

**Minutes of West Fairlee Selectboard Regular Meeting
February 15, 2010**

Present from the Selectboard: Bonnie Cray, Beverly Ash, and Doug Sonsalla

Visitors: Delsie Hoyt, Jim McDade, Jim Brigham, Butch Moore, Buzz Austin, Corey Paye, John Molesworth, Peggy Coutermarsh

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the Community Building multi-purpose room.

Visitors:

Corey Paye, Conservation Commission: Updated Brushwood Financial Agreement

A copy of the proposed financial agreement establishing an operation and legacy fund were provided to the board and reviewed by Paye. The language has been modified to define the funds as owned by the Town and with use directed by the selectboard. Other terms of the agreement were discussed including renewal terms and funding levels. Paye requested that the Town attorney review the document. Sonsalla asked for clarification on the investment portion of the agreement. Paye described the use of the legacy fund for investment purposes. Sonsalla indicated that the fund currently holds approximately \$70,000 which could be used to earn income. The specific investment accounts will be determined in the future. Sonsalla moved to have the Town attorney review the document. Ash seconded the motion. Coutermarsh asked where the progress with land owned by Bradford stood with the potential for ownership transfer and conservation with West Fairlee. The correspondence with the Conservation Commission and Bradford were discussed and Paye indicated that the Conservation Commission is working on moving the discussions forward. Sonsalla responded that the discussion has not been formally brought before the board. The stewardship plan of the Brushwood forest was also discussed. The motion on the floor was passed unanimously.

Peggy Coutermarsh, Orange East Senior Center

The future of the senior center rental agreement has been challenged by the Bradford Community Development Corporation (BCDC). The details of the dispute were discussed by Coutermarsh and a resolution by the Town of Bradford selectboard was provided to the board. Coutermarsh requested that the West Fairlee selectboard make a similar resolution in support of the conflict resolution over the Center. Sonsalla requested that additional information be provided to the board. Coutermarsh clarified that the Bradford selectboard requested mediation for the two parties and that the BCDC stop efforts to terminate the rental agreement. Sonsalla asked what merit the resolution approved by Bradford had on the process. The process and resolution impact was discussed. Cray moved to send a letter in support of the conflict resolution and discussed the community benefit from the center. Ash seconded the motion. Bailey suggested that the board review a letter to the editor published in the Journal Opinion by Jim McDade from a few weeks ago. The board passed the motion unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Sonsalla to approve the minutes of February 1, 2010. Cray seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The minutes will be updated to reflect the correct date.

Roads: None.

Old Business:

Updated Tax Maps RFP

The RFP has been completed and will be submitted to interested parties.

Part Time Building Maintenance Subcontractor

Cray indicated that the potential candidates will need to have a great deal of insurance to qualify. Sonsalla suggested checking other Towns to see what services have been obtained.

Town Hall Relocation Process

The CDC met last week as an organization and again with Leet Ware from Mink Brook Management. The Vermont Council on Rural Development will need to begin working with the Town as the next phase of the process. Bailey indicated that they have met with Rural Development and have provided an anticipated schedule to them and invited them to meet with the Town. Sonsalla clarified that the Town's project schedule had been accepted by Rural Development. Moore asked if the proposed schedule would conflict with the change-over in the selectboard. Bailey discussed the urgency of the schedule for the Bond vote by May 15, 2010. Sonsalla indicated that information is also on the West Fairlee website and in Bailey's West Fairlee Newsletter for new selectboard members to review. The board urged the public to attend CDC meetings for more information.

Heatherfield Road Hearing Interpreter

Cray announced that an interpreter has been arranged for the Heatherfield Road Hearing scheduled for February 20, 2010, as requested.

New Business:

Planning Commission Appointment of Geoffrey Gardner

Sonsalla moved to appointment Gardner to the Planning Commission. Cray seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously. Additional members are encouraged to join including women and younger members of the community.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

The board will postpone the review until the March 1, 2010 meeting to give the Fire Department time to review the document.

Northeast Waste Management of Town Solid Waste/Recycling Collection

Cray contacted Northeast Waste regarding overflow of newspaper/cardboard collections during Town solid waste collections. Cray contacted Northeast Waste and discussed their pick up schedules. Northeast Waste suggested that the Town obtain an additional container which would cost the Town \$50 more/month. Moore indicated that the Town

of Thetford has started charging \$18/year for recycling. Issues with overuse of the facilities during non-collection times were also discussed. Sonsalla suggested that the containers be locked. Cray will contact Northeast Waste again.

Community Building Cleaning Supplies

Cray has received an offer to refinish the Community Building multi-purpose room floor free of charge if supplies are furnished. Sonsalla moved to purchase the supplies for cleaning and rebuffering the floors. Ash seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

Sign Orders: Motion by Sonsalla to sign orders. Ash seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Correspondence: The board reviewed the correspondence.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan, Building Maintenance Sub-Contractor, Town Hall Relocation Process

Motion by Ash, at 9:00 pm, to adjourn the meeting. Sonsalla seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Lewis-Poulin
Selectboard Clerk