

Fair Haven, VT, Selectboard, January 20, 2014

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS—CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS
SELECT BOARD SESSION
JANUARY 20, 2014**

Members present: Christopher Cole, Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon. Claire Stanley, Dave Ward

Others present: Bud Panoushek, John Lulek, Karyn Stannard, Melinda Eaton, Michele Murray Don Proctor (1st Constable), Recorder Wilma DeSpain, Town Manager Herb Durfee

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Christopher Cole called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Durfee asked the agenda be amended to include discussion about setting a public hearing on accepting Colvin Road as a Class 3 roadway and include it in the Town's annual road mileage filing. Sheldon moved the inclusion of the amendment. Seconded by Stanley. No further discussion. All voted aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stanley made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13 meeting. Second by Ward. No further discussion. All voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Town Manager advised board members there is budget information in their folder. Some of it relates to property taxes. He said he met with the consulting engineers for Beaverwood and understands they are preparing information to resubmit their application to the Public Service Board. Regarding health insurance, Durfee updated the board that Vermont Health Connect has mandated change yet again since the small business payment system remains offline. The Town has the option to select up to two plans for the balance of the year beginning April 1. He said all but one staff person has signed up for the BC/BS Silver High Deductible plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Karyn Stannard was present to discuss the contract for the Summer Recreation Director position. The board discussed the contract period balanced with when the actual work occurs. They also discussed the contract's finances especially that the work period crosses two fiscal years and that no funding remains for the position in fiscal year 2013-14. After additional discussion the board agreed that the contract should remain at \$5,000 and paid during the months of July and August according to the Town's payroll system. Any program preparation work that must be conducted in the May/June timeframe would be done as part of the position's

contractual obligation. And, the board noted that if the person in the position changes after August but before the next July money would not be available.

CAMA Cost Tables Services Sheldon moved to sign a letter of agreement with the VT Department of Taxes for their annual Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) Cost Tables Services. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

VLCT 2014 PACIF Grant Application: This is an equipment grant application covering up to 50% of the cost to install a sliding gate in front of the trash compactor at the transfer station to minimize additional liability risks from occurring. Richards moved to authorize the Chair to sign the grant application with a total estimated project cost of \$3,000, but subject to verifying the current estimate from Cooper Fence. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.

CDL Drug & Alcohol Policy & Guidance: The Town Manager asked the Board to study the policy information posted on the VLCT website in preparation for the February 3 meeting.

CERTIFICATE of Completion and Opening of Colvin Road for Public Travel: A public hearing for this is necessary. Sheldon moved to schedule a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18 in the conference room on Colvin Road to certify its completion and opening as a public, Class 3 town roadway February 18. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Proposed Budget (Continued Discussion): Durfee provided a status on the proposed budget. Generally, board members indicated additional cuts needed to be made. It was agreed to go through the budget again and see where individual board members felt additional cuts could be made. Such review ensued. Richards suggested the police officer position be eliminated from the budget. There was a general consensus of other board members to not eliminate such position. The board agreed to continue discussion on other budget items and come back to the Police Department line items. Following some additional discussion, Ward moved to reduce the proposed budget by \$1,000 each from the Reserve Accounts for PW Vehicles & Equipment, Police Vehicles & Equipment, Fire Vehicles & Equipment, and Reappraisal; \$5,000 from Streets & Sidewalks Reserve Account; \$1,000 from the Park Restoration & Tree Replacement Reserve Fund in Appropriations; \$1,000 from Police Overtime; and, \$5,000 from Summer Outside – Road Work. Second by Richards. All voted aye. The board then continued its discussion concerning the Police Department and the number of officers. After much discussion, Richards moved to put the fourth police officer position as a special ballot item (to include salary and benefits) in the Warning to let the taxpayers decide what they want. Second by Sheldon. The motion passed 3-2-0 (Stanley and Ward opposed). Durfee agreed to have updated budget information in time for the board's next meeting on January 23. The Board agreed to meet at 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 23 to finish the budget and sign the Warning.

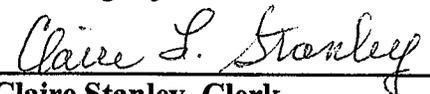
REVIEW OF FINANCE REPORTS

The Board reviewed finance reports. Stanley made a motion to pay the Warrant as follows: General Fund--\$83,285.37; Payroll--\$28,072.74. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

ADJOURN

Stanley moved to adjourn at 10:21 p.m. Second by Richards. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma B. DeSpain


Claire Stanley, Clerk