

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday August 4, 2014

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Bev Ash moved to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

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

- Town Health Officer: Update/action on Rental Housing complaint – Delsie, as Town Health Officer, received a complaint about a rental property on Jennings Road. The presenting complaint was a lack of potable water since the tenants moved in January, but completing the required Health Department Rental Housing Checklist revealed additional violations. The dwelling does not have an approved septic system and is defined as a camp; as such it may not be occupied (by owner or renter) more than three consecutive weeks or 60 days per year. This issue was referred to VT Department of Environmental Conservation. There is a problem with the well: the landlord told the tenants in a text a few days after they moved in that there might be coliform in the water. The tenants reported that since January the water has had an increasingly bad odor, and the landlord has not followed through on disinfecting the source and having the water retested. Inspection revealed that the spring is not secure from animals and is probably also being contaminated by ground water. Delsie has notified the landlord of the violations by certified mail and delineated required actions to be taken but he has not responded yet. No action is required by the Selectboard at this time, but if the landlord does not comply the Selectboard may have to issue a health order.

Review Financial Statements (emailed by Treasurer)

- As of the beginning of August, expenses are on budget.

Roads

- Status West Fairlee Road paving/bridge maintenance – We are still waiting to hear from VTrans about whether the West Fairlee Road bridge is “historic” or not whether we can use w-rail for guardrails. We don't have a fixed date with BlakTop yet, they need to schedule with the batch plant, but we're ready for them.

- Cook Hill – Jonathan Blake reported that before you get to the W-rail it's starting to wash out, and he thinks the problem is that the old guardrail system is acting like a berm and not letting the water go where it needs to go, and it also interferes with mowing. He wants to remove the last two posts of it (all that's left) and lay in some big stone; Fred Cook will take a look at it.

- Mowing - The mowing is well under way.

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Status of unregistered dogs - We're down to four people with unregistered dogs; letters will need to be resent because they weren't sent certified mail.

- Consider changes to Dog Ordinance to conform with new laws - Postponed to next meeting.

-Orange County contract – Cory expressed concern about coverage by the Orange County Sheriff's Department under the Town contract. A rumor in the community was passed on that the

Sheriff's Department refused to respond to a call in Chelsea, and referred the matter to the VT State Police. Delsie will contact the Sheriff to investigate the truth of the report, and suggested the Sheriff also be invited to discuss provided services when the contract is renewed this fall.

Old Business

- E911 progress - Janet Austin reports that Abbie Lane is done; Kidderhood has an address request, and since all the numbers are wrong up there, she will do that next. She'll also be starting on Beanville Road, because Gail Roberts needs to have a correct 911 address there. She has also been working on the E911 audit.

- Building Maintenance – Joe Sampson looked into getting a replacement insert for the window that got broken by ice last winter; he feels that it would cost the same amount to replace the whole window as to replace the broken part. While he's in the building he can also move the sign, the bulletin cabinet, and Rhonda's drop box (not sure how it's all going to fit), and restore the siding that's off. The Blakes are starting on Wednesday to work on drainage around the building and resurfacing the driveway and walkways with hardpack. The park-side entrance also needs work on the grade so that water doesn't pool and come into the stairwell.

- Delsie found two big bulletin boards at Vermont Surplus Furniture for \$60 each; they'll be helpful for posting minutes. The Selectboard approved the expenditure, and Delsie will borrow a truck in the next few weeks to go get them.

New Business

- Warn Special Meeting Aug 11th, 5:30 p.m. – joint meeting w/ Thetford & Fairlee Selectboards at the West Fairlee Community Building.

- Reminder about the second Village Center “Visioning” meeting is Thursday. TRORC’s Brian Hamlin will present design alternatives.

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

- Consider changes to Dog Ordinance to conform with new laws

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

Review Correspondence -none

Upcoming Events

- Village Center Planning follow-up meeting with Brian Hamlin August 7th 6:30 p.m.
- Special Tri-Town Joint Selectboard Meeting Monday August 11th 5:30 p.m. West Fairlee Community Building to discuss restoration of the Lake Fairlee dam
- Tax Sale Aug 27, 2014 3:30 p.m. Community Building

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04pm.