



**Emerald Lake Village District**  
**Hillsboro, New Hampshire, 03244**  
**Official Meeting Minutes**

**2010 ELVD DISTRICT BOND HEARING ON: February 18, 2010**

At 7:00p.m. Commissioner Bob Hutchinson called the bond Hearing to order.

ELVD administrator Jim Coffey read the public notice posted in the required public places. Jim also explained the purpose of the bond hearing, to discuss Article 2.

**Article 2.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) (gross budget) for the construction of new water mains, and other directly related activities as recommended in the 2009 Water System Master Plan, involving Patten Hill Road, Pine Glen Road, Gould Pond Road and other streets; and to borrow in the name of the municipality by issuance of serial notes or bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 32), a sum not to exceed \$800,000 for the purpose of defraying the cost of the foregoing, and to authorize the district's officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Explanation: This appropriation is for the most critical part of the needed improvements to the water distribution system. Various grants are presently being pursued to reduce costs to the users. A two-thirds majority vote is required. Recommended by the Board of Commissioners.

The board of Commissioners and Jim Coffey has been working with DES and Tata and Howard, our water systems engineers to devise a Master Plan for the Emerald Lake Village District water system upgrade. The Master Plan has three phases. Phase One; Source, how much water we have. Phase Two: Distributing water to everyone in the District. Phase Three: Water Conservation, which translates into water meters. The \$800,000.00 bond is for Phase One.

The start of Phase One will be to replace the existing water piping starting with Patten Hill Rd. to Pine Glen. Gould Pond Rd. to Hummingbird Ln. Mary Rowe Dr to Red Fox Crossing, Moccasin Trail to Sunrise Pl., Turtle Bridge back up Rabbit Path and Berry Patch Lane. The existing water main pipes will be replaced with eight inch piping. We need a loop in the piping so if there is a problem in one area the water can be shut off in exclusively that area and will not affect other houses, etc.

We should be able to get more water out of the existing wells by having this loop. Jim Coffey discussed various loans we can and have applied for. Those loans and grants include ARRA, Rural Development and SRLF through DES. Fixing the worst part of our water systems, (the streets mentioned above) is our main focus at this time. Jim said maps will be available to residents at our annual meeting.

Resident Dick Baldwin asked if they will be taking questions and discussing how this will affect the tax rate at the annual meeting Jim answered yes. Dick also asked how much this bond issue affects our tax rate if it passes. Jim answered the water is a separate issue and the tax rate is not affected by water. Dick asked Jim about the cost of meters. Jim answered everyone would pay a base rate, including full time and seasonal residents. He also said meters are a few years away and public hearings will be held to discuss all of this when the time comes. The District does have a small fund, about \$15,000.00 for water meters. Jim said an estimated cost for meters for the District would be about \$500,000.00. Resident Keith Huber asked if we could get back to the bond hearing issue. Request granted.

Resident Martha Caron asked if the piping needs to be replaced because of natural deterioration or improving delivery. Jim Coffey answered both. The system is outdated and two inch pipe was used. We really need eight inch. Commissioner Bob Hutchinson explained the Master Plan has been in the works for three years. Jim Coffey said he will discuss how this plan will affect our pocketbooks at the annual meeting. He said the rates have to be at least enough to operate the system. He explained one problem is quite a few of the District residents do not pay their water bills as quickly as they pay their taxes and therefore it's tough to build a fund and so cash flow is a problem. He did say the water fund is in fairly good shape.

Martha Caron suggested the board come up with a one paragraph summary of the bond issue to hand out to residents at the annual meeting. She said key points in the paragraph would be helpful so residents can digest the information and

see exactly what the importance of this article is. The board agreed and she offered to help. Jim said Jenna Rzasz of Tata and Howard will be at the meeting to answer questions as well. Bob Hutchinson said it's also important that this article passes as the State of New Hampshire would like to come in and take over the water system. Martha Caron asked why they would want it. Commissioner Troy Cornock said because they could charge an outrageous price of \$10,000,000.00 to fix it and then charge the residents up the "wazoo" to pay for it. Keith Huber said he understands we need to spend the \$800,000.00 but how can you ask people to spend this amount without knowing what the financial impact will be or what percentage of a loan we'll be paying back. Jim said that was a good question and we'd have more definitive answers at the annual meeting. Jim wanted to make it clear this bond issue does not affect the tax rate. Resident Sue Ireland asked about ARRA funds. Jim explained how they work. Martha Caron suggested the handout regarding this bond issue be written up ASAP as she would really like to see this pass.

At 7:38p.m. Commissioner Bob Hutchinson motioned to close the bond hearing  
Commissioner Denise DeForest seconded the motion.

## **BUDGET HEARING**

At 7:40p.m. Commissioner Bob Hutchinson opened the Budget Hearing

**Article 1.** To choose one Commissioner for three years, one Moderator for one year, one clerk for one year and one treasurer for one year. (To Be Voted On By The Official Ballot)

**No questions. No discussion.**

**Article 2.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) (gross budget) for the construction of new water mains, and other directly related activities as recommended in the 2009 Water System Master Plan, involving Patten Hill Road, Pine Glen Road, Gould Pond Road and other streets; and to borrow in the name of the municipality by issuance of serial notes or bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 32) a sum not to exceed \$800,000 for the purpose of defraying the cost of the foregoing, and to authorize the district's officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Explanation: This appropriation is for the most critical part of the needed improvements to the water distribution system. Various grants are presently being pursued to reduce costs to the users. A two-thirds majority vote is required. Recommended by the Board of Commissioners.

**No questions. No discussion.**

**Article 3.** To hear the reports of the Village District Officers, Auditors, Agents, Committees or other officers heretofore chosen or appointed; or to take any other action in relation thereto. Majority vote required.

**No questions No discussion.**

**Article 4.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and sixty-eight Thousand, Two Hundred and fifty-seven Dollars (\$168,257) for the operating expenses of the district including General Government, Streets, Bridges and Recreation, Debt Service, Operating Transfers Out and all other current expenses of the district. Majority vote required.

**Jim Coffey referred to the attached copy of the budget form.**

**Article 5.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and seventeen Thousand, Six Hundred and sixty-one Dollars (\$217,661) for the purpose of operating the Water Department during 2009; said funds to be offset by the income to the Water Department of an equal amount. Majority vote required.

**Jim Coffey referred to the attached budget form.**

**Article 6.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of making capital improvement to the water distribution and other components of the water system as required; said funds to be offset by the income to the Water Department of an equal amount. Majority vote required.

**Resident Martha Caron asked if this article is in conjunction with Article 2. Jim answered they are separate. This article refers to leak detection. She asked if this article is necessary if Article 2 passes. Jim answered yes, as they are separate issues.**

**Article 7.** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$250,000) for the purpose of replacing the bridge at the outflow of Gould Pond over Sand Brook. Said funds to come from a \$150,000 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant, Fifty Thousand from the 2009 Undesignated Fund Balance and Fifty Thousand from General Taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the bridge is completed or by December 31, 2012, whichever is sooner. Recommended by the Board of Commissioners. (Majority vote required)

Resident Karen Booth said the bridge issue has been going on for three years and asked for information and an update on the progress. Jim Coffey gave the residents in attendance a brief history of the bridge at the request of Martha Caron. Jim said the Commissioners have applied for a grant. They are hoping for a \$150,000.00 FEMA Hazardous Mitigation Grant. \$50,000.00 could be taken from the water fund as well. The estimated cost to fix the bridge once and for all would be about \$200,000.00. Commissioner Troy Cornock it would be a pre-cast bridge set on footings. All large rocks would be removed. Anything that affects water flow would be removed. Dick Baldwin asked about the Dam. Jim Coffey said this is a totally separate issue.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Keith Huber asked why we appropriate more money than we need. For instance, last year we asked for certain amounts, spent way less and then this year we're doing the same. Jim Coffey explained we need to understand these amounts are not all actual available cash amounts but assets as well. Dick Baldwin and Jim Coffey explained how the excel spread sheet works. They said they can see how it would confuse people who aren't used to the system.

Commissioner Bob Hutchinson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:23p.m.  
Commissioner Denise DeForest seconded the motion.

Given under our hands and seal this 18th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

Robert Hutchinson, Chairman  
Troy Cornock  
Denise DeForest  
Commissioners of the Emerald Lake Village District

Respectfully submitted by  
District Clerk  
Patricia Stefanelli

Approved By:

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Bob Hutchinson

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Troy Cornock

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Denise DeForest