



at Taft Hill  
1 Summerfield Drive Uxbridge, MA 01569

### **Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting: January 22, 2020**

Board Members Present: Marsha Bourgeois, Paul Cnossen, Cecile Gaigals, Lavonne Seifert, Pat Stephan.  
The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Lavonne Seifert at 2:04pm.

The BOT went into Executive Session to hear concerns from a resident. The discussed matter is under advisement. The Executive Session ended at 2:25pm.

The BOT reconvened at 2:30pm in open session with all BOT members present, and Grounds Committee Chairman, Bill Freer and residents Paul Balutis and Dan Hicks.

#### **1. Open Forum for Resident Issues**

Dan brought up the feasibility of installing a flag pole to fly the American flag as is common at other private communities. This topic will be on the agenda at the Annual Meeting to provide the BOT with input. Please consider your position regarding such an addition.

#### **2. Review of BOT actions since December Meeting**

No actions taken.

#### **3. Financial Report**

- A. All financial reports have been reviewed by the Board
- B. Our current total reserves are \$ 515,153.61
- C. The board reviewed and accepted the monthly financials.
- D. The 2019 budget ended on a positive note. In early February there will be a formal accountant's review of our financial documents.

#### **4. Grounds Committee Report**

Bill Freer reported the following:

- A. Bill continues to be in contact with J.R. Dowding during and after snowstorms to discuss issues and needs. Overall the BOT is pleased with the snowplowing efforts although the "ice" storm earlier in the month presented some distinct challenges. Discussions continue as to where to locate "mounds" of snow from a major snowfall given that there are limited options.
- B. The BOT voted on final payment to be made to B&M Landscaping for the 2019 season upon the completion of a couple repair tasks.
- C. The BOT voted, 5-0, in favor of seeking a signed contract with Carlino Landscaping for 2020. Bill will proceed accordingly.
- D. Quotes are being sought for reclamation/maintenance work on the detention ponds. The intent is to have this work done very early spring before the annual bloom.

#### **5. Beautification Committee**

- A. No report at this time.

## 6. Date of next BOT meeting

A. The next meeting will take place on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1 pm at Marsha Bourgeois', 49 Summerfield Drive. Residents are welcome to attend but are asked to declare their intentions in order that seating may be provided.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Eversource gas pipe status: COMPLETED! The capping of the gas line, removal of above ground pipes, removal of the orange barrier, and resurfacing of the area at West Taft Hill Lane entrance is complete. A BIG Thank -You to Pat Stephan for his persistence in working with Eversource to complete this task.

B. Forest Glen. No current activity or concerns.

C. Waiver of Liability for Volunteers: The BOT continues to evaluate the feasibility of implementing such a form and the potential protection it would offer to the community as a whole. Current volunteers will be asked for their input.

D. 2020 Information Sheets: To date there are still 34 responses to be received from residents. Thank you to each of you who have submitted a response. To the remainder, please see to this task promptly. The **deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup>** is fast approaching. Collating this data is a major effort and your cooperation in facilitating this project is much appreciated.

E. Sub-Committees: Pat Stephan will prepare detailed information for discussion at the Annual Meeting regarding potential sub-committees that would add greatly to the ongoing and future viability of our community. At this time, a committee of three (3) consisting of Paul Balutis, Bill Freer, and Pat Stephan will form an ad-hoc Strategic Planning Sub-Committee to take an in-depth look at the recent BECHT study and create a plan for future budgeting and targeted maintenance/replacement of infrastructures as well as consider additions to the community commensurate with the ever changing energy options in the marketplace.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Planning for the Annual Meeting. The BOT reviewed the processes and paperwork associated with holding the Annual Meeting. Much more information will be coming your way in the not-too-distant future with regards to running for office, proxy balloting and the like. Keep on the look out-- This information will come to you "snail mail". Meanwhile **BE SURE TO MARK THE DATE ON YOUR NEW 2020 CALENDARS. APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 at the VALLEY CHAPEL.** Plan to arrive at 9:30am to check in for a 10:00am meeting start. The importance of your attendance cannot be overstated. Meanwhile, consider your potential for running for the Board of Trustees. There will be two (2) open positions this year. Also consider serving on a sub-committee which will also bring added value. Working together we can continue to enjoy living in a lovely community.

## 9: RESIDENT COMMENTARY:

Paul Balutis presented some valid recommendations for contractual language when drafting vendor contracts.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30-pm.

The BOT went into a follow-up Executive Session to draft a plan of action regarding resident's previously mentioned concern.

The Executive Session adjourned at 5:45 pm.