving forward with the grant, to see what happens with the Water Line Extension Fund.

Discussion on the PER grant

**Jay Buckley makes a motion to move forward with the PER grant, no 2nd.**

Ralph Lutjen questions if the VDOE has to front the $30,000 or if the grant is paid directly from USDA. Going to find out about the money and wait until after the Annual meeting before moving forward.

Discussion on the Annual Meeting slide show. The Commissioners are going to put together some slides for the moderator to put up. Ralph Lutjen adds that next week he wants the Commissioners to go through the warrant articles and review Chris Boldt’s comments.

Alexis Wagoner adds that she spoke with the DRA and the warrant article for the John Deere Backhoe is correct and it is in fact a 3/5 ballot vote. The Commissioners are going to add a working session to next week’s Commissioners meeting.

**Mike Smith makes a motion to sign the Huttwil parking lot request, Ralph Lutjen 2nds, passes 3-0**

**Commissioner Reports**

Jay Buckley states that All Docks is going to give a revised quote after coming out and seeing the docks.

The PRV pit vault is installed and leveled, they just need to finish hooking it up. Dawson is in contact with Ian Hayes, and they will arrange a time for inspection. If the water needs to be shut down the office will be notified to send out a notice.

There has been no word yet if the grant extension has been approved. If the grant does not get approved the VDOE will be responsible for the full payment and not receive the 24% back from the State.

**Mike Smith makes a motion to send a letter to DES to see if the voters should go ahead with the Altdorf plan that has no engineers stamp and no plans or specs, which was put together by the water committee, Ralph Lutjen 2nds for discussion, motion passes 2-1-0 Jay Buckley abstains.**

Discussion on the plow driver for 9 Interlaken Circle, plow driver pushed snow across the street which is not allowed and also used fowl words against Mike Smith when he told him not to push the snow across the street.

**Mike Smith makes a motion to send a letter to the homeowner to inform the plow driver that he cannot push snow across the street, Jay Buckley 2nds, passes 3-0**

Discussion on number of signatures needed for petitioned warrant articles.

Jay Buckley questions who made the call to cancel last Tuesday’s meeting? Ralph Lutjen made the decision to cancel after speaking with Alexis Wagoner regarding the weather.

Discussion on Jeff DeMartino’s workers comp case. Primex told us that we would pay Jeff directly then the checks he received form Primex would be signed over to the District which is what happened. The retirement and taxes were also only affected for the 40% the Commissioners voted to pay for.

Discussion on salary budget line, it was not under spent in 2022 but actually overspent.

Ralph Lutjen reads email from Larry Leonard regarding the request for a detailed budget breakdown for the Altdorf water project proposed for the annual meeting.

Discussion on the detailed budget request for the Altdorf project that has a total project cost of $68,000.

Jay Buckley comments that the Water Committee used the Asset Management Plan to put the numbers together for pipe length and included inflation in the cost of pipe.

Ralph Lutjen replies that CMA gave us a quote of about $167,000. Why is there such a huge difference in the numbers. The Water Committee has failed to provide a plan or cost breakdown.

Ralph Lutjen refers back to email from Jay Buckley referring to tweedle-dee and tweedle-dumb. He then reads the denial letter from DES on why the VDOE was not granted the2nd AMP grant. It was not the Asset Management Plan grant that got us the denial it was the Reinach Tank project which made us ineligible for this grant.

Mike Smith states that he has been asking the Water Committee for 3-4 months to provide a detailed budget for the projects. They have not provided it and now Larry Leonard is going to make up a plan.

Alexis Wagoner questions if returning the roads to the way they were found is included in the cost breakdown. Jay Buckley states yes but he cannot provide a figure, he needs to talk to the secretary of the Water Committee.

**Correspondence**

ZBA meeting for 14 Little Shore will be held on March 15th, Ralph Lutjen is going to go in place of Jay Buckley since it will be after his term is up.

Review of the February water usage, usage went down a bit from January. No leaks were reported after the major freeze we had a few weeks back.

**Ralph Lutjen makes a motion to adjourn at 11:15am, Mike Smith 2nds, passes 3-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Wagoner, Administrator.