

**Minutes**  
**West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting**  
**Monday September 16, 2013**

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

**Visitors:** Alice Adams, Bonnie Cray, Marilyn Dresser, Jim McDade, Samantha Petrone, Doug Sonsalla

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

**Minutes:** Bev Ash moved to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2013 regular meeting as presented; Fred Cook seconded; approved.

**Visitors/ Reports of Town Officers and Committees:**

Interested citizens are looking to develop a Bean Hall Restoration Committee, not part of the Historical Society, but a separate committee formed by the Town to look at the future of Bean Hall. It's obviously no longer going to be used for Town Offices, so the group is interested in looking at what other ideas might be out there. In particular, the group would need authorization to work with the State Fire Marshal to look at developing a corrective action plan and also to work with a general contractor to get pricing developed, based on where the Community Development Committee left off. Bev Ash has agreed to serve as an ex-officio member to be a liaison to the Selectboard. Fred Cook requested more time to consider development of the Committee; Hoyt suggested that a "job description" be developed to guide the Committee's activities. Doug Sonsalla will submit a proposal to the Selectboard outlining the Committee's activities.

**Roads**

**Better Back Roads Grant** awarded the Town \$4200 for enhancements to the Wild Hill project. The funds will be used for bank stabilization and repair of the large culvert header near Preserve Road.

**Wild Hill/Beanville paving** – Paving should be done Thursday on Beanville, maybe Monday or Tuesday on Wild Hill.

**Scrabble Hollow beaver problem and failing culvert** – The culvert has been reamed out, and Peter Stever will trap to reduce the beaver population, but the culvert may be damaged. Jonathan Blake suggested upsizing culvert to 40", and possibly put in an 18" culvert to the side to act as a spillway. Hoyt passed around file pictures from 2005 when water overtopped the road and . Anecdotal reviews on "beaver bafflers" show that they're not very effective. Hoyt thanked Terry Cook, who has been pulling that dam almost every day to save the road.

**Roadside Mowing** has been delayed this year due to other major projects. However, the Selectboard decided to establish a deadline of the end of July for future years. The Blakes will be informed.

**Old Business**

**Community Building Renovations** – Regarding the sidewalks and ramps for rear and side entries to Town Offices, Delsie met with concrete contractor Ross Page. Rich Clifford will also be looking at the job and providing an estimate. Page suggested that site grading should be done prior to setting the entires. The work will be deferred until spring; and Rhonda has agreed to apply the elections grant, for projects focused on improving access to polling places, toward the work.

**Delinquent dog registration list** – The Selectboard needs to learn how to write and file Judicial Bureau tickets correctly rather than paying the sheriffs to do it.

**Recycling Attendant** - Buzz Austin is now on the payroll and will start this coming Saturday. He wants a brief written job description. Austin suggested developing a way to identify West Fairlee residents. Bev will check with Thetford to find out where they order transfer station stickers.

**West Fairlee welcome signs** - Johnny Johnson didn't want to redo the signs. He suggested that Andy Moore might be interested.

**Red Cross:** Bev talked to Gary Collins of Rivendell about doing the paperwork to get the school registered as an official shelter for the Town. She suggested inviting him to the next meeting to discuss this further.

**Insurance papers from the Blakes** – Blakes have filed their proof of insurance.

#### **New Business**

**Transfer from Capital Expense Note** -- Fred Cook moved to approve the transfer of \$13,185.58 from the Capital Expense Note to the General Fund to cover Porter's Invoice #6; Bev Ash seconded; passed.

**Vermont Health Connect** – The Town will have to sign up as part of the Vermont Health Exchange to continue employee insurance coverage. Rhonda is looking at policies at the same price point currently set. She has also sent the required notifications to other Town Officials on behalf of the Selectbaord.

**Winter shoveling** -- Delsie will get in touch with Leon Adams about doing the shoveling this winter.

**Municipal Planning Grant proposal** – Bev Ash moved to sign the resolution authorizing the grant application; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

**Response to Thetford Selectboard re: Treasure Island** – The Selectboard discussed recent letter from the Thetford Selectboard concerning property tax exemption for Treasure Island. The West Fairlee Selectboard believes that the property does not meet the legislature's criteria and intends to work toward repealed of the provision. Bev Ash moved to sign a reply to Thetford Selectboard's letter drafted by Hoyt; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

Samantha Petrone requested that the Selectboard minutes and agendas be sent to her. She also asked about the possibility of a Town match for work done on Class 4 roads. Hoyt noted again that such a change in policy would have to be part of 2014 budget discussions later this fall and can't be instituted immediately. Petrone is interested in getting quotes for work that needs to be done, and wanted names and addresses of other landowners on King Hill Road.

**Liquor License** -- Fred Cook moved to approve the liquor license application for The Middlebrook LLC; Bev Ash seconded; passed.

**Thetford Police Chief** is preparing a proposal which will be considered along with coverage by the Sheriff's Department during budgeting discussions.

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

Recycling stickers

Dog tickets - writing them

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.