

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

**SPECIAL SELECTBOARD SESSION
JANUARY 22, 2015**

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

Others Present: Police Chief William Humphries, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Office Assistant Bev Fedolfi

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Durfee asked to have the February 16, 2015 be moved to February 17, 2015 due to President's Day and the December 1, 2014 draft minutes were now available if the Board would like to act on those. Sheldon made a **motion** to add the two items as presented to the agenda. Motion **seconded** by Bob Richards. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 March Town Meeting Warning. Durfee presented the Warning for the March 3, 2015 Town Meeting. The Warning contains 22 articles. Articles 1-2 are standard articles (accept reports and positions to be elected). Articles 3-13 are for petitions received including requests for the Library and the Rescue Squad. Articles 14-20 are those specific articles dealing with allocations on the fund balances to the General Fund and Highway Fund as recommended by the Board. Article 21 is the FYE 2016 budget, and Article 22 is standard.

Rod Holzworth requested the wording be changed on Article 13 to coincide with wording on all others: From "*Shall the Town of Fair Haven vote...*" to "*Shall the voters of Fair Haven...*" No other changes. Ward **moved** to approve the Warning, as amended. **Seconded** by Richards. **Motion carried 5-0-0.** [The Board signed the Warning as revised.]

December 1, 2014 Minutes. Sheldon **moved** to approve the 12/01/2014 minutes as presented. **Seconded** by Richards. **Motion carried 5-0-0.** Durfee apologized for the lateness of the minutes stating the Board was aware of the reasons. Fedolfi is helping by typing these minutes and the minutes from 11/24/2014.

Moving February 16 Meeting. Durfee requested that the February 16th meeting be moved to February 17th due to the President's Day holiday. Board members by consensus agreed to the change with the usual 7:00 p.m. starting time. Durfee added that staff from KAS will be present at this meeting to solicit public input on the Mechanic St. Pedestrian/Bicycle project and to present the Adams Street Bridge Study and its alternatives. Invitations will go out to residents along Mechanic St. notifying them of that project.

Cole requested clarification of the estimated Town tax rate increase based on the latest revenue and expenditure budget for FYE 2016. Per Durfee, the estimated increase including Appropriations is 2.7% which is attributable to a reduction in offsetting, non-tax based revenue along with the Board's proposed increase in expenditures, which is only 1.40%. Durfee noted on the latest budget worksheet that the Town Report won't have the Appropriation line items with "\$-0-" amounts due to there no longer appearing in the budget. Information was combined into one area to make viewing and understanding of the information easier. A fund balance chart was included at the end of the budget report to help during Town Meeting discussions.

Richards questioned how delinquent taxes are differentiated in the General Fund. Durfee stated that in the budget they are not differentiated as Highway or General Fund. He said the auditor would look at what proportion was attributable annually to each fund. When a payment is made, it's not designated to a specific fund, meaning everything goes into the General Fund. The current fund balance came mainly from delinquent taxes paid. Richards asked for further explanation so that he would feel confident explaining this to taxpayers. Durfee agreed to check with the auditor to see how this is credited and to which fund.

Humphries updated the Board on vehicle purchases. The car available through Killington has been finalized and was included in the Warrant on Monday, January 19th. The car that was available in New Jersey fell through. There are two 2009 cars available in Chicago from a 5-year government fleet turnover. Both vehicles are in good working condition. One has 40,000 miles and the other 20,000 miles. The price for the vehicle with 20,000 miles is \$9,800 plus the dealer offered \$4,500 as a trade-in value of our current vehicle. Humphries would prefer to sell our vehicle privately to, hopefully, get a better price. Holzworth suggested driving vehicle out for trade and be firm with agreed upon value of trade. Humphries requested permission of the Board before moving forward on either car. The consensus of the Board was to move forward with the vehicle with 20,000 miles.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 p.m., Sheldon **moved** to adjourn. **Seconded** by Holzworth. The **motion carried** unanimously. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Fedolfi, Substitute Recorder



Jeff Sheldon, Clerk

Rod Holzworth II, Acting Clerk