

APPROVED Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Special Meeting
Monday December 29, 2014

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approve minutes of December 15 Regular Meeting – Fred Cook moved to approved the minutes of the December 15th Regular meeting as presented; Bev Ash seconded; passed.

Budget/Review Treasurer's Financial Statements/Budget –

- The Treasurer's year-end financial statements for 2014, show that we ended the year about \$3,000 under budget. Hoyt noted that an additional \$16,000, grant revenue for the Crossroad Bridge project, will be received in 2015.
- Approve FY2015 Budget – After a final review on the year-end "actual" figures and consideration of further budget revisions, Fred Cook moved to accept the proposed FY2015 Budget with total taxes to be raised of \$497,415.00; Bev Ash seconded; passed.
- FY2015 Projected Cash Flow Certificate – deferred until next meeting.

Roads

- Approve/sign Crossroad Bridge grant requisition – Everything had already been approved; the form just needed to be signed to be submitted.
- Research concerning penting of Brown Road: deferred.

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Review 2015 contract with Orange County Sheriff Dept – It was decided to keep the same dollar amount in the budget and sign the contract after talking to the sheriff at the next meeting.
- Dog bite incidents - Two incidents were reported. A Federal Express driver was bitten on Middlebrook Road. Hoyt returned the call and confirmed that the dog in question was up-to-date on its rabies vaccine. The bite punctured the skin but did not require additional medical attention. Fed-Ex will not be filing a written complaint; they have their own protocols. A dog was bitten by another dog in the village and required veterinary care. The owner of the injured dog was informed of the process to follow for filing a "potentially vicious dog" complaint. For the time being, she has chosen to not file a written complaint which would trigger an official hearing; she is working with the owner of the attacking dog to get compensated for the veterinary bills.

Old Business

- Discussion of draft charter for appointive Treasurer – Discussion continued regarding interim arrangements to assure that the functions of the Treasurer's position are fulfilled. All options and their associated costs were again reviewed, and Hoyt referenced a variety of correspondence and advise received since November. Bev Ash moved to ask Rhonda whether she would be willing to serve on an interim basis at the 2015 budget level as we follow up on the Charter process; Cory Austin seconded; passed.
- Appointment to new Treasure Island Advisory Council – Bev Ash moved to appoint Cory Austin; Fred Cook seconded; passed.

New Business

- Warn first hearing on proposed Charter – Cory Austin moved to warn the first hearing on the proposed Charter for Monday, Feb 2nd at 6:30 p.m. after the 5:30 p.m. Selectboard meeting; Fred Cook seconded; passed.
- Petition regarding re-installing street lights on Route 113 – A petition asking for reinstalling street lights along Route 113 was received last week. Ash asked whether the petition was legal. Hoyt noted that this type of petition was strictly advisory but should be discussed and acknowledged. It was noted that before this action was taken, there had been a lot of support from the community and a previous selectboard for reducing the number of street lights -- lights remain at street intersections and near Bean Hall. Individuals do still have the option of putting in lights themselves if they feel the need, and some have already done so.
- Discussion of Consulting Contract with NEMRC – Fred Cook moved to sign a contract for NEMRC support; Bev Ash seconded; passed. Both the new Town Clerk and the new Treasurer (when we get one) will need extensive support, and the "bulk time" terms of the contract will significantly cut the cost of that necessary outside consulting.
- Renewal of Appraisal/Assessment Contract with Vermont Appraisal Company - They haven't gotten the new contract to us yet, so it's deferred until the next meeting.
- Renewal of GIS Maintenance contract with CAI Technologies – Fred Cook moved to sign the contract with CAI Technologies; Bev Ash seconded; passed.
- Renewal of stray animal contract with Central VT Humane society – Bev Ash moved to sign the Central Vermont Humane Society contract; Cory Austin seconded; passed.

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

- Sheriff Bohnyak will attend the meeting next week.
- Representative Sarah Copeland Hanzas will attend the meeting next week.
- Review schedule of rental rates.

Sign Orders

- Bev Ash moved to sign the year-end check run; Cory Austin seconded; passed.

Review Correspondence

- PACIF has announced its safety equipment grant program, due in April.

Upcoming Events

- Feb 5th Tri-Town Ompompanoosuc Watershed Basin Informational Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.