

**MUNICIPAL COUNTRY CLUB COMMISSION a.k.a. FARMINGBURY
HILLS REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2012
WOLCOTT TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:30 P.M., PAGE 1 OF 6
MINUTES**

Note: These are summary minutes. A tape recording of this meeting is on file in Wolcott Town Hall, Commission Secretary's Office.

Chairman Larson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance and attendance was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Larson, Anthony Marino, Michael Perrone and Chris Vastola

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Solocius

ALSO PRESENT: David Caisse, Craig Kealey, Golf Pro Consultant and Mrs. Bruce, Municipal Financial officer

ALSO ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- August 27, 2012 regular meeting and September 10, 2012 regular meeting

Upon **MOTION** by Anthony Marino, seconded by Chris Vastola, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2012 regular meeting and the September 10, 2012 regular meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There were none.

PUBLIC REQUEST LIMITED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

There were none.

GOLF PRO/CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

Mr. Kealey was present and came forward to report that they had an incident with a handicapped golfer. He noted that he was driving too close to the greens and one of the staff members told him that he could not do that. He noted that they have signs up telling them that they cannot go inside the yellow lines.

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Mr. Kealey said that this golfer is going to pursue this issue; he is trying to change the golf course policy. Mr. Kealey noted that he called the PGA, to find out any information regarding this incident. He indicated that he went on a site "ADA" which he thinks stands for American Disability Act, at which time he read it into the read (see attached). He noted that he wanted the commission members to be aware of what had happened if this gentleman challenges them, which he knows he will.

Mr. Marino inquired if this guy has a disability at with time Mr. Kealey said he claims that he has half of a foot.

Mr. Kealey stated that he has been playing golf there for years. Also, he has been warned in the past.

Mr. Kealey said what they do is balance the needs of the handicapped people with the needs of the golf course in getting the yellow lines as close as possible without damaging the areas.

Chairman Larson said if they receive a formal challenge then they will review it.

Mr. Vastola said if he challenges that he would like an interpretation from the Town Attorney. He also noted that he is not going to interpret ADA guidelines.

Mr. Kealey said he has a request tonight an 18 hole outing on Saturday October 20th. He was wondering if the commission has any objections, at which time the commission members said that's great and they have no problem.

Mr. Kealey pointed out that Sunday has become an issue. He was wondering if they could have a discussion on what they can do to promote more business.

Mr. Vastola suggested that nothing be done until there is a problem because the association is becoming small.

Mr. Kealey pointed out in their future meetings they should think about running a special. He noted that the people who don't purchase season passes, maybe they can give them an opportunity for some kind of

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promotional rate like \$29.00 with a cart for 18 holes for residents and non-residents.

Mr. Perrone asked if Mr. Kealey is concerned with filling nine holes or just filling it in general.

Mr. Larson noted that they will speak about this later in the meeting.

GOLF SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Caisse was present and came forward to report that he didn't hear back from the guy from Cheshire regarding the new pump. He asked the commission members if this could go out to bid. He also pointed out the second week of November they will be shutting down the system. He was wondering if they could use Paul Tiso to remove the pumps and the commission said that is fine. He indicated that they lost another apple tree. He also noted that they planted trees around the second hole. Also, the fairways have been cored, seeded and fertilized. He noted that the pond is still full. He informed the commission that they will be detining the greens on November 6th and he will let him know.

Chairman Larson suggested that they post something in the Pro shop.

Mr. Perrone referenced trees that they planted and asked if they were budgeted and did they plan to plant a certain amount of trees, at which time Mr. Caisse noted that they dug them out of the woods.

Mr. Vastola commented on the ninth. He questioned if something could be done on the fourth. Mr. Caisse said the trees there cannot get any water. He said they have to get rid of two trees there.

Mr. Perrone said they should have the insurance company come and evaluate the situation.

Chairman Larson said the insurance company has come before and he thinks that they should take a look at it. He noted that he will meet with Mr. Caisse and see what their needs are.

Chairman Larson said he is looking for a motion.

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Upon **MOTION** by Chris Vastola, seconded by Michael Perrone, it was unanimously voted to suspend the rules and allow Mrs. Bruce to come up.

Mrs. Bruce was present and came forward to answer any questions.

Mr. Perrone questioned Funds 31 and 33, also he questioned the monuments he wanted to know what the money is for and he wanted to know if they spend the money. Mrs. Bruce said Fund 31 & 33 are your main revenue and expenditure funds. The end of last year they had \$20,000.00 to the plus. She noted that the town helps them out.

Mrs. Bruce pointed out that Mrs. Hale sent you an e-mail regarding this. She said it will reduce your deficit fund balance. She said you have your normal operating expenses through June 30, 2013. If you look at the cash report which is \$167,294.21 your expenses to date are \$190,006.02. She noted that they paid out more than they took in; but the good thing about the \$190,006.02 is that the debt payment to the town for fiscal year 6-30-2013 has all been paid which is \$86,026.07. In previous years they were making partial payments. She pointed out that during the winter months they still have a payroll and incurring operating expenses, so she doesn't want to drain the cash and they will look at it in the spring. If there is any cash to pay back the \$70,000.00 that is owed then they will at which time Mr. Perrone said he understands.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Review of Line Items.

Mr. Vastola informed the commission members that he received a call last week that they had a problem with the dump truck and the cost for the parts are \$410.00, at which time Mr. Larson pointed out that the truck is 20 years old.

Mr. Perrone inquired about a sandwich sign; he wanted to know where they could purchase one, at which time the secretary said they could purchase it from the print shop or suburban.

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OLD BUSINESS:

- PA system

Chairman Larson noted that he sat down with Mr. Marino's brother. Also, he spoke with Mr. DiNunzio and he is not interested in placing anything in the restaurant. He also pointed out that it will get done. He also noted that the commission members approved this already.

- Website

Mr. Perrone noted that he revised the history on the website. He said that they still have things to post.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Marketing

Mr. Perrone pointed out that last year they run a special until the end of the year at which time Mr. Perrone put together a spread sheet to compare last year to this year on the numbers of special rounds at which time he handed to the commission (see attached).

The commission had a lengthy discussion regarding specials.

Mr. Kealey said in the fall they don't have a lot of 18 hole play. Mr. Kealey said in his opinion they are a nine hole course. He suggested that they run a special all day long; \$20.00 with a cart instead of limited time.

After the brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Upon **MOTION** by Michael Perrone, seconded by Anthony Marino, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Pro to spend up to \$400.00 on this promotion for advertising.

Mr. Kealey said they don't have to discuss this now, at which time he handed out a sheet on the repairs of each cart. He noted that his suggestion is that they look into purchasing more carts (see attached).

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PUBLIC REQUESTS

There were none.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Chris Vastola, seconded by Michael Perrone, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chairman Robert Larson
FARMINGBURY HILLS COMMISSION

Dolores Distiso
COMMISSION SECRETARY