

**FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS--CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS**

**SELECT BOARD SESSION
APRIL 29, 2013**

Members Present: Christopher Cole, Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon, Claire Stanley. Absent: David Ward

Others Present: Mike Valentine, Neil Robinson, Lucia Suarez, Lauritz Rasmussen, Don Howard, Kris Hughes (RRPC), Jason Booth (A&E), John Lulek, Glen Roberts, Robert Spaulding, Ray Phillips, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Police Chief Bill Humphries, Recorder Wilma DeSpain

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Christopher Cole. He invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Richards made a motion to add to the agenda action on tobacco license for Dollar General Store. Second by Stanley. All voted aye.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Stanley moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2013 meeting with the amendment proposed by Richards. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2013 meeting of the Select Board. Second by Stanley. All voted aye.

APPOINTMENTS WITH INDIVIDUALS

Kristen Hughes, Executive Director of Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC), spoke to the Board regarding the Commission's strategic plan and discussed some of the Selectboard's concerns. He was questioned about the Commission's apparent lack of support of the Beaver Wood project. He indicated it is premature for their consideration until an Act 250 application is filed. The Fair Haven representative to the Commission, Lauritz Rasmussen, also participated in the discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Lulek reported his concern regarding the gazebo in the park being misused by skate boarders. Also, he believes the park and cemetery grounds need fertilizer.

Neil Robinson mentioned the dangerous section of Washington Street caused by the McDonalds and Mac's turning lanes. There was additional agreement on this. He asked about support for Beaver Wood signs. He suggested revisiting the "airport", referring to it as a "gem."

Don Howard echoed the danger with the turning lanes on the north end of Washington Street.

Glen Roberts urged the Board to look beyond the local area for staff.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

River Street Pump Station: Jason Booth (with A&E) discussed the bid from Miner Construction. He believes they understand the concerns related to the project. After discussion, Stanley moved to award to Miner Construction the bid for the River Street Pump Station, the amount to not exceed \$157,827. Second by Sheldon. Stanley and Sheldon voted in favor of the motion. Richards and Cole opposed the motion. The motion failed due to lack of a majority. All agreed it is "critical to move forward." It was agreed to hold a special meeting to deal with the project on Monday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Police Chief: Humphries reported the department has received a \$6,000 grant from Homeland Security. Personnel and the dog recently participated in a significant drug arrest. The drugs were headed for Castleton--which of course means some of them will find their way here. He hopes we can find a way to stay ahead of the situation. Springfield has an ordinance he believes it might be helpful to look at. He and the Town Manager will discuss possible ways to address this issue.

Town Manager: Durfee reported in five-year increments he is trying to acknowledge employees service to the Town. He showed the board four 25-year certificates he prepared. They are for Peter Root, James Heller, Peter Laramie, and Sharon Mallette. Jenny discovered a way to save the town about \$1000 a year on the cost of the water cooler by using the state joint purchasing contract. Durfee and Jenny attended a meeting related to health care insurance and its pending change for employees by year's end due to statewide healthcare. He talked about the new Fair Haven welcome signs and said he is going to check on a grant to help pay the cost. He shared a note of appreciation from the Fishers for quality work town employees had done and their professional attitude. Young people are working on painting trash barrels for the park. He is working on an assessment of needs related to Town Hall. For this year anyway we have lost any possibility of construction funding to work on the dams.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent of Public Works: Durfee reported he is extremely satisfied with the work and customer service of Bud Panoushek. He received understanding from the board that the Town Manager should be doing the hiring of the position in consultation with the board. Accordingly, he advised he is working with Panoushek on a five-year contract. Also, he is re-working the contract to clarify the delineation of the hiring/firing issues.

Reappoint Tom Bruso: Sheldon moved to reappoint Tom Bruso to the ZBA for a three-year term. Second by Stanley. All voted aye.

Summer Recreation Program: Director Stannard has made some changes in the Policies and Procedures Manual. Richards moved to adopt the Summer Recreation Program Policies and Procedures Manual with changes. Second by Stanley. All voted aye.

Bid Opening for Professional Auditing Services: Bids were opened and read as follows:

AM Peisch & Co.--\$13,500 1st yr., \$14,000 2nd yr., \$14,500 3rd yr.

Graham and Graham--\$18,500 1st yr., \$19,500 2nd yr., \$20,500 3rd yr.

Sullivan Powers & Co--\$18,500 1st yr., \$18,900 2nd yr., \$19,300 3rd yr.

RHR Smith & Co--\$10,300 annually for the three fiscal years.

Batchelder Assocs.--\$14,500 1st yr., \$15,000 2nd yr., \$15,750 3rd yr.

Status of Pending Legal Action: Durfee advised there are two legal issues before the Town. One is being discussed between lawyers. The other remains pending. If the later goes to court it would be no earlier than the end of May before it is heard.

Cemetery Deed: Stanley moved to deed Lot 29, Sect. 11, to Rosemary McManus. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Energy Recovery Low Impact Study: Town does not have a facility for this. Study was questioned. We need more information.

Policies: Table the Sidewalk Policy until next meeting moved by Richards. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye. Durfee will draft a combined purchasing and bid opening policy.

ROUND TABLE

Sheldon asked about a dog census.

Richards had questions on some items on the financial report.

Stanley is again mentioning the four trees in the park needing to be replaced. She believes there is money in the Park Fund to take care of this.

REVIEW OF FINANCE REPORTS

Finance reports were provided for Board review. The checkbook balance is \$256,795.81

SIGN WARRANT

Stanley moved to pay the warrant as follows: Payroll-\$28,385.15; General Fund-\$48,861.27. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

ADJOURN

Stanley moved to adjourn at 9:49 p.m. Second by Sheldon. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma B. DeSpain


Claire Stanley, Clerk