

**Approved Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday, April 1, 2019 6pm**

Present: Beverly Jo Ash, Fred Cook, Bruce Durkee, Delsie Hoyt, Steve Malinoski,

Clerk: Nina Schwartz

Visitors: Grover Boutin, John Benjamin

The meeting was called to order by Delsie Hoyt at 6:00 pm.

Minutes of the March 18th meeting were reviewed. Steve made motion to approve minutes, as noted, Bruce seconded; approved.

Organizational

- Animal Control Officer: letter of interest received from Nate Guyer. Delsie and Nate had preliminary discussion on kennels for temporary holds. Schedule of fees needs to be developed
- Appointments to vacancies for commission positions and elected office:
 - Correction for oversight to approve Grover Boutin's appointment on Planning Commission. Along with that Grover has also volunteered to respond to an energy survey the town is asked to participate in and to serve as the town Energy Coordinator, a newly created position.
 - Bev made motion to approve Grover's appointment to Planning Commission and as the new Energy Coordinator and also for Nate's appointment as Animal Control Officer. Bruce seconded; approved
 - Additional appointments to Commissions and Representatives needed for GUVSWD and Health Officer
- Elected vacancies:
 - Delsie made obligatory postings. Cat Spaulding responded for Grand Juror. Bev made motion to approve, Steve seconded; approved
 - No response for additional Lister vacancy. Current "team" of Lister Peggy Burden, consultant Deborah Kingsbury, and assessor Vermont Appraisal Company is working extremely well

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

- Efforts to expand broadband/John Benjamin: John presented with an overview of the types of internet access available and timeline 2006-present of efforts taken to address this topic
 - Current possible Fiber Optic options available in WF: EC Fiber and Topsham Communications, depending on location throughout town
 - EC Fiber fastest, Topsham you can buy various upload and download speeds
 - Recommendations: Can join EC Fiber, ask Topsham to provide service through certain parts of WF. Generally, approximately 12-15 houses per mile needed to be cost effective for fiber installation by any organization
 - Share information with residents that EC Fiber might now be available for those down Route 113 corridor. John offered to check with Topsham to see what access may now be available to expand service
- Conservation Commission: Green-Up Day, May 4th: volunteers needed to staff/arrange container with Quinttown 11-4pm

Executive Session

Delsie requested the Selectboard go into executive session for purpose of updating the Selectboard on an ongoing contract negotiation where open discussion could put town at a disadvantage.

Bev made motion to go into executive session at 6:50pm, Steve seconded; unanimously approved.

Bev made motion to come out of executive session at 6:54pm, Steve seconded, approved. No action required by the Selectboard at this time.

Review Treasurer's Financial Statements/Journal Entries

- Salt spend running high YTD, a historical occurrence

Roads/Land

- Discontinuance of Preserve Rd./Tebbitts North Rd.: Delsie spoke with Dept. of Forest and Parks 3/31, still in process
- Roads are posted
- Grading contract with Allen Rowell: No change from last year. Steve made motion to approve, as noted, Bruce seconded; approved

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Local Emergency Operation Plan (EOP): To be ready for approval/signing at 4/15 meeting
- Speed enforcement collaboration with Thetford: Thetford Police Chief still waiting on approval from Thetford SB to move forward with agreement
- Public water supply/compliance process for Community Building: Discuss/approve contract with Alliance for water source protection system. Town Attorney Paul Gillies assured that the contract was in order and that no additional arbitration clause was required. Contract signed by Alliance. Bev made motion to sign contract; Steve seconded; approved
- Community Building: fire system panel replacement: estimate received from Fifield Electric Fire Systems Services - \$5,600 total. Steve questioned comment about other issues to be address mentioned in letter. Delsie to inquire.

Old Business

- Disposition of tax sale properties: two situations, to be handled differently with different processes
 - Beanville property: potential transfer to neighboring property owner, conditional that transaction not completed until property in question is cleaned up
 - King Hill property: can be put up for auction, set minimum price (to equal back taxes and other expenses the Town needs to recoup. Bruce made motion to begin process to move in such direction. Bev seconded; approved
- Revising town website: preparations ongoing, further action deferred
- Bean Hall: roof leak. Randall Hoyt of Tunbridge - estimate pending (likely until Spring). Deferred

New Business

- Renewal VT Appraisal Co assessment contract: deferred, waiting for new contract
- Excess Weight Permits: Bev processed 10 permits
- Grant collaboration with Creative Spirit: 'VT Afterschool' grant. Delsie assisted with composing initial letter of interest to use for improvements and furniture for the activity space (old library)
- Use of meeting room for craft program: Delsie requested use for braiding class. Bev made motion to approve, Steve seconded
- Tree branches over jungle gym: trimming needed. Bruce Durkee to speak with Buzz and Janet Austin on a satisfactory resolution.

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

- Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting with TRORC: April 22nd

Sign Orders

Bev made motion to sign orders; Fred seconded the motion; unanimously passed.

Review Correspondence

Upcoming Events

- ICS402 Training: April 17th, 5-8pm, TRORC – Woodstock
- Green Up Day, Saturday, May 4th
- Composting Workshop: May 16th, 6-8pm, Community Building

Steve made motion to adjourn meeting, Bruce seconded; unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.