

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS--LIQUOR COMMISSIONERS
SELECT BOARD SESSION
July 21, 2014**

Members Present: Rod Holzworth, Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon, Dave Ward. Absent: Christopher Cole

Others Present: Erik Sandblom (Engineer with KAS, Inc), David Camara, Jr., Michelle Murray, Ann Frankiewicz, Roy L. Eckler, John Lulek, Betty Barnouw, Judy Sheldon, Claire Stanley, Jack Perry, Town Manager Herb Durfee, Recorder Wilma DeSpain

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chair Cole, Board Clerk Sheldon presided over the meeting, calling it to order at 7 p.m. and asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Holzworth moved to approve the Board minutes of July 7, 2014 as presented. Second by Ward. All voted aye.

On motion by Holzworth, seconded by Richards, with all voting aye, Ward was appointed Acting Clerk for the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Betty Barnouw, on behalf of the Historical Society, invited the Board members to a luncheon August 2, at noon, honoring the descendents of Matthew Lyons, one of Fair Haven's founders. As many as 20 family members are expected to visit and be led on a tour by the Historical Society to witness places where he was involved in one way or another.
- Claire Stanley expressed appreciation for the Selectboard and thanked them for the hours and effort they spent during the budget approval process.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Town Manager Durfee reported the water tank cleaning is done. Overall there was a good report. The raw water intake screen support may need some work. Phase 1 analysis of the wastewater treatment plant is underway. Preliminarily, the engineer's site visit indicated that the plant is in good shape despite its age, though more analysis will be completed. Bonnie Rosati has resigned after serving 12 years on the Planning Commission. He said notices for filling her vacancy will soon be posted. He received recycling information on Act 148 that includes deadlines for legislative adherence. He'll be working with the DPW Superintendent and the Transfer Station attendants to make sure of the Town's compliance. Lastly, Durfee noted he is working with Jim Heller, Emergency Management Coordinator to update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Fire Chief Ward reported there was a fire of suspicious origin on Park Avenue over the weekend. A vacant house was completely destroyed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing – Park Ordinance Amendments to Include the Recreation Fields.

Having declared this to be a Public Hearing on the Park Ordinance, it was stated the ordinance is being amended to include consideration for the Recreation Field to address facility damage and other issues happening there. Durfee read through the list of amendments being offered for public comment. Board members had no questions. Sheldon opened the public hearing for comments. John Lulek suggested that dogs be on a leash of no more than six feet in length and he also spoke of dog waste not being cleaned up by owners. Other members of the public generally agreed that dog issues can be a problem in the Park. Durfee said that most of those issues probably are addressed through the Dog Ordinance but he would check for the board. He clarified that pet waste and pet leashing were the issues to continue working on. Based on the discussion, Holzworth moved to recess the public hearing until August 4 so additional information can be researched and additional text can be drafted as necessary. Seconded by Richards. All voted aye.

B. Issue Identification Meeting – Mechanic Street Sidewalk/Path Scoping Project. Erik Sandblom of KAS Engineering provided a presentation on the Mechanic Street area from 2nd Street to the High School, including existing land use and municipal facilities. He shared his preliminary findings and questions with the Board, noting that a set of alternatives will be generated for the Town's consideration. He described the project scope and timeline along with the intended use of the scoping report to apply for construction grant funding in the future. The basic idea is to provide an additional, safe path for school children and other residents of the neighborhood. Sandblom said the final report will be completed by the end of December. Members of the public in attendance generally voiced their support of the project and asked to continue to be included in the process as applicable.

C. Recreation Committee. Dave Camara and Michelle Murray, former members of the Recreation Committee were present to continue joint discussion with the board and to indicate the preference to be re-appointed to the committee. The Town Manager will re-advertise for more members. Up to five additional members are needed to adequately re-form the committee. There was discussion about the need to replace the building that was destroyed due to arson. The estimate to replace what was lost is \$150,000. That would be the building not inclusive of the lost contents. Contents were not covered by insurance. A number of options were discussed including portable facilities. It was agreed that more information is needed besides the need for more members. Camara and Murray agreed to come back in two weeks for additional discussion.

D. Sewer Abatement Request. A sewer abatement was requested for 153 North Main due to a high utility bill resulting from a frozen pipe that burst. The sewage did enter the sewer system. Richards moved to authorize a one-time abatement of the sewer portion of the bill, in the amount of \$145.12. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye.

E Cemetery Lot Purchase: Holzworth made a motion to sell Lot 50S, Section 11, in Cedar Grove Cemetery to Rosemary McManus. Second by Richards. All voted aye.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE

- Holzworth discussed a culvert on River Street needing to be marked somehow to warn drivers. Durfee said he would ask the DPW Superintendent if anything can be done.
- Ward asked when the port-o-lets would be removed at the recreation field. Durfee said not until at least after the Summer Recreation Program and possibly later if there is Fall Soccer.
- Richards asked about the catch basin being rebuilt on the corner of Allen Road and Canaervan

St. He also asked for an update on warning signs to protect the Amish carriages. Durfee said he would speak with the DPW Superintendent but he suspected it was a matter of priority since other catch basins were being worked on simultaneously. He also said he needs to re-attempt contact with the Amish community for the signs.

- Sheldon had a question about a letter on the recreation program. Since he didn't have it with him, Durfee said he would make copies for the board after the meeting.

REVIEW OF FINANCE REPORTS

The Manager gave the Board expenditure and revenue reports for study. The checkbook balance is \$239,503.34.

Sign Warrants: Holzworth moved to pay the Warrants as follows: Payroll: \$57.72 and \$32,247.32; General Fund: \$284.93 and \$97,566.99 Second by Ward. All voted aye.

UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Durfee reported based on a "handshake" agreement, it is his understanding that the Union met and ratified the draft contract. Once he receives the Union's signatures he'll have the board act to approve and sign the contract.

ADJOURN

Richards moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Second by Holzworth. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma B. DeSpain, Recorder

David Ward, Acting Clerk