

**Approved Minutes  
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, November 20, 2023, 6pm**

**Present:** Beverly Jo Ash, Bree Carlson, Bruce Durkee, Delsie Hoyt, Steve Malinoski

**Visitors:** Rivendell School Board members - Sarah Molesworth, Cathy Hooke, and Rebecca Wurdak;  
Peggy Burden, Jenn Shatney

**Clerk:** Nina Schwartz

The regular selectboard meeting was called to order by Delsie Hoyt at 6pm from the Town Office following the 5pm Board of Abatement hearing.

Minutes of the November 6, 2023, regular select board meeting were reviewed. Bev motioned to approve the meeting minutes, as noted; Bruce seconded; and unanimously approved.

**Visitors/Hear and act on reports of Town Officers and Committees**

- Rivendell School Board Members: Q&A, re: budget and strategic planning.
  - Trying to open and improve communication within the school district
  - Discussion followed with what SB members have been hearing from residents that the School Board needs to know
  - Overall, the dialogue was very well received with everyone looking forward to this continuing and for the School Board to answer and address the many questions posed to them by residents

**Organizational**

- The Selectboard welcomes Bree to the board and looks forward to working together

**Review Treasurer's Financial Statements/Journal Entries** – emailed by Treasurer, circulated to SB members via email prior to the meeting

- FY2024 budget development:
  - Data provided by the Treasurer was shared during the meeting to review trends
  - Discussion had on scheduling a major amount of time at the December meetings to conduct a line-by-line review of the budget
- Capital Budget Planning: general, highway, and structuring flood expenses - ongoing

**Roads/Land**

- Clearlane road deicer:
  - proposal received, price increase of 50 cents per ton
  - Bruce made the motion to approve the bid, as noted. Steve seconded the motion; unanimously approved
- HSIP Grant (FY24): agreement pending, start delayed by Federal Highway Administration
- Signs: speed zones, unmaintained roads, street signs, removal of old/damaged: pending

**Public Safety/Ordinance Enforcement**

- Beanville Rd. flood repair (Cat C): repairs complete; guard rails slated for installation Spring 2024
- Status: FEMA Cat A Debris & Cat B Protective Measures: awaiting determination
- West Fairlee Road repair: paving to be done Spring 2024

## **Old Business**

- Reappraisal plan/status – PVR deadline mid-Dec:
  - Debra Kingsbury/Peggy Burden (Lister) have solicited proposals from appraising firms. Two of the firms are unable to provide systems that support our data.
  - NEMRC (vendor): in the process of providing a proposal
  - Delsie recommends the best practice of having VLCT attorneys review any proposal being considered
- Community Building/grounds:
  - Public Water Supply permit amendment: new source permit received with permitting for 55 persons. The wastewater permit now needs to be updated; being worked on by the contracted engineering firm the Town has been working with.
  - Re-keying park-side entrance door: waiting on replacement of defective part
  - Repositioning outdoor flood lights: Tilden to be contacted
  - ADA improvements: next steps in process with design/build contractor, Alger Brook (Sam Newman)
  - Carpentry/handyman services: (for small jobs and ongoing maintenance)
    - Prospective candidate to attend upcoming meeting
    - Initial list of projects/tasks being compiled to share and discuss
- MERP (energy) grant: Newsletter re: community resources - pending
- MTAP: discuss priorities re: capacity building, economic development, housing-? Discussion had a last meeting on ideas with the SB agreeing a better approach may be to ask what similar, outlying towns (like ours) have in mind
- Conservation Commission/Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC): awaiting updates on the commission's decision on application
- Tax sale: waiting on the town attorneys to provide the necessary documentation and advice on proceeding
- Recycling Center: first aid kit now available onsite
- 2023-2031 Town Plan and Resolution, now including energy planning compliance, previously omitted in error:
  - No further discussion was initiated on the subject
  - Bruce made the motion to accept and approve the resolution, Steve seconded; unanimously approved
  - Steve made the motion to sign said resolution, Bev seconded and unanimously approved

## **New Business**

- Interlocal Regional Energy Coordinator: proposal update. Information shared to SB members to contemplate joining/participating. To be considered.
- Excess Weight Permits: none

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

- Town Fire Warden (Will Ordway): invite to SB meeting to discuss ideas/opportunities, re: community education

## **Review correspondence**

## **Sign Orders**

Bev made a motion to sign orders, and Steve seconded the motion; unanimously approved.

## **Upcoming Events**

Bev made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Bruce seconded; unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.