

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

**SELECT BOARD SESSION
MAY 12, 2014**

Members Present: Chair Chris Cole, Rod Holzworth, Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon, Dave Ward
Others Present: Glen Roberts, Jay Brown, Melinda Eaton, David Camara, Jr., John Lulek, Michelle Murray, Ray Phillips, Brian Ward, Officer Dale Kerber, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Recorder Wilma DeSpain

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cole called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Sheldon moved to add two cemetery deeds to the agenda. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of March 31, 2014. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.
Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of April 14, 2014. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.
Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of April 28, 2014. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.

FIVE MINUTES FOR PUBLIC APPROVAL

Glen Roberts commented on an article in the newspaper of April 30 regarding Town Auditor stipends and that in recent past they have not taken the stipend.

Jay Brown asked about a police car with an arrested person in it had gone off the road. It seemed to him the department didn't want anyone to know about it. There was some concern expressed by Richards that the Board members had not been notified of the incident. Durfee said Chief Humphries reported it to him and he had taken care of it administratively.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Former Recreation Committee members spoke about the committee, especially in connection with the letter of resignation that had been received. The three present, Melinda Eaton, Dave Camara, Jr., and Michelle Murray, indicated they felt there was no support from the Select Board, the Town Manager, or the public at-large. This kept them from being able to plan recreation programs for the Town's children. They also mentioned lack of communication as a problem. In the interest of resolving the apparent problems/issues, the Board agreed to include an agenda item on its May 27 meeting to continue the discussion with any of the former members of the committee.

Police Department – Kerber reported that the “*Click It or Ticket*” seatbelt safety program will begin next Monday, including in Fair Haven.

Town Manager Durfee reported a request was made to install horse and buggy signs to warn vehicles that some Amish families are traveling on several Town roadways. He was pleased to

report on the progress in collection of delinquent property taxes. Last year at this point the unpaid taxes amounted to \$337,000 with little to no tax agreements, while this year it is \$69,000 inclusive of tax agreements and payments made. He mentioned a need for an overview on the use of the cemetery related to plot and burial costs. He is working on documents related to the Special Town Meeting in preparation for the June 3 budget vote. He wants to provide factual information and encouragement to vote in preparation for June 3. He noted having received a letter from the Grade School in appreciation of the Police Chief.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2014-15 Budget: Durfee said he is working on a mailer to educate the public on the FY 2014-15 budget. Board members discussed the importance of this, and thought that a postcard or letter could be sent to all postal patrons. Durfee said he would draft a letter for their consideration.

Former Recreation Committee: The committee was not recognized as actually resigned and they will be invited to the next Board meeting in hopes they and the Board can come to a better understanding.

Municipal Truck/Vehicle Inventory: Durfee reported he is working on this. He offered a handout of information detailing what he's compiled to date.

Water and Sewer Budget Discussion: The Water and Sewer year is July 1-June 30. Their budget is being worked on and the manager hopes it will be ready for the next Board meeting, May 28.

HRA Account Reimbursement Policy Amendment: This is still being worked on.

Slatington, PA Sesquicentennial: The question was asked as to who would be the official town representative(s). It was decided rather than an official individual that whoever goes will be the official delegation. It was reported that Lorraine Brown is interested.

Cemetery Lots: Sheldon moved to deed two graves in Section 19, Lot 28 to Tim Lemay. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye. Sheldon moved to deed four graves to Tom and Ken Doran in Section 11, Lot 117-118. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill and Grace Canfield, 15 Pine Street. Information collected makes it necessary to charge them for their water usage. Meter information indicates the water was used. Holzworth moved that an abatement not be granted. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.

Dennis and Hazel Hillier, 2 Cottage St. There is no information to indicate the balance due on this bill is not due. The water was used. Ward moved to hold the lien on the property until the balance associated with the lien is paid in full. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.

Policies/Ordinances:

Aggressive Panhandling ordinance. The Board agreed to take no action at this time.

Damage to Objects/Obstructions in Highway ROW. The Board agreed to take no action at this time.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE

Richards suggested since on July 1, the Town begins a solid waste hauling contract with a new company that a letter of appreciation be sent to Spaulding.

Holzworth said extensive work is being done at 12 Cedar Street. They want permission to have a trailer in their yard to live in while work is being done. The Durfee and the Board had no issue

with this, but Durfee suggested the household contact the Zoning Administrator to make sure it's okay.

Cole raised a question regarding activity at the playground after dark. Board agreed the gate should be locked at dark. Kerber suggested that a dusk to dawn closing time would make it easier for the Police Department to control issues at the Rec Fields. Durfee agreed to draft an ordinance for the Rec Fields that would include a dusk to dawn closing time.

Richards reminded everyone that the hydro study presentation is at the grade school.

REVIEW OF FINANCES

Expenditures/Revenue Reports: Durfee provided the Board with information on the various revenue and expenditures of various accounts.

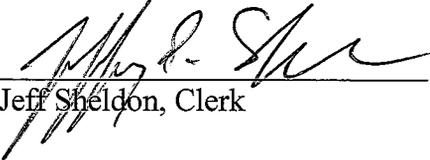
Checkbook Status: The checkbook balance is \$782,458.19.

Sign Warrant: Ward moved Payroll in the amount of \$26,215.58 and the General Fund for \$41,249.62 Second by Holsworth. All voted aye.

ADJOURN

Richards moved to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. Second by Sheldon. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma B. DeSpain, Recorder



Jeff Sheldon, Clerk