

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday January 13, 2014

Present: Beverly Ash, Corey Austin, Fred Cook, Delsie Hoyt

Visitors: Skip Brown, Marilyn Dresser

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Minutes: Bev Ash moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 regular meeting as presented; Corey Austin seconded; approved.

Tri-Town Lake Fairlee Committee Update: Skip Brown reported on the Lake Fairlee Dam Project. An engineering study estimated that the cost to replace the dam would be less than originally thought, and the committee is gathering more detailed figures based on the engineers' plan. Some legal issues related to the way in which the property was conveyed through the Probate Court have been identified and must be resolved. The group is continuing to work on drafting the inter-municipal contract that would be acceptable to all three Towns. The Committee has submitted a report for inclusion in the Town Report.

Financial Statements

End of year financials - There were a few additional expenses in the year-end check run, but all categories are within budget targets.

Roads

Highway Codes and Standards Certificate of Compliance – The Certificate of Compliance must now be signed annually. Participation enhances access to and funding levels for grants. Fred Cook moved to sign the Certificate of Compliance for 2014; Corey Austin seconded; passed and signed.

Certificate of Highway Mileage - Another annual requirement, even if there are no changes to report. Fred Cook moved to sign the 2014 Certificate of Highway Mileage; Corey Austin seconded; passed and signed.

Upgrade of emergency radios – During the recent ice storms, Hoyt reported, rescue personnel were unable to contact the road crew for sand required to access a home. An older model loaned to the Town by the Fire Department during Tropical Storm Irene is outdated, not allowing two-way communication. A newer mobile radio that mounts in Jonathan Blake's primary vehicle and allows him to communicate with the fire/rescue personnel as well as dispatch in emergency situations would be of value. Corey Austin will check on prices and options, but the model that FD personnel have costs about \$2500 programmed. These were purchased with a grant; there is not likely to be another grant to purchase the additional one. Further discussion and action was deferred until the issue is further researched

Update re: inquiry about private bridge on Beanville Road – Hoyt reported that a mortgage company has contacted the Town to find a way into the property with the private bridge that

went out in Irene. As a private bridge, the Town has no jurisdiction and referred the mortgage company to the Agency of Natural Resources; and clarified that the Town could not provide permission to access the property through private lands on the other side of Schoolhouse Brook.

Limits on sand for residential use – The policy has been that residents could get a couple five gallon buckets of sand for their walks, front steps, from the pit. However, pickups and even commercial sanders have been seen loading up. The gate, open during first and third Saturday recycling and “by chance” when the road crew is actively going in and out during storms, will be kept otherwise locked to prevent this kind of abuse.

Stevens Road sign is gone and needs to be replaced.

Old Business

Orange County Sheriff’s Department: Bev Ash moved to sign the proposed 2014 Law Enforcement and Patrol contract for \$7125; Fred Cook seconded; passed and signed.

Sign revised Capital Improvement Note – The payment schedule of the original document was revised for an annual November payment, not June.

FY2014 Budget/Town Report – Most organizations and groups reports have already submitted their requests and other materials for inclusion in the Town Report. January 23rd is the deadline.

Dogs - Delsie received the receipt for the delivery of the certified letter to Dakota Rowell, but has not gotten it back from the Provos; that one may show up as having been refused.

New Business

Accept grant agreement for Municipal Planning Grant - Delsie took care of this online.

Corey Austin made a motion to sign the annual Marshal & Swift Contract for CAMA system (appraisal cost system) for \$238.81; Fred Cook seconded; passed and signed.

Review Equalized Property Value/COD Report was received and discussed; no action was needed.

Upper Valley Pediatrics has moved out. They were there for ten years or so, and before it gets rented out again it'll need to be patched and painted.

Bev Ash moved to sign the orders; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.