



**Leino Park Water District (LPWD)
Annual Meeting - June 9, 2012**

1. **Call to Order** on June 9, 2012 at 10:08 AM
 - Board members: Sue Miller (SM), Dave Crumbley (DC), Bob Brown (BB), Rick Plante (RP), Don Williams (DW), and Derek Knerr (DK).
 - Other members present: 26
 - Guests present: 3

2. **Introductions and Announcements:**
 - Board introductions.
 - SM extended thanks to everyone who helped with the bridge repair effort last fall. We would also like to thank Bill Hibbs for expressing interest in becoming our next Water System Operator. We are currently looking for a training program for Bill.

3. **Review and Approve Minutes** - SM read the minutes from our last annual meeting (06/18/11). Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the minutes as read.

4. **Election of Officers:**
 - The Chairperson, Clerk/Moderator, Treasurer, and one of the Water Commissioner (3 year term) positions are up for election. A request was made for volunteers who would like to serve on the Board, but alas, there were none. A motion was made to have the existing Board continue to serve. Motion seconded and passed with no opposition.

5. **Reports:**
 - A. **Treasurer Report (Finance/Budget):**
 - **Presentation** - DC read the Income and Expenditures Report, the Bridge Fund Report, and the Budget Proposal line by line. DC answered questions about the current betterment payoff (\$2547 plus \$75 registry of deeds fee and \$10 processing fee) and why the bridge fund has more than \$100,000 if we only pay \$200 a year (we have been paying \$100 or \$200 per household for over 10 years). A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the report with corrections to the dates on the Bridge Fund Report.

 - B. **Water Commissioner Report:**
 - **Maintenance of lines and meters** - Nothing new reported.
 - **Billing** - SM emphasized the importance of prompt payments and how we were forced to enact penalties on late payments this past year. We are more than willing to work with those who can not meet their responsibilities, but you must let us know so a payment plan can be worked out.
 - **Water Quality** - DC explained that TTHM readings are much lower due to coordinated flushing with the Town and a change in water distribution by the City of Fitchburg.

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C. Bridge Report:

- **Replacement options** - SM listed items that the Board had done over the past year. (Please view minutes from the Board's regular monthly meetings for a complete list.) It has been a busy year and while there is not a lot to show for it, the Board has pursued many paths towards obtaining funding and researching replacement options. DK explained we are looking at costs between \$600,000 and \$700,000 to replace our bridge with a similarly sized wooden structure. This includes everything - removal, new pilings, abutments, permits, the wooden structure, and labor. We expect to borrow about \$600,000 and can get a USDA loan with a 4 1/4% interest rate, payable over 40 years. Annual payments per household for this loan would be around \$500. We are currently working on proposing new Town bylaws that would give the Town the authority to borrow (or float a bond) on our behalf. Annual payments per household could be closer to \$360 if the Town can borrow for us. There were questions about how long it would take to replace the bridge and when construction could start. DK guessed at between 3 to 6 months of construction which may not begin for another 2 years. If we succeed with the Town bylaw, it must then go to the State Legislature for a home petition. Once we are able to secure funding, the permitting process may take 6 months. We are making good progress but don't hold your breath.

D. Maintenance Report:

- **Roads** - SM stated that there are more kids in the neighborhood. Please go slow. DC reported that he recently received a quote for \$4200 to pave part of North Shore Rd between the Dykes and Pine St, and another \$2400 to pave about 100 ft of Ridge Ave. The Board will take this up at their next meeting. There was some discussion about the horrible condition of Honey Bee Lane and how we tried to enter into an agreement with the owner when our bridge was closed. We wanted to ensure that we would have future access before spending money on widening and resurfacing, but could not come to an agreement. A guest from Wintturi Park wanted to know about having Honey Bee Lane graded (like they used to). It was explained that while the Town plows for public safety reasons, the owner is responsible for maintenance. A suggestion was made to get together with others that have deeded access on Honey Bee Lane and schedule a time to meet with the Town Select Board.
- **Bridge** - Speed limit is 5 MPH and we request that there be only one vehicle on the bridge at a time. It was suggested that a 'One car at a time' sign be put on the other side of bridge. DC will see that this is done. There was discussion about what types of vehicles currently use the bridge and how the Town ambulance and fire equipment will not drive over the bridge. DK explained that the Fire Chief wants documentation (an engineering study) to prove that our bridge is safe before he allows these vehicles to cross it. Unfortunately, our engineering firm does not believe that a study would be in our favor. We need to replace the bridge.

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E. Communication Report:

- **Website** - Visit us at www.LeinoPark.org or email us at LPWD@LeinoPark.org. DK requested suggestions for the website and someone wished that there was information about the bridge closing on the website when the bridge was closed last October. DK replied that while there have been times when the website was not up-to-date he made sure that it was current through out the closure. Others seemed to agree. Mary wanted to know why she wasn't notified of the bridge closing, so DC explained that she was in Florida and notices were put into everyone's mailbox and on the bulletin board. DK will try to keep the bulletin board more up-to-date.

6. Old Business:

- There are 7 deeded right-of-ways as shown on a plan of Leino Park from 1923. Typically, they are 20 feet wide extensions of the existing roads all the way to the water. Some of them have been taken over by neighbors as an extension of their own property. Since all properties deeded in Leino Park have the right to 'pass and repossess' over 'existing roads' (as of 1923), the Board wanted to know if they should direct some of their efforts at ensuring accessibility to all. This may involve an expense of surveying. At the request for a motion, a motion was made, seconded and passed (with no oppositions) for Board to proceed with making these 'right-of-ways' accessible.
- SM described how she sees beer cans and bottles as she walks her dog near the corner of Pine St and Parkwood Ave. BB added that he had pulled a car battery out of there and took it to the transfer station. The Board voted last week, to put up a couple of 'No Dumping' signs but are looking for more suggestions. Someone stated that they had talked with the police, who will follow up if a license plate number is reported. Please, if you see it happening, report it. Littering and illegal dumping hurts all of us.

7. New Business:

- A suggestion was made to have 'widow makers' (dead branches) hanging over Leino Park Rd removed. The Board agreed to consider this at their next regular meeting.
- A motion was made to restrict dog walking within Leino Park, to Leino Park residents only. There was a short discussion about the Town law that requires dogs to be under control (including voice) of the owner or handler, but the motion failed enough support for a second.

8. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made at 11:12. All in favor.

Respectively submitted,
Derek Knerr - Clerk/Moderator