

Public Works Meeting
Jan 17, 2012

Present: Brad Lambert, Larry Fontaine, Richard DeMott, George Ehlinger, Kevin Aldridge, Ed Evans, David Poore

Absent: Kathy Copley, Ken Smock

Call to order: Vice Chair Brad Lambert called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of Nov 15, 2011: Minutes were unanimously accepted (moved by George Ehlinger, second by Larry Fontaine).

Adoption of the agenda: The agenda was adopted (moved by Larry Fontaine, second by Richard DeMott).

OLD BUSINESS

Peregrine well easement / land swap

Ed Evans had NNTR (Nothing New To Report) on negotiations with Mr. Andre.

Brad Lambert presented the Warranty Deed for lots 16, 17, 18 dated 16 October 1990, Watauga County Book of Records Bk 165 Pg 120 which contains the exceptions to the title to include "Easements and rights-of-way for public and private roads and utilities, of public record, and/or *evident upon a visual inspection of subject property*."

Ed agreed to contact Rob Angle with this data and get his input. Ed will also contact the League for an opinion. Ed will contact the county for opinions of weather or not lots 7 and 8 will perk.

Ed also agreed to contact Mr. Andre and determine what it will take for the Town to obtain lots 16,17,18.

The Committee noted that the PWC and Ed have been working the Peregrine Well issue for over two years and we are no closer to re-establishing that well. The Town needs that proven well and needs it now.

OPEN

Sewer line maps

Ed Evans reported that the issue will be closed by next meeting. OPEN

Grandview Loop and associated projects

Done. CLOSED

Tree Issues for Public Works

Kevin Aldridge reported that approximately 2/3 of the identified foliage trimming requirements have been met. Ed Evans will contact BREMCO for tree removals that exceed the safe parameters of our Public Works. OPEN

Legal opinion on town's right to control what is one the ROW – NNTR OPEN

Snow Plowing on Skyland Drive

Coordination with DOT done. CLOSED

Cone on Skyland Drive

Kevin Aldridge reported that in conversations with Avery County that the cones were placed to warn drivers of a potentially dangerous drop-off of the shoulder. Cones will be removed after the asphalt of built-up section of the shoulders have set. CLOSED

Radio water meters

Unanimous opinion was that (1) new construction water meters will be radio water meters; (2) as existing water meters need to be replaced, they will be replaced with radio water meters and (3) current water meters have an average life expectancy of at least seven (7) years and the cost of replacing good water meters with radio meters is cost prohibitive. CLOSED

Committee vacancies

To fully establish the form, fit, and function of the Public Works Committee, the attached Resolution Establishing the Public Works Committee was unanimously approved as a recommendation to the Town Council. Significant items include:

- Establishes via resolution a Public Works Committee (PWC) - (no documentation currently on file)
- Membership - minimum of 5 full-time residents plus 2 part-time residents - (encourage participation)
- Maximum of 2 Town Council Members – (in accordance with Town Council decision Dec 2011)
- 3 members required to conduct business
- Meetings on the 2nd Thursday following Town Council at 5:30 p.m. – (evening meeting to encourage participation)

The PWC unanimously approved recommending George Ehlinger and Richard DeMott for three (3) year terms to the PWC and Larry Fontaine and Brad Lambert as members from the Town Council. CLOSED

NEW BUSINESS

Membership

Ed Evans reported that in addition to Kathy Copley's resignation from the Town Council, she had told him that she resigned from her position as a member and Chairperson of the PWC.

Snowcloud Water System

George Ehlinger expressed concern over the water supply system in Snowcloud and the urgent need to address the situation. Ed Evans stated that the League had said that the Town faced no liability that may arise from a catastrophic failure of the water system covering Snowcloud. Ed further stated that the previous Town Council decided to postpone action on Snowcloud water system until 2023.

Consensus was that given the age and condition of the water system in Snowcloud, a catastrophic failure was likely to occur prior to 2023.

Brad Lambert stated that the budget would determine how many resources could/would be dedicated to the Snowcloud water system. He further stated that he would share the PWC's concern with the Town Council during the budget process.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 (moved by Larry Fontaine, second by George Ehlinger). Members agreed unanimously.