

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday November 3, 2014

Present: Cory Austin, Fred Cook, Marilyn Dresser, Delsie Hoyt

Absent: Bev Ash

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Cory Austin moved to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

Visitors/ Hear and act on reports of Town Officers and Committees

- Brenda Needham, Rivendell Superintendent - Annual visit to update the Selectboard about operations of the Rivendell Schools are doing.
- Planning Commission: A near-final draft of the Flood Resilience chapter for the Town Plan is ready. Due to hearing requirements, the document may not be ready to go before voters at the March Town Meeting.
- Message from Viola/letter from library – Viola expressed thanks and appreciation for the new windows, and had a question about getting the Library's sign put back up; Joe can do this. There was also an anonymous letter concerning the operation of the library. While the letter was directed to the Selectboard, it was noted that the Library is run by an independent board of elected trustees, not the Selectboard. Anyone with concerns about the Library is encouraged to ask to be appointed to the Library Board; there are several vacancies right now, and/or attend a library meeting; the public is always invited.

Review Treasurer's Financial Statements

- Development of 2015 Budget – The treasurer's financial statements were circulated thru Oct by Rhonda, and finances still appear to be on track. A deposit on air conditioning for the Town Office was reimbursed to the Community Building capital fund. With new insulation and windows, the office stayed comfortable even on the hottest days.
- Cory Austin moved to warn a special meeting on November 10th at 5:30 p.m. to start working on the 2015 budget; Fred Cook seconded; passed. Some details of the budget will be up in the air due to Rhonda's departure; we should defer looking at payroll until we're farther along in the hiring process. Other things to think about include the possibility of needing additional workstations if we have two people rather than one person.

Roads

- Beaver problem on Middlebrook – Between Honig's and the Stever farm by Paul Eastman's there is a culvert that's starting to back up. Delsie left Jonathan a message about it
- Extensive logging on Blood Brook – Fred got a call from Marcus Bradley, a forester with Red Start Forestry, working on behalf of the Rosensweig family on Blood Brook. They are seeking access from the Town road for an extensive logging operation there this winter with a landing just uphill from the Blood Brook schoolhouse. Fred looked at it with Jonathan Blake, and they agree that a culvert needs to be installed to assure proper drainage and reduce erosion. Fred moved that we have them install a culvert there, at least 16 ft long; Cory Austin seconded; passed. Fred will get back to Marcus Bradley to relay the Selectboard's decision.
- Kidderhood – A resident wanted to know whether Kidderhood Road would be graded before it freezes; Alan Rowell is working his way around.
- Michael Blakesley from VTrans will be here 8 am on Wednesday to look at the project worksheets for our Irene repairs; Delsie will pull out the records for him.

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Judicial ticket was returned because of a missing information; deferred until Bev can review.

- Second series of complaints has been received about Miranda Moore's dogs. She received a warning earlier and a certified letter will now be sent; the final warning before ticketing.

Old Business

- Resignation of Town Clerk/Treasurer
 - review draft of community letter/posting – There will be a letter in the town-wide newsletter, going out in November; the section at the end of it will be the official job postings, asking for letters of interest specifying which position(s) are being applied for, a resume, and contact information for 3 professional references. Detailed information can be found by downloading the manuals from www.vlct.org.
 - deadlines, next steps – Letters of interest and resumes need to be at the Town Office by 11/17 at noon, addressed to the West Fairlee Selectboard.
 - RFP for web administrator – We've had some input from other Town officials and local web designers have expressed interest. Development of an RFP is being deferred until Town Clerk/Treasurer replacement is further along.

New Business

- Inquiry on office space in former Health Center space – A portrait photographer is interested in a couple of offices, but not the entire space. Discussion followed rent out individual offices, possibly as a business incubator space with shared an entrance and common area. The rent had been \$680 a month including most utilities. Rent would potentially be prorated by square footage. Since this was not on the posted agenda, formal action was deferred until a future meeting.

Other Business/Agenda Items (to be acted on at next regular meeting)

- on 10th, strictly budget
- on 17th, probably strictly budget

Cory Austin moved to sign orders; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

Upcoming Events

- November 8 VLCT Fall Selectboard Institute, Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.