

**MUNICIPAL COUNTRY CLUB COMMISSION a.k.a. FARMINGBURY
HILLS REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013
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, Greg Solocius, Chris Vastola, Anthony Marino and Michael Perrone (arrived at 6:40pm).

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: David Caisse, Golf Superintendent and Craig Kealey, Golf Pro Consultant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Regular Meeting and Special Meeting

Upon **MOTION** by Greg Solocius, seconded by Anthony Marino, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2013 and February 19, 2013 meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Larson stated that he has one correspondence at which time he read it into the record (see attached).

PUBLIC REQUEST LIMITED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

There were none.

GOLF PRO/CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

Mr. Kealey stated that he has no formal report.

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GOLF SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Caisse was present and came forward to report that tractor parts came in. He also added that the costs for the parts were \$3,000.00. He pointed out by doing it in house they saved about \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00.

He also noted that the shed on the 8th green blew away.

He also noted that they are not sure when they are going to open the course because they have a lot of snow and frost.

He stated that most of the mechanic work is done.

Chairman Larson inquired if "Watertronics" picked up the pump at which time Mr. Caisse said that they have not picked it up as of yet. He added that he spoke to them and they're said when their ready for it they will call.

He also noted that they got 33 inches of snow.

Mr. Marino pointed out last year they were open at this time. He was wondering if they saw any extra wear and tear on the course opening up earlier at which time Mr. Caisse said everything seems pretty good and there wasn't anything major.

Chairman Larson added that he received compliments after they open.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Review of Line Items.

Mr. Vastola said he has nothing to report and the bills are paid. Also, they have their budget meeting tomorrow.

- Season Passes

Chairman Larson noted that they are off by \$13,000.00. He added that he put together a sheet for season passes going back to 2002. He also has season pass rates for different golf courses at which time he handed out to the commission members (see attached).

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Chairman Larson noted that they collected about \$60,000.00 in season passes. He also said that he looked at the season pass rates and thought the commission members might be interested. He added that some of the other golf courses offer two rates; standard rates and season pass rates with carts.

He noted that they should think about doing that. Maybe they can implement season pass rates with carts and no surcharge, but they are not going to do anything right now, they can think about it.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Expansion project

Chairman Larson indicated that nothing is new on the expansion project. He mentioned that they are going to ask for help on this.

- Budget

Chairman Larson advised the commission members that their budget meeting is April 23rd with the Town Council and they will be meeting with the Mayor and Mrs. Bruce tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Request from Dave Devito

Chairman Larson entertained a motion at which time the commission requested a discussion.

Mr. Perrone suggested that they keep it the same as they have now regarding plaques.

Chairman Larson said his response to that is the following:

- 1) That the stone be sized to fit within the landscape
- 2) Keep stone small
- 3) Make sure it fits on the tee
- 4) They don't want a big stone there.

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Mr. Perrone said he is not opposed to it, he said he wouldn't want him to do something different than what is there now.

Mr. Kealey pointed out what they have now are plaques on a rock on every tee. Also there are benches with names on them.

Mr. Vastola suggested that when someone wants to place a memorial plaque at the golf course they should submit it to the commission for their approval.

Mr. Marino inquired if they could amend the motion "with the approval of the commission" at which time Chairman Larson said that's what they are doing now.

Mr. Marino referenced Mr. Perrone's point; they don't want to hold this request up but in the future they should come up with a policy if someone wants to place a plaque on the course. Also, they should limit it to a certain size.

Chairman Larson noted that he wrote a letter to "Dave DeVito", at which time he read part of the letter. "He said the Farmingbury commission approved your request to place a memorial stone on the 7th tee. The only request we have is that the stone be sized to fit within the landscape. The 7th tee is relatively small so they request you take that into consideration when ordering the stone. They further request that you coordinate the sizing and the installation of the stone with the course superintendent".

After a brief discussion the following motion was made:

Upon **MOTION** by Chris Vastola, seconded by Anthony Marino, it was unanimously voted to authorize Mr. DeVito to put his stone on the seventh tee for "Patty DeVito".

- Slow Play

Mr. Kealey came forward to inform the commission members that he will not be here for their next meeting. He indicated that by the end of the month both the Men and Women's Association will be having their dinners, and he wanted to bring up the issue regarding slow play and he hopes to have the commission on board with his policy, so he can discuss this with them.

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Mr. Kealey recommended the following rules for slow play at the golf course that he would like implemented:

- 1) Carts mandatory for Saturday and Sunday 18 hole tee times and for Tuesday & Thursday leagues.
- 2) On Saturday and Sunday mornings & Tuesday and Thursday leagues; if a player is not on a tee, at their scheduled tee time, the group must tee off without any delay and the player shall join them on the course, The only exception is that is if there is an open tee time immediately after their tee time.
- 3) If a group is behind on the course they may be asked to step aside and let the group that is waiting behind through (see attached).

He added that these are the three things that he wants to focus on which they spoke about last fall.

He added that he wants to present this to the Men's and Women's Association with the hope that he would do it with the commission's endorsement.

The commission members had a brief discussion and they had some concerns and comments, at which time they said that they can try this and if it doesn't work they can revisit this issue.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Upon **MOTION** by Chris Vastola, seconded by Greg Solocius, it was unanimously voted to institute the weekend and all leagues riding rule as presented by Mr. Kealey (see attached).

PUBLIC REQUESTS

There were none.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

There were none.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Michael Perrone, seconded by Greg Solocius, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVED:

**Chairman Robert Larson
FARMINGBURY HILLS COMMISSION**

**Dolores Distiso
COMMISSION SECRETARY**