

**Minutes**  
**West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting**  
**Monday May 19, 2014**

**Present: Beverly Ash, Fred Cook, Delsie Hoyt**

**Absent: Cory Austin, Marilyn Dresser**

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

**Minutes:** Bev Ash moved to accept the minutes of the May 5, 2014 regular meeting as presented; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

**Financial Statements** – (Reviewed at the May 5th meeting.)

**Roads**

Property owner, Mark Harper, called to report that lack of maintenance of water bars on the Middlebrook side of Robinson Hill has washed out part of his driveway. Jonathan Blake is going to take a look at it; and Fred and Delsie may swing by and look at it too. Harper can still access his driveway, but interim action may be required to halt further damage.

**Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement**

1. Bev is signed up to go to VLCT's Dog Ordinance Enforcement seminar next Thursday, and will report back to the rest of the Selectboard. She met with the Orange County Sheriff, and the Judicial Bureau ticket book she had found in the office is out of date, so he gave her a current book and showed her how to fill it out. He also provided envelopes for sending in the tickets, and said that if we wanted to we could give them to them to send in with theirs. She also investigated to make sure that the warning letter for dog infractions is clear and contains all of the elements required by law. She'll bring the letter to the next meeting for the Selectboard to sign. The Town Clerk will soon be turning over a list of unregistered dogs to the Selectboard to take action.

As discussed with the Sheriff last year, during the busy summer months the Town should regularly contact the officer who schedules patrols to keep them aware of particular problem areas in terms of speeding or other law enforcement needs. Bev will be the point person to pass this information along to OCS.

**Old Business**

Options for Lister vacancies – Ted at VT Appraisal Co. suggested via an email distributed to the Selectboard that rather than rewriting the current contract with them that we add technical assistance hours “as needed”. Expense will be tracked on the financials to project a more accurate figure for next year's budget and contract. Delsie moved to appoint VT Appraisal Co as our second chair to fill the lister vacancy as provided for under VSA 17 2651c(a); Fred Cook seconded; approved. It was noted that the preliminary Grand List has been completed. The education tax exemption for Thetford's Treasure Island passed into law by the legislature has been included. Thetford will continue to pay the town tax.

Repaint of Welcome signs – Russ Priestly will take a look at the signs and give us an estimate on repainting them. This project may have to be deferred and included in next year’s budget.

E911 progress/private road names - The State E911 person is going to come for another training session with Janet, and Delsie would like to sit in on that and clarify priorities on some of the changes which need to be made, including naming and signage of private roads where three or more seasonal or year-round dwellings are located.

Lighting: Re-balasting in upper hall & stair well – Jeff from Tilden is working on a per fixture estimate on converting balasts from T-12s to more efficient T-8s. An estimate has already been received from Mike Mann. The possibility of asking others for estimates was raised, Bev will contact Cramer in Fairlee.

Draft Flood Resilience Policy process for adoption (new draft) – The Planning Commission has asked the Selectboard via email to review and comment on the most recent draft.

Local Emergency Operation Plan (LEOP)/NIMS Task #7 – This new part of the LEOP, Vermont Emergency Management wants to know what we have available to the Town in an emergency. Cory completed the Fire Department’s section on the NIMS resources, and Delsie will ask Jonathan Blake to list heavy equipment.

VTrans meeting update – VTrans has been running a series of focus groups around the State seeking to improve its services to Towns. Delsie was invited to the Montpelier meeting a provided feedback on West Fairlee’s experiences and interaction with VTrans. While District #4 has always been responsive in terms of the annual and special grants, several Town are concerned about the State’s elimination of the Vermont Local Roads program and the loss of engineering and other technical assistance services provided by that program.

Municipal planning grant – Brian Hamlin from TRORC is developing a letter to invite community participation in the visioning and design event planned for the village center. Various strategies were discussed for getting the word out including emails through Rhonda’s town list and the listserv as well as specific invitations to the Planning Commission, Conservation Commission, the Bean Hall Study Committee, Fire Department, Meeting House, as well as other individuals who may have interests or skills useful to the process. The event is planned for Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m..

### **New Business**

Meeting Time – The early start for the last meeting due to a preceeding late afternoon meeting, generated discussion about meeting earlier on a permanent basis. There was concern that setting the time too early could make it difficult for people who work to attend and bring concerns to the Selectboard. After discussion, Bev moved to change the meeting time to 5:30pm starting with the next meeting; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

Composting – Bev will get an update for the next meeting from the group that was investigating Town-wide composting options. It was also noted that several residents have remarked that

Buzz Austin is doing an excellent job overseeing the recycling – balancing education with enforcement.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.