

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECTBOARD, WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS, CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS
Regular Select Board Meeting
May 26, 2015**

Members Present: Robert Richards, Sean Galvin, Dick Frazier, Rod Holzworth, II.

Members Absent: Jeff Sheldon.

Others Present: Town Manager, Herb Durfee; Minute Taker, Claire Stanley; Superintendent of Public Works, Bud Panoushek; John Lulek; Bonnie Rosati; Phil Stannard, Jr.; Mike Mullin, Pike Industries; Mark Goodrich; Tammy & Steve Howard; Emily Cutts, Rutland Herald; Richard & Shirley Lamb.

Call to Order: Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Holzworth to approve the minutes of the 4/28/2015 meeting. **Second** by Galvin. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Motion by Holzworth to approve the minutes of the 5/12/2015 meeting. **Second** by Frazier. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Five Minutes for Public Comment: **Motion** by Galvin made to grant an extension for paying the water bill until June 4, 2015 as requested by Mark Goodrich. **Second** by Frazier. If payment is not received, the water shall be shut off on that date. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Department Head & Committee Reports:

Town Manager Durfee:

- Reported receiving from Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) the Blue Cross Blue Shield proposal requesting an increase of 8.4% taking effect mid-August.
- The 90 day eviction notices have been served for 5 & 7 Union Street.
- For the 4th year, the Class 2 road grant was not received. This impacts Bolger Road work.
- The reply from Green Mountain Power (GMP) re: concerns about maintenance of the Electric Car Charging Station were included in members' box.
- Report was received and in members' box re: the mercury spill at waste water station; that case is closed.
- Peter Laramie checked with engineers re: the two electric lines laying on the ground. To get to code, it is recommended the lines be buried. It is hoped to cover the cost in this year's budget.
- \$2,658.28 was received from PACIF, Town insurance Co. for Municipal Building electrical upgrade. This amount will fund half the work.

- NextSun has received Act 250 land use permit to install solar panels on Prospect Street property.

Water Bill Amount Protest – Steven & Tammy Howard: Mr. Howard reported receiving notice by phone that 82,000 gallons of water were used between meter readings. Upon checking the rental property, no leaks were found. There was lengthy discussion re: how to proceed including was / is the meter defective. The Board consensus is to postpone a decision pending further research.

Water / Sewer Abatement Request – Barbara LaBounty: Meter reading shows water usage after May 1st when property was vacated; the Town was not notified to shut off supply; the house burned in July; water was running when the property was checked after complaint. Discussion was re: what was leaking (sink, toilet, etc.); insurance responsibility; billing includes interest and late charges. **Motion** by Galvin to deny Barbara Labounty's request for abatement of water/sewer charges. **Second** by Frazier. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Forest Management/Timber Sale RFP for Airport Cell – Phil Stannard, Jr.: Mr. Stannard presented a history of Forest Management and past timber sales for the Airport, Sheldon Pond and Inman Pond areas. He has completed marking to remove "junk" trees to allow light and room for regeneration. He needs to complete plans for better access to the area(s) in question. Because of varied species/condition of trees, it's very difficult to determine accurate tally of value. Stannard suggested successful bidder would pay weekly, be supervised by himself. **Motion** by Frazier to proceed with the bid process recommended by Stannard including weekly payments to be monitored by Stannard. **Second** by Galvin. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Paving & Reclamation Bids for River Street – Bud Panoushek: Paving and reclamation bids were received for options of 2" base w/1" wear coarse and 3" base; 1" wear coarse. The board agreed that a 3" base with 1" wear coarse was best. Bids for that choice included: Whitcomb: \$192,211; Pike: \$166,658; Peckham: \$228,900; Wilk: \$162,219. The River Street project is 5,260' of which 650' are done including the slip ramp to Howard's Garage. **Motion** by Galvin made to award the River Street paving and reclamation contract to Wilk Paving not to exceed \$162,219. **Second** by Holzworth. No start schedule has been determined but the board emphasized the need to get the project significantly started before June 30. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Cemetery Deeds: **Motion** by Frazier to approve Cedar Grove Cemetery Deed for Lot 160N, Section 11, 1 grave for Robert & Melissa Murphy. **Second** by Holzworth. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Motion by Frazier to approve Cedar Grove Cemetery Deed for Lots 77 & 78, Section 11, 4 graves for William & Debra Carswell. **Second** by Holzworth. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Approve Annual Contract – Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) with MicroSolve: **Motion** by Frazier to authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign the MicroSolve contract not to exceed \$238.81. **Second** by Galvin. This service converts the Listers' records to map form. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Approve H2O Valve & Actuator 8" from H2O Capital Projects Reserve Fund: The water valve and actuator at the airport are being manually operated in the event of fire or other need. **Motion** by Frazier to move \$4,610.00 from the Water Sinking Reserve Fund to purchase the 8" H2O Valve and Actuator from Lilly Instruments as recommended by Greg Marcy. **Second** by Galvin. Discussion was where best to take funds for purchase. Holzworth believed the valve/actuator could be funded out of the current operating budget. **Motion carries 3-1-0 with Holzworth dissenting.**

Social Service Agency Appropriation Policy Technical Amendment: Durfee explained the up-dates to the document -- that any requests for Social Service whether for same or different (more/less) amount must be petitioned annually. Durfee also acknowledged the letter received by the Castleton Community Seniors requesting that petitions not have to be submitted annually. **Motion** by Frazier to approve the amended policy document as presented. **Second** by Galvin. **Motion carries 4-0-0.** Members signed the document.

FYE 2016 Water & Sewer Budget: Members received copies of the proposed 2016 water/ sewer budget for review and study. Tentative meeting dates for budget work sessions are June 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2015.

Peddler/Itinerant Vendor Ordinance: Durfee and Rosati need to schedule time to review.

Recreation in Fair Haven – Sign Letter to Recreation Committee: Members signed the letter.

Board Roundtable Discussion: Holzworth inquired re: Code Red. Two people are needed with capability to log in. This will be Durfee and Fedolfi. Chris Cole is helping set up the web page and other communication forms to alert people to sign on.

Galvin reported a chance meeting with Representative Canfield where they discussed making change at the State level to allow folks to make improvements to property without incurring tax increase due to Act 60.

Frazier inquired re: progress on Town Plan. The Planning Commission has not yet held its statutorily required public hearing and continues working meetings.

Richards expressed continued concern re: junk cars at the corner of Main and River Streets. He reported that some cars are leaking liquids. There is on-going dialogue between the Manager's office, Police Chief, and the property owner.

Manager Durfee reported he is feeling better; gaining strength with physical therapy; MRI on Friday; has filed for temporary disability; is working 20 hrs/wk.

The vacant police officer position has not been hired after Jay Reihl left to work in Middlebury. Richards questioned if the vacant full-time position should be filled.

Checkbook Status: The checkbook balance is \$548,722.54

Sign Warrants: **Motion** by Holzworth to approve the payroll warrant for \$30,020.98. **Second** by Frazier. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Motion by Holzworth to approve the general fund warrant for \$497,069.82. **Second** by Frazier. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

Executive Session: **Motion** by Frazier that the Board and Town Manager go into Executive Session at 9:16 p.m. to discuss the Vermont Structural Slate matter. **Second** by Holzworth. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

At this time, the recording secretary was excused.

At 9:32 p.m., **motion** by Frazier to exit Executive Session and directed the Town Manager to collaborate with the Town Attorney on drafting a letter to Vermont Structural Slate. **Second** by Holzworth. **Motion carries 4-0-0.**

At 9:32 p.m., **motion** by Frazier to adjourn. **Second** by Holzworth. **Motion carries 4-0-0.** Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Stanley


Richard Frazier, Board Clerk