

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECTBOARD
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS--LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS
SELECTBOARD SESSION
June 9, 2014**

Members Present: Christopher Cole, Rod Holzworth, Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon, Dave Ward

Others Present: Glen Roberts, Mary McNeil, Jay Brown, Don Howard, Bud Panoushek, Ray Phillips, John Lulek, Greg Knapp, Sr., Claire Stanley, William Humphries, Judy Sheldon, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Recorder Wilma DeSpain

CALL TO ORDER

Christopher Cole, Chair 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

Add request for abatement at 2-4 Dutton Avenue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Richards moved to approve the minutes of April 21, 2014. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.
Richards moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2014. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.
Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of May 12, 2014. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.
Sheldon moved to approve the minutes of May 27, 2014. Second by Richards. All voted aye.
Durfee noted that the minutes for the June 2, 2014 public informational session were prepared by the Town Clerk and will be added to the board's minute book.

PUBLIC COMMENT

As a result of dog issues in the Park, questions were asked about the Park Ordinance and its content. Questions were also asked about the Dog Ordinance including leash length.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bud Panoushek (DPW) reported the hydrant flushing will begin at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow and run through Thursday.

Police Chief Bill Humphries reported there was a lot of activity for May as shown in his monthly report. He also discussed the department's need to replace at least one of the cruisers and the need to get the cruiser replacement plan back on schedule, especially since three of the four cruisers each have over 100,000 miles on them. He mentioned he is looking into the best deal for the department including whether that is new, used, and/or leased vehicles.

Town Manager Herb Durfee reported on the need for some more work to assess the amount of system "leakage" between the plant's outflow and the total flow measured by individual meters. He has yet to make contact with the Amish community regarding the "horse & buggy" signs. The Town has two new Summer Recreation Program workers. He reported on the list of delinquent tax payers. He discussed the significantly sized list of delinquent dog registrations and reminded the board that it's their responsibility to address the list by statute not the Town Clerk.

There was some discussion on how that might be approached, including sending a postcard reminder to known dog owners on the Clerk's latest list. Durfee stated he would at least carry out the postcard reminder. Durfee provided a copy of the amortization schedule for the River Street Pump Station loan via USDA-RD. He shared the official invitation from Slatington, PA for Fair Haven (their Sister City) folks to attend their 150th anniversary celebration from August 9-16. He reported there was a significant blockage in River Street Pump Station due to "flushable" wipes. He indicated that he'll be working with Pete Laramie to inform sewer users that wipes and other "non-dispersables" cannot be flushed into the sewer system. He reported the new solid waste hauler is working with Bob Spaulding in the interest of a smooth transition beginning July 1. Lastly, Durfee briefly discussed the Park problems raised earlier in the meeting suggesting that, since that ordinance is up for amendment, it would be a good time to discuss those issues, besides the Recreation Fields suggested addition to the Park Ordinance as is proposed.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2014-15 Town Budget Discussion. The statutory process for getting a budget approved is to repeat the same procedure until it passes. In the interim of a voter approved budget, Durfee explained, beginning July 1, the Town will operate under "austerity" due to not having a voter approved budget. He explained in detail the internal financial control procedure he'll be using in combination with the Selectboard's bi-weekly warrant process that be used until a budget is approved. Durfee also explained the tax billing process that would occur if a budget could be approved by mid-July versus after mid-July. During discussion, some members of the public indicated that people are just not coming out to vote and other persons stated they believed the Board is not hearing the Town's people. After considerable discussion, the selectboard agreed to try and have a vote no later than mid-July with the hope of being able to have a regular tax billing process thereafter. To that end, and in order to meet statutory deadlines for noticing a Special Town Meeting, the Board scheduled an emergency meeting the following evening [Tuesday, June 10] and a special meeting the following night [Wednesday, June 11] both to start at 7:00 p.m. with the purpose to prepare a budget for voter approval in mid-July. The Board noted that during the special meeting on Wednesday they could work on the draft fiscal year 2014-15 water/sewer budget.

Park & Recreation Fields Ordinance Amendment. Durfee provided a general synopsis of the Park Ordinance amendments to include consideration for the Recreation Fields, including a "dusk to dawn" closing of the fields. It was the consensus of the Board to schedule a public hearing on the proposed amendments for a future regular meeting.

Water Tank Cleaning/Inspection. Durfee reported on the bid process for the cleaning and inspection of the water tanks and water intake. There were four qualified proposals. Technical proposals first were reviewed and ranked by Greg Marcy, Bud Panoushek, and Herb Durfee. Rankings, in order highest to lowest, were as follows: M&K, CorrTech, Underwater Solutions, and Liquid Engineering. Once ranked, the cost proposals were opened. Durfee summarized the cost proposals: M&K (\$6,850 max w/<3" sediment), CorrTech (\$13,723 max for tank cleaning only and w/<3" sediment), Underwater Solutions (\$8,885 max w/\$3,990/day for sediment >4"), and Liquid Engineering (\$6,765 minimum w/many other add-ons that likely would increase the price significantly). Richards moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with M&K Commercial Diving, LLC for the inspection and cleaning of the Town's two water tanks and raw water intake in an amount not to exceed \$6,850. Second by Sheldon. All voted aye.

Trustee of Public Funds. Due to the mandatory resignation of Charlotte Capron due to her

moving out of town, Sheldon moved to appoint Kandi Ramey as a Trustee of Public Funds until the March 2015 Town Meeting. Second by Ward. All voted aye.

CAMA Lister Cost Tables Services Agreement. At Durfee's recommendation, Sheldon moved to authorize Cole to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. Ward seconded the motion. Holzworth suggested an internal "audit" be conducted to ensure the license agreement is being met. Durfee agreed to speak with the Lister's Office.

OLD BUSINESS

HRA Account Reimbursement Policy. The policy as recommend for amendment, including reducing the account threshold reimbursement amount from \$10,000 to \$5,000, was approved on motion by Richards, seconded by Sheldon. All voted aye.

Cemetery/Burial Fees: Based on previous Board discussion, Ward moved to re-set the cemetery and burial fees according to the spreadsheet prepared by the Town Manager. Seconded by Holzworth. It was noted that the fees would be as follows: burial fees (\$575 during regular office hours; \$625 non-regular hours and on Sat/Sun), cremations (\$250 during regular office hours; \$300 non-regular hours and on Sat/Sun), burial/cremations children less than the age of 6 (no charge), burials/cremations children aged 6 through 17 (50% respective fee), burials/cremations for veterans with certifying documentation (50% respective fee), cornerstones (set of 4, flat fee of \$130), and grave purchase (\$400 = 1 casket/vault or 2 urns). The motion carried unanimously.

ROUNDTABLE

Richards asked when the street sweeping will begin.
Ward inquired about some fixing of streets needing work.

REVIEW OF FINANCE REPORTS

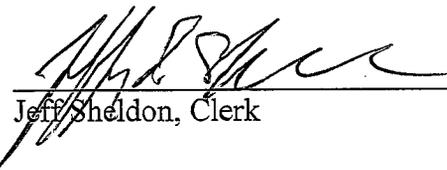
Checkbook status: The checkbook balance is \$270,027.46.

Sign Warrant: Sheldon made a motion to pay the Warrants as follows: General Fund--\$117,451.19; Payroll--\$28,253.41. Second by Ward. All voted aye.

ADJOURN

Holzworth moved to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Second by Richards. The meeting adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Wilma B. DeSpain, Recorder



Jeff Sheldon, Clerk