

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday November 18, 2013

Present: Bev Ash, Cory Austin, Fred Cook, Delsie Hoyt

Visitors: Brenda Needham, Marilyn Dresser, Bonnie Cray

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

Fred Cook moved to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2013 regular meeting as printed; Cory Austin seconded; passed.

Visitors:

Brenda Needham, Superintendent of Rivendell School District, discussed some of the things that the Rivendell School District has been doing this year. Among the projects mentioned were an asbestos abatement project done this summer that also involved new insulation, rewiring, some new piping, and work on the gym that came in under budget and on time. They also improved the kitchen area and did considerable re-flooring. They are currently pulling the budget together to present the Rivendell meeting on December 3rd. The education tax is likely to go up at the state level. The 5th – 6th grades now go to Samuel Morey, and a new preschool was added at Westshire, which replaces the students who left. Westshire is now pre-K to 4th grade, and the preschool is very popular. Rivendell's total student population is around 500.

Bonnie Cray reported that the toilet in the preschool runs, and the lights in the hall upstairs are mostly out, also in the library over Viola's desk. A new toilet will be installed (the existing one is ancient), and the lights will be replaced.

Roads

Grading has been done, and some ditch work, and the Town will be getting more sand.

Old Business

Update: Community Building Renovations are almost done; one section of floor was missed. A construction permit was not filed by the architect; there may be a fine from the Fire Marshall for this. Electrical and Fire Alarm sub-contractors filed their permits as required. EC Fiber will hook up cable next week.

Recycling: Resident permits/stickers are in process.

Thetford PD potential contract: They will provide a proposal to discuss at the next meeting while considering the 2014 budget.

Tickets for dogs: Ash reported that Rosalie Towle's dog was running loose and is likely to get hit if something isn't done. Cory will work on this.

New Business

Central Vermont Humane Society: Cory Austin moved to renew the contract, which changes to a per-animal fee (assessed quarterly) with no participation fee; Fred Cook seconded; approved and signed.

Cartographic Associates (CAI Technologies): Their contract for tax map maintenance came in for a total of \$1050 for the year; Cory Austin moved to sign it; Bev Ash seconded; approved and signed.

The Orange County Sheriffs Department proposed 2014 contract will be deferred until we're farther into the budget discussion and know what Thetford PD can provide to supplement that.

Basic Emergency Operations Plan: Two Rivers wanted the BEOP updated, so Delsie took care of it (a couple of email and address changes) and submitted the revised BEOP for approval. Cory Austin moved to accept it; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

FY2014 Budget development: Spreadsheets reviewed were Projected Revenue, Community Building, Payroll, Town Office, and General Expenses. Notes from discussion included:

- For Payroll, it was decided to look at the VLCT compensation study for 2013 to make sure that Town employees are being compensated appropriately.
- Legal expenses may increase if there's a bond vote (for the Lake Fairlee dam).
- There have been substantial savings in recycling, thanks to the new recycling company.
- Community Building maintenance will be discussed along with the CAP Fund.
- The highway budget discussion needs to include Jonathan Blake for recommendations on what needs to be done next year.
- Law enforcement budget will be reviewed after seeing proposals from Thetford Police Department and Orange County Sheriffs Department.

Other Business/Agenda Items

Thank you to Jane Bailey Brown for recruiting two new justices of the peace, Rebecca Wurdack and Larry Fredrickson.

Bev Ash moved to sign the orders; Cory Austin seconded; approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.