

**MUNICIPAL COUNTRY CLUB COMMISSION a.k.a. FARMINGBURY
HILLS REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2014
WOLCOTT TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00 P.M., PAGE 1 OF 5
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 6:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance and attendance was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Robert Larson, Vice-Chairman Greg Solocius and Paul Garland

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joan Kane and Lou Polzella

ALSO PRESENT: Jim Cullen, Facilities Administrator

ALSO ABSENT: Craig Kealey, Golf Pro

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- February 24, 2014 Regular Meeting

Upon **MOTION** by Paul Garland, seconded by Greg Solocius, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the February 24, 2014 regular meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There were none.

PUBLIC REQUEST LIMITED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

There were none.

GOLF PRO/CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

No report given.

Chairman Larson informed the commission members that Mr. Kealey had surgery and he won't be able to drive for two to three weeks. He informed the commission members that if the surgery doesn't work then he will have to have a hip replacement. He also noted that the issue is the opening of the golf course, which they will speak about in the Facilities report.

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Chairman Larson indicated that the Pro Shop is covered by the three staff members that work for Mr. Kealey.

He also informed the commission members that Mr. Kealey is home and if they would like to call him they can.

FACILITIES ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Cullen was present and came forward to update the commission members regarding their meeting with the representative from Toro. He added that it was a good meeting. Jim Staszowski stated his opinion and gave them information on trading, benefits on the equipment and cost savings. Mr. Cullen indicated after consulting with the crew and the two commission members their conclusion was that they should pass on the reel sharpener. He indicated that Mr. Staszowski gave them other information on a couple of other pieces of equipment "spray barrel and utility vehicle" that they can use. Mr. Staszowski also provided quotes for those two pieces of equipment, literature and pamphlets (on file).

Chairman Larson noted for the record that they had planned to purchase the grinder but with the information that they received from Toro the conclusion was that it is not a top priority; there are other things that they need to prioritize. He handed out two brochures regarding the "utility vehicle and the barrel sprayer".

Chairman Larson questioned which one of the two they would prefer to purchase, at which time Mr. Cullen replied the sprayer. He added that the one they have now is 22 years old and if it breaks down, they will be in trouble so he thinks the top priority would be the spray barrel then the utility vehicle. He added that vehicle would be pulling the topdressing and would be used for general use on the golf course.

The commission had a brief discussion on the mule. Chairman Larson inquired if they should refurbish it, instead of purchasing the utility vehicle.

Mr. Cullen noted that they have issues with the one they have now. He stated that he is not sure if it is cost effective to repair it. Chairman Larson said they bought that as a used vehicle and he doesn't know if they placed new tires so they won't have an impression on the greens when they did

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them. Mr. Cullen indicated that he doesn't know how much it would cost to refurbish the one that they have.

Chairman Larson inquired if they should sell it, at which time Mr. Cullen said absolutely.

The commission members had a brief discussion if it is worth it for them to repair the mule or should they sell it and look at purchasing the Utility Vehicle.

- Budget

Chairman Larson noted that they have to sit down with the Mayor and Mrs. Bruce regarding their 2014-2015 budget before it is brought to the Town Council. He added that the budget has to be resolved before they could give Mr. Cullen a formal plan. He also noted that he is very concerned with their budget issues and he cannot give them any kind of comment.

Mr. Cullen noted that the building preparations are done.

Also, they started the cleanup on the golf course and there is still ice and snow on some areas.

He informed the commission members that the opening date of the golf course is April 4th or 5th weather providing.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Review of Line Items.

Mr. Garland was present to report that everything is the same as the last time and money is tight. He added that they paid some outstanding bills. He noted that they did some investigating on the propane fuel and what they came up with is that they are paying more money for fuel than last year because the cost has risen.

Chairman Larson pointed that they started low on the cost for fuel but then it sky rocketed.

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Chairman Larson noted that they are working on their capital for their 2014-2015 budgets. He indicated that they requested \$45,000.00 and they were reducing to \$15,000.00. He noted that they had spoken to Mrs. Bruce to see where they could get monies. He added that 50% of their budget is labor cost and 16% is in bonds, payments, interests and taxes that are paid out. He indicated that their concerns are if something is cut there will be an impact on the golf course.

Mr. Solocius inquired if they pay property taxes, at which time Chairman Larson replied to Southington in the amount of \$6,050.00.

Chairman Larson noted that they are waiting for the next fiscal year and before he can give them a formal report on what's been approved or unapproved. He said keep in mind it is going to have an impact on what they do next year and where they go.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Grinder

Chairman Larson noted that they addressed this already.

- Specials

The commission members had a brief discussion regarding specials with a plan to move ahead as quickly as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were none.

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 Greg Solocius, seconded by Paul Garland, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

**Chairman Robert Larson
FARMINGBURY HILLS COMMISSION**

**Dolores Distiso
COMMISSION SECRETARY**