

Minutes of West Fairlee Selectboard September 7, 2011 Meeting

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

Visitors: Lisa Ordway, John Blake, Jonathan Blake, David Cushman II, Erin Cilley, Peggy Willey, Aaron Vance

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

- Visitors
- Minutes

Cray makes a motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2011 regular board meeting and August 29, August 31, and September 2 emergency board meetings, Hoyt seconded the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

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

- Building Committee Update

Tom Barden is preparing a scaled down estimate for renovations of the Community Building Hoyt has not checked in with him this week.

- Roads

- Storm Damage/Action Plan

Mandatory Orange County FEMA meeting is scheduled for this Saturday from 10 to 2 in Randolph.

Beanville Washouts: Today (9/7/2011) members of the Selectboard met with Stream Engineer Barry Cahoon from VT Agency of Natural Resources and contacted by phone contractors to meet on-site, for highway repair. Cahoon provided specifications to be included in the RFP which has been drafted to get this project underway as soon as possible.

The selectboard is required to go through a very careful process in order to maximize FEMA reimbursement (up to 75%) and additional funds from the State to keep the cost to taxpayers as low as possible. The Selectboard met with Shelly from Merchants Bank on September 6, to arrange for an interim line of credit for the storm related damages, due to the fact that the Selectboard does not know when they will receive reimbursement from FEMA. The selectboard is attempting to get a rough estimate for all repairs to bring to the bank.

To prepare for FEMA's strict accounting requirements, Town Treasurer, Rhonda Cook, has added individual expense lines to the general ledger to correlate with each damaged site.

It was requested by some who live on Beanville Road to remove the upper barricade, as it appears it could be passable. It was requested so that those who do not currently have access to their houses could get through. This idea was discussed by the Selectboard and it was decided that the extent of the damage makes the liability risk to the Town too high.

The RFP for Beanville repairs was discussed. The project scope needs to be further defined so that all bidders have a base to start with and the Selectboard

will get a better range of bids, not an array of bids. Additional specifications have been solicited via email from VTrans and will be incorporated.

Cray makes a motion to accept the RFP once Trevor Starr of VTrans reviews it, Ash seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

➤ Road Signs

To be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

➤ Town Shed Gate

The Town Shed Gate needs to be fixed and due to the fact that it is too heavy for one person to do, it was discussed that the maintenance person talk with the Blakes to see if he would be able to do he job with help. The Blakes stated that with the gate being very heavy and not properly put in, it has ruined the existing post creating the need to have a new one put in.

Due to all the rain and flooding the bottom layer of salt for this winter has been ruined. Once the Blakes are able to get down to it they will be able to more clearly identify the damage.

➤ Salt Contract

This contract was discussed though the Selectboard believes that this has already been handled.

• Old business

➤ Health Officer

Ash was appointed to Health Officer Interim of finding a new health officer.

➤ Park Ordinance/Policy

It was decided to change the Park Ordinance to a Policy.

➤ Junk Ordinance Issues

A letter to Paul Thomas was discussed and will be sent by the Selectboard Clerk

• New Business

➤ **Unclaimed Property Act** - Town Treasurer will be sending the Fred & Pauline Eastman 10/26/09 tax sale proceeds in the amount of \$1,291.82 to the State Treasurer Unclaimed Property Act as required by law, 27 V.S.A. Chapter 14

This was simply a notice to the Town's people.

➤ Lake Fairlee Issues/Joint Meeting

Ash and Cray went to the meeting at Thetford in regards to Lake Fairlee issues. The three Towns all have properties around the lake and the concerns (milfoil eradication and the deteriorating dam) could affect property values. Jay Barrett is currently trying to set up a meeting with Jeffrey at VLCT to see if it would make sense to form a three Town governmental body for Lake Fairlee. A September Meeting will try to be set up.

➤ Beanville Dog Complaint

Cray got an e-mail from Ann and Gary Downing apologizing for their dogs barking.

TPL asked that Peggy Willy bring the Brushwood signing on September 30th and the request of whether or not the Selectboard would like to see all the documentation regarding this signing or if they trust that the attorneys handle to paperwork.

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

- Sign orders

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

- Review Correspondence

Two-Rivers Ottaquechee updates

Vermont Cities and Towns updates

Email from Roy Fave regarding a request he received of combining West Fairlee trash with Thetford and the fact that Thetford already exceeds the allowable tonnage by the State of Vermont, this email was simply to notify West Fairlee of the request.

- Review of Town Financial Statements and Journal Entries

To be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- Action-items and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Storm Damage/Action Plan

FEMA Meeting

Bids for Marsh Hill

Line of Credit from Merchants

Set date for Beanville Bid Opening

Salt Shed Gate

Brushwood Forest

Park Policy

- Up Coming Events

Lake Fairlee Meeting – to be announced

- Adjourn

Cook makes a motion to adjourn at 7:04 PM, Hoyt seconds the motion, and the motion passes unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,

Meredith Hartshorn, Selectboard Clerk