

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 30, 2020
9:00 a.m.
TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Chuck Cardillo, Roxanne McCaffrey, Patrick White and Mark Webber

Call to Order:

Chuck called the zoom meeting to order.

Chuck made a motion to accept the minutes for July 16, 2020. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

Next the Board took action on the appointment of the Town Administrator. Chuck made a motion to accept the agreement for Michael Canales for Town Administrator. Patrick seconded. Vote: I Roxanne, I Patrick, I Chuck. Michael will be starting on September 14th.

Next was a discussion session was opened to second homeowners. Patrick spoke to a question on the lake. He said that there is not a lot of milfoil currently in the lake and harvesting, when approved is only allowed for harvesting milfoil. The days of harvesting all types of weeds is over. A question was asked about lily pads and Patrick said that as they are native, only one pass is allowed down the outlet channel and one pass all year around the docks. He continued that the 2005 permit for harvesting is very different from how harvesting will be allowed in 2020. When questioned about the lake becoming a bog Patrick said that the issue with sediment in the lake and the dredging of the lake has been on hold because of the endangered snail population present. Patrick restated the regulations that are in place. Roxanne gave an update on the next steps on dredging and that the process is ongoing. A question was asked about the trial herbicide treatment and Roxanne said that again there is criteria of 50% milfoil within a control area set by the DEP which must be met before application, similar to harvesting. Patrick stated that there are two species of invasive weeds that the state considers: curly pond and milfoil. Native weeds are not included in counts for harvesting and or herbicide treatment and cannot be cut. Patrick also said that winter draw down no longer happens per the State as it harms the snail population. Someone asked about the impact of COVID-19 and Town services. Patrick said that currently the Town Offices are still closed to the public and the Governor's guidance is being followed. Chuck added that outdoor dining was approved and at Town Meeting they transferred one million dollars from free cash to a stabilization fund to have at hand if need be to support Coronavirus impacts. As Stockbridge relies mainly on real estate taxes the Town is in a better place than neighboring towns. Chuck added that larger projects have been put off until

possibly a special town meeting in the fall or next spring. Roxanne added that as far as services to citizens the Fire Department and Police Department have not been affected and that some bylaws have been lifted until Columbus Day, such as outdoor dining and signage, to help Town businesses. Sergeant Nichols responded to a question asking if there was any noticeable difference as result of the modification of the intersection of Route 7 and Main Street. Sergeant Nichols replied that they had not seen a difference; there are may vehicles who have disregard the markings but also some slowing down and observing them. Chuck stated that the markings are a test and if followed they work well. The next step is that the center island will be a raised bump forcing drivers to follow the markings and allowing tractor trailers to make the turn. Roxanne said that she has had mixed feedback but also positive comments that they markings make the intersection clearer, especially to out of towners. She added that the engineer came out and he will be putting together design ideas for moving of the crosswalks and also discussed extending the center lines through the intersection with a double broken line additionally guiding drivers to the correct lane to be in. There was a question about fixing the beach parking lot and Chuck said that there was an appropriation made to Parks and Rec for the parking lot and it is in their hands. Lenny also said that he would look into it. A question was asked of the police if there had been an increase in reported thefts of kayaks and Sergeant Nichols said that there had been an increased report of thefts of kayaks and canoes from White Pines beach this year and last. He stated that they have given their suggestions and have thoroughly investigated every report but have not been able to recover any of the water craft stolen from White Pines beach. As the beach is an unsecured beach, Sergeant Nichols suggested storing water craft at one's condo or at a secure location on the association complex and bringing them back and forth to the lake. He also said that a security system or surveillance system at the beach would be appropriate. Patrick said that he believed that a camera was installed. A participant stated that Ralph at the compactor was doing a superb job under the current circumstances. He also asked for a status update on the several bridges under repair. Chuck said that they had started the Larrywaug Bridge and a detour is in place, will be starting the Averic 1 Bridge and the Curtissville Bridge will be taken up at the next Town meeting. A question was raised on the Desisto School project and Chuck said that there has not been any current discussion. He added that the Board just approved a two-year extension to Elm Court. There was a question on sewer extension to the western side of the lake and Chuck said that they are looking into it. Patrick's feelings were that he agrees with doing it but at \$180/foot it gets into the seven figures very quickly. He said that over the next 5 to 10 years they need to re-evaluate the biggest nutrient impacts on the lake and the most important projects to spend that money on and then to have the political and financial will to see if it is realistic to fund this project. Roxanne noted that a Stockbridge Bowl Stewardship Commission was created to bring together the various stake holders involved with Stockbridge Bowl to engage in a long-term monitoring and testing of the Bowl and to address issues. Roxanne added that

everyone has a vested interest in the lake and everyone needs to work together. A question was asked about where the Town was with zoning changes and Patrick responded that the Planning Board has hired a part time planner and it is an ongoing process. He encouraged people to watch the recorded Planning Board meetings as well as all other board and committee zoom meetings.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Chuck adjourned the meeting.