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in succeeding minutes

Candlewood Shores Tax District Board Meeting Minutes - March 20, 2024

Call to Order at 7:30pm

Elizabeth made a motion to call the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Alan seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Roll Call:

	<u>Attendance</u>
Elizabeth Longworth- President	Present
Alan Owen- Vice President	Present
Jonathan Lepler- Director	Present (8pm)
Timothy Cicchese- Director	Remote
Larry Cohen- Director	Absent
David Samuels- Director	Present
Norman Edelson- Treasurer	Present
Robert Yamuder- Secretary	Present
Angelo Aldana- Director	Remote

Travis Hyatt, Regional Manager- Scalzo	Present
Brandon Hyde, CSTD Office Manager	Present

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Alan.

Public Hearings- None.

Guests- Scalzo representatives Paula, Jay and Liz attended to present financial audit findings as reported by Fiorita Kornhaus and Company, PC. As per the audit letter summarizing their findings, there were no difficulties found and highlights included achievement of a best rating. Auditors confirmed CSTD does not own the roads. It was reported that there are 9 fully delinquent and 2 partially delinquent homes outstanding with some water issues clear up to date. Elizabeth will be issuing letters regarding applicable fees and penalties in addition to the 4 letters already sent. Angelo inquired if depreciation was included in the water fund and Scalzo responded. Angelo inquired about CSTD maintenance which is performed by CT Fence.

Approval of Minutes- Elizabeth made a motion to approve 02/21/24 CSTD Meeting Minutes with corrections as noted from Board members. David seconded, motion approved unanimously, motion carried.

Public Comment

Public Comment #1- Kelly Lane, 23 Skyline Drive, inquired about the status of the bank accounts. Norman responded that the Newtown Savings Bank accounts are winding down as the accounts are moved to a higher interest earning program. Our interest earning should remain the same as last year because our total investments will not be fully vested until April 2024. Once fully invest over one year, our interest earns should increase from \$39,000 (in 2023/24) to approximately \$95,000 per year. Going forward, it will be difficult to forecast our interest income due to federal banking interest rate actions.

Public Comment #2- (on line) Adam Dean, 18 Mountainview, inquired about caulking, painting and sanding on recreation budget line (?).

Treasurer's Report- Norman updated report on finances and reiterated David signed as second signatory to the reinvestment program and Elizabeth reportedly did not wish to sign as it required inclusion of her social security number. Norman explained that both of the CSTD accounts need FDIC full coverage (CSTD currently has 2 separate Tax Identification numbers as only one is FDIC covered). Elizabeth will contact Susan(?) For second Tax ID number.

Travis read into the record the following CSTD bank account balances as of 02/29/24:

CSTD Operating (OP) account balance	\$ 230,738.90
CSTD Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account balance	\$1,904,529.35
CSTD Other	\$ 408.99
Total CSTD Bank Balance	\$2,135,677.24

CS Water Department Operating (OP) account balance	\$ 91,648.94
CS Water Department Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account balance	\$ 16,414.35
CS Water Department CD	\$ 50,000.00
Total CS Water Department Bank Balance	\$ 158,063.29

Management Report-

1. Action List- Travis read through the status of the updated Action List. The MS4 report issuing reviewed by a civil engineer (Mike, P.E.) and the Town can not help help complete the form. Travis reminded securing your car keys is helping towards reduction of car thefts. Speed humps are being redone for uniformity. Bartlett tree is removing 1 tree that was reported to be leaning. Elizabeth requested services being provided such as tree service and paving need to have people inspecting the work while they perform the work.
2. Work Order Report- Updates provided.
3. Permit Requests- No major permit requests reported this period. Brandon suggests the Board consider increasing permit application fees from \$25 to \$50. Norman suggested the Board follow the same fee structure as the Town based on cost value of the work. Elizabeth made a motion to increase the permit application fee from \$25 to \$50. Alan seconded the motion and the Board voted in favor to pass the motion.

Committee Reports-

1. Beautification- Irrigation was discussed. Elizabeth and Travis met with irrigation company regarding the watering of the flower beds only as per proposal received. Norman suggested the pump and water lines need to be cleared of water every year with air compressor to avoid freezing. The pump needs to be buried in a pit and needs to be added to the insurance property list. A motion was made to purchase and install a water pump and Alan seconded the motion. Dave opposed, all the other members voted yes, the motion passed. The Board agreed to purchase a replacement decoy coyote that was stolen.
2. Recreation- Jonathan provided a list of 2024 events including and easter egg hunt and band nights. Justine resigned from the Rec committee.
3. Safety/Security- Alan stepped down from the safety committee. Larry stepped down from the security committee. Elizabeth called for new liaison to these committees. Jonathan reported he would like to work with the security committee. Speed signs need to be recharged regularly and security issues need to be addressed such as gate options. Cameras were discussed to be installed at the beach entry and boat ramp with wireless cameras as coyote decoys were stolen among other vandalism concerns. Norman asked what happened when perpetrators are caught and if they are prosecuted. Alan responded that police found a young adult trespassing on beach and ballfields who may have also stole the coyote decoys.
4. Ordinance- Chris Rink of 12 Bayview is working with David on an ordinance list of suggested revisions.
5. Landscaping Report- Elizabeth reported that sticks and leaves are to be separated for removal as instructed and these piles can not be left on the street. Starting April 1st, residents can drop off organic sticks and leaves at the Town dump site.
6. Sewer Committee Report- Tim had no new reports. Tim mentioned as previously reported that WPCA is planning to send out a sewer survey in the near future evidencing that WPCA stills considers sewer proposals to be actively pursued. The CSTD sewer committee has prepared an updated video for residents to view should the survey be distributed.
7. Water Plan- Discussion on water quality issues took place under Old Business later in the meeting which appears below under Water Treatment Updates.
8. Harbormaster- Ronnie Shepherd, Harbormaster, is preparing a new mooring list and respective letter which will include insurance and fee information for those residents interested in an application in 2024. Ordinance changes are being written with Chris Rink as part of the revised letter. Kayak applications for space allocations are being finalized with a new system to be determined ultimately by Chris Rink with Board approval, possible with a lottery system with random selection by Ronnie where all application have to be in by a certain date for consideration. The new system is intended to make space allocations as fair as possible given the limited space of kayak and small vessel storage even with new storage racks to be installed. There are 60 spaces available plus a new rack to be installed, location to be determined. Senior access was discussed to be on the other side of the beach if possible. New keys at boat ramp gate were discuss and were reportedly too costly to replace. Mike Walsh advised to contact police about boating issues that may cause a safety concern.

Administration- Discussion was brought up about the LIONS Club having a 5k running race in CSTD. A motion was made by Alan and was seconded by Elizabeth with the remaining Board members voting in favor, motion passed.

New Business- The UR Swim proposal amount was \$89,000. David reports it was only covering weekend rates. Elizabeth is looking into American Pool as well. Elizabeth reported that 3 lifeguards are required to be rotated and 2

need to be on duty at the same time according to regulations. There could be flexible shifts. Insurance requirements have to be followed to limit liabilities. Sharing of lifeguards with neighboring municipalities is an option.

Old Business-

1. **Speed Hump Update-** Speed Humps were discussed. Elizabeth distributed a map and list of locations which included 5 new locations and 2 replacement locations.
2. **AirBNB Discussion-** David reported he can update the Board after he contacts Tom Beecher on April 1st. David suggested the Board consider adding new ordinances given the Town attorney will be Tom Beecher and suggested the Board consider looking for a new attorney. Elizabeth will reach out to other neighboring municipalities as well. Angelo suggested the Board start looking for another lawyer too.
3. **Water Treatment Update-** Angelo reported Aquarion requested a list of information and a signed confidentiality agreement. Tomascak can be contacted for technical information as needed to help complete the list of questions. Elizabeth suggested the Board talk to the community to get feedback on the confidentiality agreement. Elizabeth suggested Aquarion be asked to give the Board a presentation to identify a scope of work. David opined that the community already knows we are talking to Aquarion. Angelo mentioned CSTD is a public entity providing information to the public and stated most data is not sensitive. Elizabeth suggested the Board talk to Tom Beecher about what data is sensitive, if any. Robert asked if the information can be obtained through FOIL requests. Angelo agreed to draft a letter to Tom Beecher. Elizabeth provided an update on the water quality from the wells and discussed PFAS and PFOS. The latest round of water testing shows 7 of the 9 state guideline limits are below actionable limits and 2 of the 9 are above the state guideline limits for PFAS. Elizabeth reported that the state currently does not mandate testing and PFOS, PFAS and nitrates in water sources is a national problem. Proactively, CSTD is contacting Tom Beecher to review a notice to be distributed to the CSTD community to keep residents apprised of water quality issues. Haig professional engineers (PE) is offering training for PFAS on line May 15th and in Bethel, email forthcoming. Grant opportunities for funding may be available. Angelo reiterated that the community needs to be informed. Elizabeth reported that Vicki at the state can be contacted for filtration options. Elizabeth further reported that nitrate levels are trending better showing levels between 6.39 and 7.9. Tim suggested the Board seek Vicki's advice and details on new technology on filtration options including costs and more information on a filtration pump house location. Elizabeth suggested the Board obtain a list of filtration companies for further discussion.

Second Public Comment-

Volunteers to be on the Safety Committee were requested. Ryan Marquis, 105 N. Lake Shore Drive volunteered. Also, Mike Todesco, 24 Berkshire volunteered to be on the Safety Committee. Mike Shepherd, 35 Trident Lane volunteered to be on the Safety Committee.

Remote caller Linda Queiroz, 26 Clearview Drive, mentioned Band Night should not have the band Acid Wash as she opined the music is not suitable for band night.

Remote caller Cheryl, 24 S. Lake Shore Drive requested additional kayak racks at the beach. Ronnie is looking into best location for a new kayak rack.

The next regular CSTD Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 7:30pm. Robert reported he will be out of town.

Executive Session- None.

Adjournment- Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 10:26pm. Seconded by Alan. All in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.