

**Approved Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2020 6pm**

Present: Beverly Jo Ash, Fred Cook (*via Zoom), Bruce Durkee, Delsie Hoyt, Steve Malinoski
Clerk: Nina Schwartz (*via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order by Delsie Hoyt at 6:00pm from the Town Office via Zoom video/teleconference. Hoyt noted that the meeting would be abbreviated by an emergency 7 pm teleconference for Orange County town officials called in the afternoon by State Officials concerning the recent, regional COVID outbreak. The agenda was prioritized accordingly.

Minutes of the November 2nd meeting were reviewed. Bev made motion to approve minutes as corrected, Steve seconded; unanimously approved.

Visitors/Hear and act on reports of Town Officer and Committees

- Conservation Commission: notification of VAST trail work in Brushwood Forest

Review Treasurer's Financial Statements/Journal Entries – emailed by Treasurer

- Hanover Dispatch rate increase: Delsie discovered notification of meetings to explain upcoming increase was originally communicated to Fire Department chiefs, who were supposed to pass information/meeting invite along to their respective town's selectboard. West Fairlee Fire Department failed to convey that information. Delsie has advised Hanover Dispatch that not all Fire Departments are managed directly by local towns and therefore separate notification should be provided to all entities affected. The lack of communication by the Fire Department to the Selectboard was also addressed.
- 2021 draft budget: was provided by Treasurer; initial review and discussion done to review any categories of specific concern
 - Payroll: consider increase in Lister's pay rate, from \$16/hr to \$17/hr. Unanimous support for this suggestion
 - Cyber security: Delsie obtaining quote
 - Public Safety: assessment of speed enforcement police patrols, public water supply in Community building

Roads/Land

- 2021 annual town highway aid: one-time increase received; being posted to 'projects' fund
- Logging done on Middlebrook Rd (Sanborn): landowner to be contacted about restoring ditch
- Better Roads grant: funding date uncertain, probably implement 2022
- Community building driveway/parking lot drainage: done

Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement

- Town Meeting 2021 planning/absentee voting:
 - SB under emergency order can make it completely absentee, with Zoom informational meeting to be held
 - Appropriations lump together (common practice) with Town Report providing itemization. Discussion followed, with majority support to do so.
 - State funding available-? TBD
 - Mass mailing, or on request?

- General discussion COVID-19 response:
 - unmet needs – none at present
 - Tuesday Grocery Group/Foodshelf: slight increase noted

Old Business

- Tri-Town Affordable Housing Task Force: recent meeting

New Business

- ECFiber Board: Steve Atwood & Alan Moats have accepted candidacies
- Excess Weight permits: none

Other Business/Agenda Items (to be acted on at next regular meeting)

- Review Creative Spirit lease renewal
- Lister requesting shelving in front of desk: action supported

Sign Orders

Bev made motion to sign orders, Bruce seconded the motion; unanimously approved.

Review Correspondence

Upcoming Events

Bev made motion to adjourn meeting, Bruce seconded; unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.