

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday October 20, 2014
(Abbreviated meeting followed by Informational Meeting on Lake Fairlee Dam)

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda

Fred Cook moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2014 Regular Meeting; Bev Ash seconded; passed.

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

- Peggy Willey emailed Delsie to ask for approval of the payment for the two educational programs the Conservation Commission has run, to come from the Brushwood Forest fund, that had been approved when the programs were originally set up. Half of the expense will be reimbursed by the Town of Thetford. Fred Cook moved to approve the request; Marilyn seconded; passed.

Review Financial Statements

- 2015 Budget - The work on the 2015 budget will start at the next meeting. Additional meetings will be required during November.

Roads

- Winter sand – The Blakes have started to put up the winter sand. Last winter we went way back into our reserve, and the concern is that if this year is bad, we won't have the reserve to draw on. Bogey, where we get the sand, is willing to defer some payment to the new year, to help with budgeting. Corey moved to get an extra 25% to build the reserve back up; Fred Cook seconded; passed.
- Nicom did the bridge today rather than last Friday due to predicted bad weather.
- CT River Watershed seeking bridge grants – An engineer from CTRWC looked at the Marsh Hill Bridge East and the Godfrey culvert. Changes on Marsh Hill (East) would go beyond the town highway right-of-way and would require participation by the adjoining landowner he landowner who has indicated in the past he is not interested. They are focusing on funding for the Godfrey Road culvert.

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Review final draft of Dog Ordinance – Bev Ash moved to accept the final draft of the dog ordinance as presented; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

Old Business

- Resignation of Town Clerk/Treasurer – Delsie has been in contact with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns regarding procedures to fill the vacancies which will be created by Cook's resignation. A letter from VLCT's Sarah Jarvis was distributed along with excerpts from the Town Officials handbook and the most recent VLCT compensation survey. VLCT pointed out legislative changes made over the past ten years which allow the Town to reconfigure some positions or augment responsibilities through contracts with outside professionals. Since appointees must be legal residents and registered voters of West Fairlee, the pool of potential candidates is extremely limited due to our small population. A draft of a letter to the community to be included in the next newsletter was discussed. The "job description" portion will also be used for the official posting for the positions to be filled.
- Review revised draft of Library and Historical Society leases – This will be put off a bit while more urgent matters are dealt with; they won't be needed until the beginning of 2015.

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

- Brenda Needham, Rivendell Superintendent wishes to attend the next meeting to provide an opportunity to ask questions about school operations.

Bev Ash moved to sign orders; Cory Austin seconded; passed.

Review Correspondence -

Rivendell Recreation Association – This new group has taken over for CSO which recently disbanded. They are requesting an appropriation to support sports programs in the elementary and middle schools. The importance of the program was discussed, but it was noted that it has been the Town’s policy to require new organizations to petition to get on the Town Meeting warning. Bev Ash moved that the new organization should petition, which is standard policy; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

Upcoming Events

- November 8 VLCT Fall Selectboard Institute, Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.