

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

**PARTIAL RE-ORGANIZATION &
SPECIAL SELECT BOARD SESSION
MARCH 10, 2015**

Members Present: Bob Richards, Dick Frazier, Rod Holzworth, Sean Galvin, ^{JAS}JEFF SHELDON

Others Present: John Lulek, DPW Superintendent Bud Panoushek, Glen Roberts, Water Operator Greg Marcy, Traci Mattison, Zeke Zidovsky, Ray Phillips, Town Manager Herb Durfee

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Durfee called the meeting to order and asked members to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PARTIAL RE-ORGANIZATION – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Durfee asked for nominations for Chair. Sheldon **nominated** Richards, **seconded** by Frazier. There were no other nominations for Chair. Frazier **moved** to close nominations. **Seconded** by Holzworth. **Motion passed 5-0-0. Members then elected Richards 5-0-0.** Durfee passed the gavel to Richards.

Richards asked for nominations for Clerk. Holzworth **nominated** Frazier, **seconded** by Sheldon. There were no other nominations for Clerk. Holzworth **moved** to close nominations. **Seconded** by Sheldon. **Motion passed 5-0-0. Members then elected Frazier 5-0-0.**

Richards noted that the balance of re-organizational items will be taken care of at the board's March 16 meeting.

STATUS OF WINTER WATER DEPARTMENT ISSUES

At the board's request, Durfee and staff summarized issues related to this winter's freezing water line issues. The summary included discussion of the Town's Water Ordinance, extent of this winter's ground frost, the number of households reporting freezing water lines/meters, whether water should be run, and the cost related to running water and its impact on account users' service lines along with protection of the Town's water mains. There was general consensus that having some residents located at the end of dead end water mains running a "trickle" of water would be the best solution to prevent against water main freeze-ups. During general discussion, Zidovsky asked that there should be some consideration for the resident service line/meter freeze-ups besides concern for the water mains. The board tended to agree.

From the discussion, related specifically to water mains and especially for dead end mains, Holzworth **moved** to authorize the Town Manager and staff to establish a plan, and to implement it as soon as the plan is established, to protect the Town's water mains by virtue of asking individual user accounts to trickle water until further notice, and for individuals offered by staff

to help the Town, their account will be abated equal to their last same quarter's bill one year ago, and they will be abated for the sewer portion of said usage amount. Sheldon **seconded** the motion. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The board next discussed the 18 incidents of user accounts that had service line/meter freeze ups, to date. Due to the complexity and individual issues (i.e., lack of consistency) related to each of the incidents, it was agreed that staff needs to provide updated info for the board's consideration at its March 16 meeting. Generally, it was agreed that the Water Ordinance needs to be adhered to. However, for any of the 18 incidents where staff recommended that the resident run a trickle of water and the resident complied/is complying, those residents should be abated some portion of their water bill.

Based on the discussion, the board agreed that user accounts who ran their water based on staff's specific recommendation should be abated, on a one-time basis, up to but not exceeding \$2.04/day (as calculated by the USABlueBook methodology described by Durfee). The board also agreed that any applicable sewer portion should be abated. No action was taken by the board since they required more information by staff and agreed to take up the issue at their March 16 meeting.

Zidovsky complimented staff for the timely effort they put in during the incident of his frozen water line.

ADJOURNMENT

Frazier **moved** to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. **Seconded** by Holzworth. **Motion carried 5-0-0.**

Respectively submitted,
Herbert Durfee, III, Town Manager



Dick Frazier, Clerk