

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday April 21, 2014

Present: Bev Ash, Fred Cook, Marilyn Dresser, Delsie Hoyt
Visitors: Ron Rhodes, Joan Allen, Peggy Willey

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Minutes: Fred Cook moved to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2014 regular meeting; Bev Ash seconded; approved.

Visitors

Ron Rhodes & Joan Allen, representing the Connecticut River Watershed Council provided an overview of their organization's mission. The group also works to assist towns in identifying State, Federal, and private grant funds for municipal highway projects that meet certain environmental criteria. Several potential future projects were discussed; locations identified in previous studies where bridges or culverts have been identified as undersized and might impact aquatic life. Rhodes and Allen will assess these locations for suitability for grant proposals.

Peggy Willey, Conservation Commission – Invoice submitted for pre-approved expenditure for Storm Irene flood talk the Conservation Commission did with Thetford, our half of the total is \$158.78. Green Up Day details – There is a new \$100 delivery fee for the rolloff from Casella (Casella is no longer donating this). The free tipping is still provided by our membership in the solid waste district. After brief discussion, the Selectboard agreed to cover the delivery cost under the Recycling line item. It was also decided to leave the gate open Saturday and Sunday for people to bring their Green Up trash? Julie Paye has arranged for the dumpster to be picked up on Monday.

Roads

Fred Cook moved to sign the highway expenditure certification for the VTrans annual highway grant; Bev Ash seconded; approved. Preliminary estimates required for the structures the grant request for Crossroad Bridge were submitted as part of the annual application..

A call had been received about a washout on Kidderhood Road; Hoyt mentioned that Jonathan Blake was aware of the problem.

Old Business

Update: Community Building window replacement – Oakes and LaValleys have both submitted bids for the windows. John Renfrew of Newbury, who has worked with Oakes, is putting together a quote for the associated carpentry. LaValleys' quote includes that. Two other local contractors declined to submit proposals citing scheduling. Due to funding limitations, the project may be scaled back slightly – the priority being window replacement.

Bev Ash moved to accept the Local Emergency Operations Plan as updated at the last meeting; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

GUVSW meeting on implementing solid waste law turned out to be for the trash haulers only, so Marilyn and Bev didn't go.

Dog Complaint: New complaints have been received regarding Dakota Rowell's dogs running loose in the village. Numerous complaints were received late last year, and a warning letter was sent. The dogs have not been registered for 2014. Based on the Town's Dog Ordinance, it's time to send the second letter and issue a judicial bureau ticket to Rowell, and send warning letters to two other owners who are allowing their dogs to run loose.

Hughes correspondence re: tax abatement – The Board of Abatement met and made its decision and adjourned; the selectboard does not have the authority to overturn their decision.

Repaint of welcome signs – A local sign painter declined the job; Russ Priestly was suggested. A quote will be requested.

New Business

Green Up Day – Julie Paye has arranged for the roll-off, Delsie will file the tipping waiver with the Town of Lebanon..

Resignation: Andy Petersen has resigned from the Planning Commission to simplify his life and give the opportunity for a younger person to try their hand at helping to govern the town. Bev Ash moved to accept his resignation with deep regrets and thank him for his many years of service. Delsie Hoyt seconded; approved. Delsie will send him a card from the Selectboard.

Lighting: Bulb in the upper hallway and stairwell blow out quickly due to old ballasts. Estimates are being sought from local electricians to reballast fixtures; upgrade to more energy efficient T-8's.

The Upper Valley Pediatric signs need to be removed. Due to confusion in finding the Town Offices, it has been suggested that "West Fairlee Town Office" be at the top of the Community Building sign with an arrow. Andy Moore will be contacted.

Bev Ash moved to sign the orders; Marilyn Dresser seconded; approved.

Upcoming Events

The May 5th Selectboard meeting will be at 5pm following 4pm meeting with Brian Hamlin (TRORC) regarding the Municipal Planning Grant. The Planning Commission will be invited to the Brian Hamlin meeting.

The meeting was adjourned 7:20 p.m.