Sherwood Forest Lake District

Prudential Committee Meeting

Date Saturday, January 14, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members present: Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair), Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair), William F. Maier, Joan M. Goldberg, Dennis B. Guerri and, Clerk/Treasurer Robert T. Ronzio.

Committee Members absent: Nancy J. Fishell, Vernice D. Cowell and William J. Osborn III.

Public Present: None

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

Introduction - Dr. Lerner opened the meeting with a call to order at 10:02 AM and announced that parliamentary procedural rules previously adopted will regulate and conduct of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law (OML), other pertinent Massachusetts general laws, the by-laws of the district and local customs and traditions. Mr. Taylor made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Open Meeting Law, Ms. Goldberg seconded, hearing no opposition, Dr. Lerner dispensed with the reading. Dr. Lerner asked if anyone present planned to record the meeting. Dr. Lerner stated that he was aware that the district clerk would record the meeting for Mr. Ronzio’s brother. Dr. Lerner noted that there were agendas on the table for all present. He again stated that the aforementioned guidelines are being followed to insure that the district complied with the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronzio distributed copies of the agendas to those in attendance.

1. **Prudential Committee Members Comments and Announcements -** None.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from Previous Meeting –** Tabled

**3. Dam Management –**

1. **Lancelot Lake Engineering Contract -** Dr. Lerner reported that Tighe and Bond had begun work on the Lancelot Dam design in December and submitted its first bill for reimbursement as required under the state grant agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The bill retainer fee of $5,000.00 was the initial payment.
2. **Lancelot Lake Town Property Acquisition -** Mr. Ronzio reminded the committee that when the district take possession of the Sir Galahad Property from the Town of Becket in the spring of 2017 it needs to submit a RFD to the Conservation Commission’s agent, Mallory Larcom.
3. **Lancelot Lake Hill Engineering Expanded Topographic and Bathymetric Survey Report-** Mr. Ronzio reported that the survey work being done by Hill Engineering is proceeding as scheduled, however, due to the unseasonably warm December temperatures the bathymetric portion of the project has been delayed until the ice is sufficiently thick enough to support the crew.
4. **Little Robin Spillway Stop Logs (Con Com Permanent Order) -** Mr. Lerner noted that this would be address in the spring.
5. **Emergency Action Plan - Contact Information Review -** Dr. Lerner noted that he would contact Ms. Fishell to get an update.
6. **Conservation Commission Big Robin Certificate of Compliance** – Dr. Lerner noted that this would be addressed in the spring once the snow cover has melted.
7. **Lake Management -** Mr. Maier briefed the committee members on where things stand since he reported in December. He stated that in his correspondence with SOLitude Lake Management personnel it now appeared that there might be higher increase than he initially projected. He also stated that he has been in communication with the Conservation Commission regarding the new permitting requirements. He explains that the committee had to decide how to proceed and how much they would be willing to do before any final budget decisions are made. Mr. Maier passed out documentation and projected budget figures for committee members to review and consider. Mr. Maier noted that if the district expected SOLitude to stick with the same budget numbers as last year, then some items would have to be eliminated.
8. **Hydro-raking all Lakes -** Mr. Maier noted that it would cost approximately $24,000 to hydro-rake all five lakes. He noted that for the health of the lakes hydro-raking really needed to be considered priority and he proposed that this could be accomplished by ask the proprietors to fund this project at the annual district meeting. Mr. Maier confirmed that he would have his budget estimates ready for the January meeting. He informed the committee members that they should expect some small increases, which he previously explained. Mr. Ronzio reminded the committee that they are already over budget due to unforeseen expenses last summer. Prudential Committee members agree to defer the discussion until the budgeting portion of the meeting. Mr. Maier indicated that he would like to discuss selective dredging at a future meeting. He noted that the process is referred to as hydro raking.
9. **Ecosystem Consulting Svc - Flow Routing System for Lancelot & Big Robin Repair - Mr**. Maier noted that Ecosystems would not be able to provide a precise figure until the engineering plans for Lancelot are completed by Tighe & Bond, however he felt the committee should proceed with the complete repair of the HD system at the Big Robin spillway. Mr. Taylor made a motion to allocate funds for the completed repair of the Big Robin HD system, Mr. Maier seconded; Unanimous approval.
10. **Weed Harvester Registration -** Mr. Ronzio stated that the he has the trailer registration and plate sticker but is awaiting an answer from Attorney Goodman as to whether or not they can obtain blue plates.
11. **Beach Weekly Water Testing -** Mr. Maier stated that he has been able to confirm the same cost for beach water testing program as last year with a ten percent contingency for weather related emergencies.
12. **Beach and Boat Management**

**a. Beach and Dam Mowing plan for summer 2017 -** Dr. Lerner stated that he will be getting the bid package together and that he would like to include the removal of more brush in the beach areas in particular.

**b. Beach Areas - Expanded Brush Removal -** Dr. Lerner stated that the committee should consider the additional work and related cost when preparing the Invitation for Bid (IFB) for next spring.

**6. Property Acquisitions/Donations - Firkey, Map 216 Lot 265 -** Mr. Ronzio reported that the owner wishes to donate this property. He explained that there may be some complications with the donation and the matter has been referred to the district’s attorney for resolution. The property is located on King Richard Drive across the street from the Little Robin spillway. Mr. Ronzio stated that he had been informed that state law is very specific as to what taxes are due on donated property are due and the assessors office had not been in compliance. He reported that going forward taxes must be paid for the whole year, stating that donated property should be transferred prior to December 30th. Mr. Ronzio noted that the taxes for one parcel would need to be paid and then the district could file for abatement as long as it was done within the 30-day abatement period. . Mr. Ronzio reminded the committee that taxes should always be paid in a timely manner in order to avoid penalties and fees.

**7. District Office Plan**

1. **Electrical Service Inspection -** Dr. Lerner stated that work on getting the power restored to the building would be completed by a licensed electrician whose service will be donated sometime this spring. The prudential committee previously authorized the electrical work.
2. **Storage of Lake & Road District Equipment and Supplies -** Dr. Lerner reported that district is utilizing the building for the consolidation and secure storage of supplies, materials and equipment for both the Road District and Lake District.

**8. Website & Reporting Monthly Activity**- Dr. Lerner read the report sent to him by Ms. Cowell. Dr. Lerner noted that there has been very little additional activity since the January tax bills were mailed, but it most likely was to soon to see any increase due to the flyer that was included in the mailing.

**9. Opt-Out Requests -** Mr. Ronzio stated there are no new requests.

**10. FY2018 Budget Pre-Planning and Preparation -** Dr. Lerner advises that everyone needs to be completely prepared to discuss this by the March meeting.

**11. Any Other Business to come before the Committee –None**

**12. Public Input-** None

**13. Review Correspondence -** Mr. Ronzio presented all correspondence received. He indicated that the district received a public records request from the Town of Plymouth, Massachusetts asking for information about an individual who they believe might have owned property in the district or been an employee. Mr. Ronzio stated he searched the district files and proprietor lists since the district was created in 2010 and found nothing. Mr. Guerri made a motion to respond to the request explaining that the Lake District does not have any relationship or information to provide, Ms. Goldberg seconded, unanimous approval.

**14. Warrants #6 FY2017 -** Dr. Lerner presented the warrant as prepared. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the warrant as amended, Mr. Maier seconded; the warrant is approved unanimously. Mr. Ronzio reviewed the district’s bank statement and financials, bringing the committee up to date on all current expenditures.

**15.** **Adjournment –** Ms. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Maier seconded. Unanimously approved. The meeting is adjourned at 11:42 AM.

**Schedule:** Next meeting Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Robert T. Ronzio

Clerk & Treasurer

Sherwood Forest Lake District

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Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair)

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Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair)

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Nancy J. Fishell

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Vernice D. Cowell

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William F. Maier

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Dennis B. Guerri

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 William J. Osborn III

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Joan M. Goldberg