

Minutes of West Fairlee Selectboard August 15, 2011 Meeting

Present for the Selectboard: Beverly Ash, Delsie Hoyt, Fred Cook, Bonnie Cray

Visitors: Lou Lertola, Peggy Willey, Kevin Dexter, Jonathan Blake, Sarah Blanchard

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Beverly Ash

- **First Response Team Discussion**

The bylaws state that money from the first response budget can be spent on Selectboard approved team members. Equipment cannot be ordered for persons whom have not been approved by the Selectboard. The Selectboard requested a copy of a list of the required on hand supplies, they have also requested copies of certificates to get an idea of people who are qualified to use any equipment purchased. Once there is a written list of supplies and certificates the Selectboard sees no problem with using the funds to buy supplies.

Hoyt makes a motion to approve the ordering of supplies pending a list of supplies and certificates, Cray seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- **Visitors**

Lou Lertola came to encourage the Town of West Fairlee to increase the tax exemption for Veterans from the current \$20,000 to the maximum \$40,000. Mr. Lacurla will send a sample language for a Warning item for Town Meeting.

- **Approve minutes of August 1, 2011 regular board meeting.**

Cray makes a motion to accept the minutes for the August 1, 2011 regular board meeting, Hoyt seconded the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- **Hear and Act on the Reports of Town Officers and Committees.**

- **Building Committee Update**

Had the meeting with Bob Mackin of Fire and Safety, were we to reduce the scope of the project, we can only be required to dedicate 20% of the project to ADA modifications. An Elections Grant, available to the Town Clerk might be applied the ADA requirements. Hoyt did get a price from Tom Barden to get an estimate of what it would cost to complete the Vault/Town Clerk area.

Cray makes a motion to get some prices from Tom Bradon regarding paring down the community building, Hoyt seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- **Conservation Commission Committee**

Cray makes a motion to appoint Anne Stevens to the Conservation Commission, Hoyt seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- **Roads**

- **Marsh Hill Road Bridge RFP**

Hoyt held off writing an RFP for the Marsh Hill Bridge due to new information regarding costs. Two out of the four options will disturb the stream bed and this cannot happen after October 1st. The Selectboard discussed having a consulting engineer look at the bridge to get an exact idea of whether the bridge will be safe for the winter, should be shorn up, or closed and a temporary structure erected. Hoyt will contact consulting engineers and prepare an RFP for Consulting Engineer Services.

➤ Crack Seal

Hoyt talked to Nicom who did the Crack Seal last year and their cost is essentially the same as last year at \$4,000 a day. They also stated that unless the Town acts soon Nicom will be unavailable to do it.

Hoyt makes a motion have Nicom handle the crack seal again this year, Cray seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

➤ Mowing RFP/Bids

Blakes have finished most of the roadside mowing this past week. The Selectboard discussed this with Jonathan because they were concerned that it needed to be put out for bid. Blake stated that it was part of their summer work which is under contract with the Town. Cray disagreed as the Treasure was asked last year to reissue a new check to John Blake because it was not done thru their business. However since most of the mowing has been done it will not be put out to bid this year.

➤ Barrett Trucking Salt Agreement

There was a little confusion with this agreement do to the name “Barrett Trucking” and the fact the town generally signs with Cargill for their Salt, Blake explained that they were one in the same. Cargill supplies the salt and Barrett trucks it. The estimate of our road salt needs was discussed and the pre-quote form will be faxed to Cargill.

September 29th there is a road foreman meeting.

For updates on road work on Route 244 people can go to www.roadworkupdates.com

Mill Street where the Blakes did the ditching the water is coming up over the culvert and going over the road again.

• Old business

➤ Austin Trailer

The letter regarding this was discussed, modifications were discussed, and the letter will be sent.

➤ Brushwood Forest

The Selectboard would like to acknowledge the donation of \$200 for the Brushwood Forest, In Honor of Frank & Anne Stephens, from Robert & Deborah Aliber. The Selectboard thanks them for their contribution.

According to information provided the VLCT, gifts to Brushwood Forest and other Town operated entities are indeed tax deductible, also if a donation is made directly for this entity it will go straight to this fund.

➤ Park ordinance

The cost of putting the ordinance in the paper and another idea was discussed.

• New Business

➤ Begnoche Dog and Septic Issues

The septic issue has been discussed with the Town Health Officer and she will go with and take a person who knows septic systems with her to address the issue.

After complaint of a dog bite the Animal Control Officer went to the Begnoche property to talk to the dog owner and verify all animals were registered with the Town and all animals had their rabies shots.

➤ Town Health Officer Recommendation

Sarah Blanchard does not wish to continue as Town Health Officer and requested that the Selectboard to actively look for a new person.

The Selectboard thanks Sarah for her services.

➤ Orange County Sheriff - Law Enforcement Contract

The renewal contract was received, though Cray did state that do to the interim of the contract being signed, the Sheriff's department did not respond to a Town person's call. Also with the renewal of the contract the Selectboard reviewed the amount budgeted.

Cray makes a motion to sign the Orange County Sheriff Contract and reduce the amount to \$7,500 due to the tight budget this year, Hoyt seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

The Town of Thetford invited the West Fairlee Selectboard to a meeting on August 22nd at 7:30 p.m.

• Other business to be presented to the board that will be acted on at the next regular meeting

Trash is overflowing and the issue needs to be dealt with.

Gate at salt shed needs fixing

• Sign orders

Cray makes a motion to sign the orders, Ash seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

• Review Correspondence

Two-Rivers put out a letter requesting a list of equipment that could be utilized in an emergency, as far as this goes the State police contacted Blakes a few years ago and they supplied the police with a list of equipment

- Review of Town Financial Statements and Journal Entries

The Financial Statements were discussed and year-to-date expenditures reviewed to see if there are going to be overages in some lines items and how these might be offset.

- Action-items and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Road Signs
Town Shed Gate
Salt Contract
Health Officer
Park Ordinance/Policy

- Up Coming Events

Regular Selectboard Meeting – Wednesday September 7th due to Labor Day

Thetford Meeting – August 22nd

- Adjourn

Cray makes a motion to adjourn at 8:33 PM, Hoyt seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,

Meredith Hartshorn, Selectboard Clerk