

Lower Beech Pond Village District

Village District Annual Meeting

Agenda & Minutes for June 10th, 2016

The annual meeting was held at the Tufonboro Townhouse

Start time: 6:00 p.m. End time: 6:45 p.m.

Introduction

- As people entered, everyone was checked in and registered voters signed in. Registered voters also received voting cards.
- There were 25 people in attendance, 20 of which were registered voters.
- Tim Christian gave an update to the group on the latest news with the dam project.
 1. We are currently waiting for our wetlands permit to be approved by the state.
 2. We are seeking to take out a loan to pay for a portion of the project that we do not currently have the funds for. This will enable us to do the project this fall.
 3. We have been in touch with the bank (about a possible loan) and have had preliminary approval and we must wait until after this annual meeting is complete so we can have Tufonboro town council review our meeting process. Then, the town council must submit a letter to the bank saying that everything has been done correctly in order to finish the loan process.

Article 1: Election of commissioner, moderator, clerk, auditor

- a) **Moderator for a 1-year term-** A motion was made and seconded to nominate Geoff Blackett. The residents voted, unanimously, to elect Geoff Blackett as moderator for a 1-year term.
- b) **Commissioner for a 3-year term-** A motion was made and seconded to nominate Stan Janeczko. The residents voted, unanimously, to re-elect Stan Janeczko for a 3-year term.
- c) **Clerk for a 1- year term.** A motion was made and seconded to nominate Sarah Christian. The residents voted, unanimously, to re-elect Sarah Christian as clerk for a 1-year term.
- d) **Treasurer for a 1-year term.** A motion was made and seconded to nominate

Joanne Crowe. The residents voted, unanimously, to re-elect Joanne Crowe for a 1-year term.

- e) **Auditor for a 1-year term.** A motion was made and seconded to nominate Barbara Landwehr. The residents voted, unanimously, to re-elect Barbara Landwehr for a 1-year term.

◆ Stan Janeczko gave an explanation of Article 2 before voting.

1. He stated that we have collected tax dollars for the past 3 years. The first year (2013-2014), \$32,000 was collected for the Engineering Study. We have spent approximately \$19,000 of those moneys, leaving roughly \$12,700 in our account.
2. In the following article, the total of \$156,000 is for the entire upcoming project. We hope to take out a loan for \$90,000 and tax the \$32,000 for 2 more years in order to cover this cost of the project. The tax rate on this \$32k taxation is 93 cents per \$1,000 of property value.
3. After this project is paid for, we plan to continue to tax a smaller amount of money each year in order to maintain grass mowing on the dam, debris removal, annual dam fees, the cost of hiring a CPA to assist with filing necessary forms to the state, etc.

Article 2: Authorize Long Term Debt - Dam Reconstruction

To see if the village district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$156,000 (gross budget) to replace the earthen portion of the dam and raise the surrounding grades to meet the requirements of the 100-year storm, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$90,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; with the balance of \$66,000 to come from the unassigned fund balance. The commissioners recommend this appropriation.

(2/3 ballot vote required)

20 people voted in favor, none against.

Article 3: Operating Budget

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 32,000 to replace the earthen portion of the dam and raise the surrounding grades to meet the requirements of the 100-year

storm. This sum will come from general taxation.

The majority voted to support this article.

◆ Tim Christian gave an explanation of Article 4 before voting.

1. This is basically what we have voted on every year, just a different figure. This includes \$400 dam fee, \$100 miscellaneous, \$2,000 for hiring a CPA to begin working with us on filing necessary paperwork to the state, and \$500 possible raft removal.
 - A raft became wedged in the dam last fall and was removed. At the moment, it has not been claimed and we must dispose of it. Dana Duxbury said she was interested in it.
 - Another raft has floated down toward the Landwehr residence near the dam and may possibly be Jane Walsh's.

Article 4: Operating Budget From Fund Balance

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to fund the operating budget with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount from general taxation.

The majority voted to support this article.

Article 5: Annual Meeting after May 1

To see if the district is willing to continue with the Annual Meeting after May 1.

The majority voted to support this article. We plan to continue with the second Friday in June 2017.

◆ Questions-

- What will the length of the earthen portion of the dam be? Tim answered that from the Barker residence side of the spillway, an estimated 100 feet. He also mentioned that if anyone wants an email copy of the design, we could send them out by request.
- How deep will they dig to create the new earthen portion of the dam? Tim answered that they are going to dig until they hit bedrock or nonpermeable soil. 2 Concrete wings will be built on either end for

funneling water in and out. On the tail end of those, they are going to build gabions (wire baskets filled with rocks). This will help with erosion control & retaining the earthen dam.

- Stan Janeczko asked Dana Duxbury to explain to the group what she recently told him after the budget hearing about stocking the pond with fish. She explained that there is no public access to the pond. According to Dana, in 1999, fish & game began stocking our pond with 2,000 + trout per year. She stated they had permission from the landowner (Steinman) on Brown Road to use the property to do this. She continued to elaborate on how Steinman has been frustrated with the general public using his land to launch their boats and bob houses. The problem has been heavy traffic, misuse of his property, and trash/litter. This past fall, Steinman contacted fish & game about his frustrations. He isn't allowing anyone to use his property anymore. According to Dana, Steinman believes that if we stop stocking the pond (get rid of the sport fish), then the fishermen won't want to come. Dana continued to explain that our pond does not have small bait fish- Shiners, Sunfish, Perch, etc. and believes that the Trout have been eating them, their eggs, or their tadpoles. Loons are not nesting and she believes there is a possibly correlation between non-nesting Loons and the types of fish that are in our pond. She is confident that we would have successful nesting of Loons if we had baitfish.
- David Hadley thanked the board for their hard work.

With no further business to discuss, Geoff Blackett adjourned the meeting.

Commissioners:
Tim Christian
Stan Janeczko
Laureen Hadley

Our audit report is always available for viewing, should you care to see it from Barbara Landwehr, our auditor. Just let me know.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sarah Christian
LBPVD Clerk