

Fair Haven Select Board, December 14, 2010

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

**DECEMBER 14, 2010**

**Members Present:** Ron Adams, Ray Bunker, Julie Ellis, Jeff <sup>Sheldon</sup> Stanley, Claire Stanley

**Others Present:** Rod Holzworth, Bob Spaulding, Patrick Frazier, Bonnie Rosati, Debi Bailey, Larry Hughes, Lucia Suarez, Matt Albertazzi, Neil Robinson, Shaun Tomasi, Bret Patterson, John Lulek, Jane Ellis, Richard Frazier, Ken Jones, Fred Capron, Ray Phillips, Town Manager Serena Williams, Police Chief Bill Humphries. *Karen Close*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Ron Adams called the December 14, 2010 meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

Ray Bunker made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2010 meeting of the Select Board, second by Claire Stanley. A need for correction was noted in the final paragraph of the minutes. The motion to adjourn was made by Claire Stanley. It should be corrected to say the motion was seconded by Julie Ellis. As corrected, the minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote. Julie Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2010 meeting of the Select Board, second by Jeff Sheldon. The minutes were approved with a 5-0 vote.

*Correction: Town Clerk agreed to 1.9% salary increase;  
agreed to new Health insurance package.  
further discussion requested by Town Treasurer*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Bid Proposals: Waste Hauling--3 year contract;** Bids were received from Spaulding and Casella Waste Management. The total bid for all services from Spaulding was \$131,410.75; from Casella the bid was \$133,296.84. Julie Ellis made a motion to accept the bid from Spaulding Enterprises in the amount of \$131,410.75, second by Jeff Sheldon. Following discussion, the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**Metal and Tire bid:** The only one received was from Robert Spaulding. Julie Ellis made a motion to accept the Robert Spaulding bid as presented and read, second by Claire Stanley. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**APPOINTMENTS WITH INDIVIDUALS**

Neil **Robinson** asked to present information and comments to be included in the minutes; also to have related responses and comments from others included. (Note: The meeting is recorded in its entirety and the tape is available for listening and/or having a copy made) His concern related to the process and the outcome in the selection of the Search Committee. He believes the people who come to "meeting after meeting" should have been chosen and he asked if there was any rationale to the selection process. The Chair advised this was the same process as had been used in the past. Robinson voiced strong opposition to, as he said, "90% of those chosen for the Selection Committee have not attended meetings." (One out of the 10 members has attended meetings.)

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A lengthy related discussion followed with Board members and townspeople participating. Board members spoke of their understanding and indicated there was an attempt to select people who might have a new look at things. Robinson said he had no problem with the *people* chosen for the committee; his problem was with the process. There was discussion regarding what directions the Chair had given to the Board members, other than each was to find two people willing to serve. It was pointed out the committee was not hiring anyone; they were only to "weed out" all but what they believe to be the five best candidates for the position of town manager. The committee will contact references and background checks. Robinson admitted he was "resentful" that he was not chosen for the committee. One of the topics for discussion was whether or not there had been a directive to not select anyone who attended Board meetings. The Chair would admit only to emphasizing the Committee should have "new faces." The plan is to have one or two of the Committee members participate in the interview process with the Select Board. The need to make use of Vermont League of Cities and Towns in the whole process was noted.

**Ray Phillips** came before the Board to discuss the Park Ordinance, specifically Section 3, paragraph 110. It could mean persons could not stand on the grass or sit on a park bench. Part of the problem is the draft of the ordinance was signed, not the corrected version. After much discussion, including comments by the police chief, who emphasized the need to have the ordinance to protect the park, the ordinance will go into effect January 1, 2011. After that date, the ordinance can be revised for clarification. Claire Stanley agreed to initiate the desired change at the January meeting.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

**Debbie Bailey** expressed concern about the plowing of the parking area on the south end of the park, since cars are always parked there. The need for some kind of a plan (and posting of it) seemed evident. The Town Manager will speak with the Public Works Supervisor.

**Karen Close** reported the "No Parking" sign at one of the crosswalks (the sidewalk end) is missing or has never been put up. The Town Manager will check on it.

**Bonnie Rosati** mentioned the problem for the "park and ride" people if there are parking restrictions to accommodate effective snow plowing.

**John Lulek** noted the good job of plowing the town employees had done recently. He also asked about the Christmas decorations downtown (or lack of).

**Shaun Tomasi** asked about the Town Report, getting ready for it and the need for it to be a readable and understandable report. The Chair suggested two (or three) of the town auditors meet with the Town Manager and the Interim Town Manager to begin work on the report.

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS, COMMITTEES

**Fire Department Chief Dave Ward** said they have been working on hydrants to get ready for plowing, etc. Regarding the new truck, the cab is ready to be put together. Everything seems to be on schedule.

**Public Works:** Town Manager reported the West Street project is complete, all connections have been made. The contractor will come back in the spring to do any necessary touch-up work.

Not

Crosswalk sign

Karen Close asked if state is still studying crosswalk

Bonnie Rosati

??

ARSU end

**NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

**Search Committee/organizing/applications:** As Clerk of the Select Board, Claire Stanley will meet with the Search Committee and open the first meeting. A motion to this affect was made by Jeff Sheldon, with second by Julie Ellis. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote. Members of the Search Committee are asking if they can begin reviewing applicant information before the scheduled date, January 10. Julie Ellis moved to allow the Search Committee to examine applications before January 10, first scheduled meeting of the Committee, Second by Ray Bunker. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**Health Insurance-Union:** Jeff Sheldon made a motion to table the discussion on the health insurance/Union after executive session, second by Claire Stanley. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**Donna Woodbury** says she ruined a tire on one of the streets in town when she ran over glass pieces submitted for verification. She is asking for compensation. Ray Bunker made a motion to deny her claim, second by Julie Ellis. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**Beaver Wood Energy:** The Chair reported the Federal government will possibly extend the *grant* deadline to allow Beaver Wood Energy additional time.

(The Chair declared a break at 8:50 p.m. When they return they will go into Executive Session. Board returned to regular session at 9:00 p.m.)

**Executive Session/Union contract and Personnel contracts;** Claire Stanley made a motion to go into Executive Session with the Town Manager to discuss the Union Contract and personnel matters, at 9 p.m. At 10:10 p.m., Julie Ellis made a motion to return to regular session, second by Jeff Sheldon. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote. Jeff Sheldon made a motion to accept all tentative agreements with the Union Contract, second by Julie Ellis. There will be a formal signing at the next regular meeting. New health insurance will become effective January 1, 2011. Select Stanley complimented Selects Ellis and Sheldon on the work they did working out the details of the Union contract in an amicable manner. Claire Stanley made a motion to accept the health insurance (HRA) in the package agreed upon by the Union) for January 1, 2011-June 30, 2011, second by Julie Ellis. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Julie Ellis made a motion to accept the agreement with Chief Humphries relative to new health insurance, a 1.9% salary increase and a two-year extension on his contract, second by Claire Stanley. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Julie Ellis made a motion authorizing the Town Manager to work with Jack Eaton on his health insurance and raises, second by Claire Stanley. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Budgets:** According to Fire Chief Dave Ward, there is a 2% reduction in the Fire Department budget. This is due to both runs and manpower being down.

The Town Manager said there is a .023% increase in the budget over last year, this amounts to \$44,381.

**REVIEW OF FINANCE REPORTS**

Finance reports were given to the Board for their review.

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**REPORTS OF BOARDS**

Town Manager Serena Williams reported that even though the work on West Street is finished, there can't be a final closing until all of the money is spent. This is going to be done by taking the water line under the road to the entrance of This-a-Way, That-a-Way and capping it in anticipation of residents eventually wanting to be on the town's water system. The town Christmas party will be Saturday night, at the American Legion, from 6 to 9 p.m.

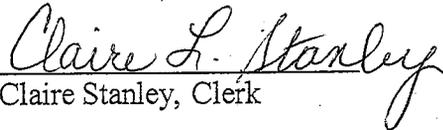
**SIGNING OF THE WARRANT**

Claire Stanley made a motion to pay the warrant as follows: General Fund--\$128,280.38; Payroll--\$27,158.81, second by Julie Ellis. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Julie Ellis made a motion to adjourn at 10:50 p.m., second by Jeff Sheldon. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wilma B. DeSpain

  
Claire Stanley, Clerk