

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS--CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS
SELECT BOARD SESSION
JUNE 30, 2014**

Members Present: Christopher Cole, Rod Holzworth, Bob Richards, Dave Ward
Others Present: John Lulek, Don Howard, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Recorder Wilma DeSpain

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Chris Cole called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Also, on motion by Ward, seconded by Richards, Holzworth was appointed Acting Clerk in Sheldon's absence. All voted aye.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Holzworth asked to have the Open Meeting Law versus Town web site issue added to the agenda. Cole asked that the status of Union contract negotiations be added as an Executive Session item. Both were added on motion by Holzworth. Seconded by Richards. All voted aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ward moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2014 emergency meeting. Seconded by Richards. All voted aye.

Ward moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2014 special meeting. Seconded by Richards. All voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lulek indicated that the Park fountain needs cleaning and he suggested that it be posted unfit for human consumption. He said he recently saw children playing in the fountain.

NEW BUSINESS

Set Property Tax Rate for FY 2014-15. After considerable discussion, in the event the budget passes on July 15, Richards moved, subject to budget approval on July 15, that the FY 2014-15 tax rates be set as follows:

HOMESTEAD (w/July 15 Budget Approval)

• Town Tax Rate	\$0.8647
• Local Tax Rate	\$0.0047
• Homestead Tax Rate	<u>\$1.1603</u>
Total Homestead Tax Rate	\$2.0297

NON-RESIDENTIAL (w/July 15 Budget Approval)

• Town Tax Rate	\$0.8647
• Local Tax Rate	\$0.0047
• Non-Residential Tax Rate	<u>\$1.2948</u>
Total Non-Residential Tax Rate	\$2.1642

The motion was seconded by Holzworth. All voted aye.

Durfee reported if the budget is not approved on July 15, the Town would continue to operate under "austerity." He indicated the Town would first use the money in the Emergency Reserve account to pay bills. Thereafter, the Town would have to rely on short-term borrowing. He noted that statutorily the Town can borrow up to 90% of the current year's tax liability, if need be. After additional discussion of clarification, Holzworth moved, in the event that the budget does not pass on July 15, that the FY 2014-15 tax rates be set as follows and be subject to revision and re-billing once a budget is approved:

HOMESTEAD (under "austerity")

• Town Tax Rate	\$0.7466
• Local Tax Rate	\$0.0040
• Homestead Tax Rate	<u>\$1.1603</u>
Total Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.9109

NON-RESIDENTIAL (under "austerity")

• Town Tax Rate	\$0.7466
• Local Tax Rate	\$0.0040
• Non-Residential Tax Rate	<u>\$1.2948</u>
Total Non-Residential Tax Rate	\$2.0454

The motion was seconded by Ward. All voted aye.

Durfee state, as applicable, the tax rate information will be posted appropriately.

FINANCE REPORTS

Durfee provided financial reports for Board Member review. The board generally asked questions to clarify the reports before them, since it was year-end. It was agreed that the board was presented for approval the year-end payroll, some year-end bills, and some FY 2014-15 bills.

SIGN WARRANTS

Holzworth moved to pay the warrant as follows: Payroll--\$19,915.28; FY 2013-14 General Fund--\$63,748.77; and, FY 2014-15 General Fund \$19,803.09. Second by Ward. All voted aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Holzworth moved to go into Executive Session with the Town Manager at 8:50 p.m. to discuss Union contract negotiations. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

Motion by Holzworth, second by Ward, to come out of Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. All voted aye. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Holzworth moved to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Second by Ward. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma DeSpain, Recorder



Rod Holzworth, II, Acting Clerk