

Approved Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday, September 4, 2017 6pm

Present: Bev Ash, Delsie Hoyt, Steve Malinoski, Al Pfeifer

Clerk: Nina Schwartz

Visitors: Ayesah Al-Humaidhi, Bonnie Cray, David Gibeau, Gary W. Goodrich, James McDade, Jen Shatney, Doug Sonsalla

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

Minutes of the August 21, 2017 regular meeting were reviewed. Bev Ash made motion to approve the minutes, as corrected; Steve Malinoski seconded the motion; unanimously passed.

Organizational

- TriTown Commission (TTC):
 - Steve spoke with James from TTC, who is investigating further with D&K the leak coming through the wall at Fairlee Dam.
 - No further word, to date, on which electrical contractor was chosen for the project.

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

- Bean Hall Study Committee (BHSC): Doug Sonsalla explained purpose of BHSC's attendance is put forward a proposal for the West Fairlee Historical Society (WFHS) to embark on exploratory fundraising to renovate and operate Bean Hall. The Board has various questions, which could not be immediately answered without consultation with the town attorney and the town auditors. A discussion followed and it was decided at this time the BHSC will work with WFHS on preliminarily developing a capital campaign, while the Selectboard will consult with the Town Attorney and Auditors for counsel/guidance to see what relationship and/or agreement would be required to move forward. Anticipated timeframe to reconvene is mid-end of October for further discussion.
- Town Health Officer: Delsie spoke with Bridget Brennan, who has offered to accept appointment for a 3 year term. Bev Ash made motion to appoint Bridget Brennan as the Town Health Officer for this term, Steve seconded; all approved.

Financial/Journal Entries

- Journal entries: As suggested by outside auditors, a general file has now been created for the Selectboard to have ready access/review of journal entries.
- FY2016 audit draft and management letter: response to management letter – deferred.
- Dead River credit application: reviewed/completed. Bev made a motion to approve the credit application and resolution for Dead River; Steve seconded; approved.
- General review of entries. Question raised on web expenses. Delsie clarified expenses to date and a discussion followed on various avenues for improvement that can be investigated.

Roads/Land

- Grant In Aid Program: no new updates at this time.
- DEC Water Encroachment Permit for bank stabilization Middlebrook Rd: Delsie spoke with Patrick Ross, who referred her to the lake representatives and wetland representatives, and she is waiting to hear back from them. She is hoping there is only one permit required. There is a 30 day required public comment period, which will put the project beyond the October 15th deadline and this issue will likely be addressed next year. Delsie meanwhile met with Blak-Top to patch the one area for immediate repair – obtain quote.
- Pending driveway access approvals: pending until September; deferred.

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Compliance with ‘public water supply’ for Community Building:
 - Sheila Bedi from Creative Spirit Children’s Center advised the water sample she submitting for testing came back, and is fine. The sample submitted was coded for the building, so it will be properly noted for the DEC public water supply tester. Delsie is waiting to hear if any additional tests will be needed and receive formal notification of status.
 - A civil engineer will need to be hired in the future to design a water treatment system to be installed in case it’s ever needed in the future. Information pending; Steve to work on that.

Old Business

- Community Building fuel: Dead River can offer \$1.32/gal for propane, locked in for three year period. The fuel tank also needs to be replaced, which is already known. Al Pfeifer made motion to amend the Selectboard's previous action and extend the Dead River contract for 3 years from Dead River; Steve seconded; approved.
- WF Volunteer Fire Dept: tax exemption renewal. Due to an oversight, renewal of the tax exempt status was omitted from the Town Meeting Warning; a special town meeting is required to extend the exemption for another 5 years. November 6th as possible date for special town meeting. October 2nd meeting can serve to warn residence within 30-40 day required window.

New Business

- Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) Source to Sea clean-up, September 22-23th. Ibex (sponsor) is sending a team to clean up along the Ompompanoosuc River. Discussion followed with question on the Conservation Commission’s willingness to participate on this event. Delsie waiting to hear from Peggy Willey. No permitting required for this clean up event.
- Notice of scheduled tax sale: Saturday, October 28th, 11am. Delsie to confirm with the Delinquent Tax Collector the Selectboard supports that date and time.

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

Sign Orders

- Bev made motion to sign orders; Al Pfeiffer seconded the motion; passed.

Upcoming Events

- Rivendell Ramble 4 Mile Run: September 17th, 8am - noon, Westshire Elementary School
- Public Meeting on Town Plan, Sunday September 24th, 2017 3:30 p.m. at Westshire School

- Big trash/tires/fluorescent bulbs: Saturday, October 14th (NOT usual trash day!)

Bev made motion to adjourn meeting, Steve seconded; passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.