MECHANIC FALLS TOWN COUNCIL

September 9, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lou Annance, Chair

Wayne Hackett, Vice-Chair

Stephen Bolduc

Cathy Fifield

Nick Konstantoulakis

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Hawley – Town Manager

Shirley Marquis – Town Clerk

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Win Durgin – Sun Journal

Lou Annance called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with all Council present. We stood and saluted the flag. It was asked if this was John’s last meeting. No, October meeting will be last one.

**Reports:**

**1.01 Council Meeting Minutes** August 3, 2015 **1.02 Municipal Financial Reports 1.03 Departmental Reports Submitted** Cathy Fifield made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. No discussion. So voted. Unanimous.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments at this time.

**Reports of the Town Manager:**

**Old Business**

**3.01 Road Paving–**John explained that Elm Street was shimmed and overlay, and there was a problem and he has talked with Pike. Work has and will be done on Saunders Road, Water Street, North Street, and Mitchell Street. The weather might hinder the paving, but Pike has been excellent to work with.

**3.02 Lane Road Construction –** John stated that Lane Road is closed and construction has run into some massive rocks which will add unanticipated costs to the budget. They had to rent a pounding hammer device and break up the rocks on site at a cost of $2,500 per day, hopefully for only 1 day. There are no additional funds from the FEMA Grant. We will have better figures at the next meeting. American Concrete had no trucks available this week, but Josh took his truck and picked them up. Crane needed was not available this week, but they have an excavator they can use. Hoping to get the bottoms set today, otherwise the rain will hinder them. It’s not supposed to rain hard until Thursday afternoon/evening.

**3.03 Third Avenue Construction –**John said our crews, Public Works, Water and Sanitary

**Town Council Meeting**

**September 9, 2015**

**Page 2 of 4**

District has done their work, but CMP has a pole that needs to be relocated. Two weeks ago Scott and John met with CMP; they need a 30 day notice.

**3.04 County Budget Committee Appt. –** No success in finding a replacement. Stephen Bolduc volunteered to sit on the County Budget Committee. Cathy Fifield made a motion to appoint Stephen Bolduc to the County Budget Committee. Seconded by Wayne Hackett. No further discussion. So voted. Lou, Cathy, Wayne and Nick voted in favor of appointing Stephen Bolduc. John told Stephen he would email him a tentative schedule.

**3.05 Town Manager Search Comm. –**John stated that they should have a committee of 9 for voting purposes. Daniel Blanchard offered to sit on the Committee. Wayne Hackett said we could have a committee of 8, 7 members and 1 Chairman as a non-voting member. John said so far, we have received one application. We are taking applications until September 18th.

**3.06 Blizzard 2015 Payment–**We will be receiving $10,155.61 for the blizzard, and the State share of $2031.51, we will not be receive until 2016. John said the money was booked in the 2014/2015 year budget.

**New Business**

**4.01 Workers Comp. Dividend– We** received a dividend check in the amount of $1170 from MMA. It is a little lower this year.

**4.02 Rec. Committee Changes–** The Recreation Committee formally voted to have Rec funds run through the town finances. The Booster Club kept their own books, but they are not covered under the Town’s Liability Insurance. Illegal to use the Town’s tax exempt number. They have never been audited. Enterprise accounts can be rolled over from year to year, and allowed to expend those funds.

**4.03 Library Trustee Changes–**They have done the same thing. Never morphed into a real committee. Dissolve the Library Trustees and turn into a Library Committee. The Historical Society is their own committee and they are running out of money. Don’t know how they will be able to keep the building warm this winter. The Church gave it to us to be used as a Historical Society. When it was turned over to them, they were responsible for maintenance, heating and utilities.

**4.04 Phone Vote – PW Truck– John** explained that Rowe Ford was the low bidder and was awarded the bid, but they did not bid the appropriate truck, that is why we needed the phone vote.

**4.05 Phone Vote – Mill Rate–** We lowered the mill rate to $21.40 so that the overlay would be more in line with what the Council wanted.

**Town Council Meeting**

**September 9, 2015**

**Page 3 of 4**

**4.06 Phone Vote - Advertising–** We needed approval to advertise the Town Manager position because the cost was so high.

**4.07 Bridge Jumping Ordinance Draft– John** explained that we need this ordinance because the kids were jumping off the Route #11 bridge for swimming. The State said the Town needs to do this. Jeff Goss got a draft and next month we will have a public hearing, before the Council adopts this ordinance. Then the Police will have something to enforce. We will also be holding a public hearing for the Mass Gathering Ordinance next month.

**4.08 Cruiser Bids–**John explained the Police Department likes the Avenger, and they don’t want to replace the truck with another truck, would rather get another Avenger. They talked with Quirk and a new cruiser is $1,500 more. We will have the bids for next month. The Council asked John to have them give us a price with and without a trade in. We kept the truck 2 years longer than usual police vehicles.

**4.09 Town Office Closed- MMA Convention & Columbus Day–** John told the Council that the Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, October 7 so that staff can attend the MMA Convention. Also, the Town Offices will be closed on Monday, October 12th for Columbus Day Holiday.

**5.01 Resignation – Keith Morse, Planning Board** John said the Planning Board is down to 5 members now. Cathy Fifield made a motion to accept the resignation of Keith Morse from the Planning Board. Seconded by Wayne Hackett. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous. John stated we would add his name to the Community Service Plaque for close to 20 years of service to the Town of Mechanic Falls.

**5.02 Abatement Request – George & Pamela Larracy, $214.01 John** explained that the Homestead Exemption was not given. We will adjust the account. Wayne Hackett made a motion to grant the abatement request. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**5.03 Abatement Request – C.R. & Sons, $66.51 Wayne** Hackett made a motion to grant the abatement request. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**5.04 Appointment – Shirley Marquis, Deputy Treasurer John** explained that this was just a formality, never got re-appointed. Wayne Hackett made a motion to appoint Shirley Marquis as Deputy Treasurer. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**5.05 Appointment – Angela Grenier, Deputy Tax Collector Wayne** Hackett made a motion to appoint Angela Grenier as Deputy Tax Collector. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**Town Council Meeting**

**September 9, 2015**

**Page 4 of 4**

**5.06 Resignation – Mike Needham, Budget Committee Wayne** Hackett made a motion to accept the resignation of Mike Needham from the Budget Committee. Seconded by Cathy Fifield. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**5.07 Appointment – Melanie Judd, Budget Committee Wayne** Hackett made a motion to appoint Melanie Judd to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

Wayne Hackett made a motion to go into Executive Session for 1 MRSA {405(6) (A) Personnel Matter. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**Executive Session**

**1 MRSA {405(6) (A) Personnel Matter**

Stephen Bolduc made a motion to go into regular session. Seconded by Nick Konstantoulakis. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

Nick Konstantoulakis made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.