

Minutes of West Fairlee Selectboard January 2, 2012, Meeting

Present for the Selectboard: Beverly Ash, Delsie Hoyt, Jim Brigham, Fred Cook

Visitors: Michael Abraham, Laurie Abraham, Peggie Willey, Doug Sonsalla, Casey Cahagen

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

- Visitors

- Michael Abraham – RE: Heathersfield Road

The Abrahams live at the end of Heathersfield Road and are here to see if they could get the plow to come to the end of road. Hoyt explained what originally happened with the road to more clarify why the road plowing stops where it does. The Abraham's were wondering if there was any possibility of getting the remainder of road plowed. At this time it was recommended to talk to neighbors and discuss sharing the cost to get the remainder of the road plowed by a private plow person.

- Approve minutes of December 19, 2011 regular board meeting.

Hoyt makes a motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2011 regular board meeting, Cook seconded the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

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

- Roads

- FEMA

State of Vermont responded that they received the Town's FEMA paperwork and agree with the numbers submitted to FEMA and will cover the 15%.

- Gas Surcharge

Hoyt discussed the gas surcharge with the Blake's, Ash would like to table this for Executive Session when the entire Selectboard is present.

The Selectboard scheduled a Special meeting with Executive Session on the agenda for Tuesday January 10th to discuss the surcharge and other budgetary items.

- Old business

- Review of year-to-date financials

These financials were reviewed.

- Status of Proposed Town Plan

The Proposed Town Plan was discussed to see when a hearing could be held.

Hoyt makes a motion to hold a hearing on the Proposed West Fairlee Town Plan on Monday January 23rd at 6:30 at the Community Building, Brigham seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

➤ Brushwood Forest Tree Farm and Current Use

Peggy Willey came in to discuss an email that she received regarding the Brushwood Forest Tree Farm, the following represents the email: “The Bradford municipal forest is enrolled in the American Tree Farm program and is due for renewal. Is this something that the town of West Fairlee would be interested in continuing? We could either expand it to the entire Brushwood Community Forest, or withdraw from the program. Benefit is that we can present the property as an example of good forestry and use it as a tool to educate the public about what we do. Also get a green and white sign to post at the entrance to the property. Cost of enrollment is nominal. If you would let me know how the town would like to proceed on this, I would appreciate it.”

Brigham makes a motion to participate in the Tree Farm Program for the entire Brushwood Tree Farm, Cook seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Within 30 days of the Brushwood Forest closing on December 19th the Town needs to transfer Brushwood Forest into current use.

Hoyt makes a motion to draft a letter to an abutter to the Brushwood Forest notifying them of the change of ownership and the notification that motorized traffic is not allowed in the community forest, Brigham seconds the motion and the motion passes unanimously.

➤ Maintenance Work

Ash stated that the person to whom she was speaking will not be able to take on this position.

Ash requested that a work order be put in for the cleaning person to clean and wash the floors and walls in the stairway near the Food Pantry.

➤ Budget

Tabled until the Special Meeting.

➤ 911 Coordinator

This was discussed and will be advertised.

➤ Town Report Review

Appropriation letters, wording of the warning for the town, and the Auditors position were discussed and acted on accordingly. Also removing obsolete cap funds were discussed.

Ash makes motion to place an article replacing Town Auditors with outside Auditors, Brigham seconds the motion and the motion passes unanimously.

Hoyt makes a motion placing an article on the Warning regarding adoption of the new 2012 to 2017 Town Plan by Australian Ballot, Ash seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Hoyt makes a motion to place an article on the Warning regarding closing out obsolete cap funds as follows: broadband, computerized records and first response, Cook seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- New Business

- Sullivan, Powers & Co. 2011 Audit Proposal

To be tabled to the Executive Session.

- 2012 Credit Line

The tax anticipation note was received for the 2012 year.

Hoyt makes a motion to sign the tax anticipation note, Selectboards resolution for tax anticipation borrowing, and Tax Certificate for tax anticipation borrowing; Ash seconds the motion; and the motion passes unanimously.

- Seepage Disposal Agreement

This will be reviewed and to be signed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- Contract Central VT Humane Society

This will be given to the Town Clerk to be renewed and sent into the Society.

- Animal Control Officer

This was discussed and will be advertised.

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

Vermont Appraisers Proposal
Grant for Liability related items
Emergency Water Mitigation Grant
Census corrections

- Sign orders

Brigham makes a motion to sign the orders, Cook seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

- Review Correspondence

Equipment Grant Program
Efficiency Vermont
Preservation Trust of Vermont
Census Survey

- Review of Town Financial Statements and Journal Entries

To be reviewed and discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- Action-items and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Review of year-to-date financials
Status of Proposed Town Plan
Town Report Review
Seepage Disposal Agreement
Property Tax Exemption for Veterans

- Up Coming Events

Special Meeting with Executive Session Tuesday, January 10th

Town Plan Hearing Monday, January 23rd

Three Town's Meeting in regard to Lake Fairlee Thursday, January 26th

- Adjourn

Brigham makes a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, Ash seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,

Meredith Hartshorn, Selectboard Clerk