

Minutes
West Fairlee Selectboard Meeting
Monday September 3, 2012

Present: Beverly Ash; Cory Austin; Fred Cook; Delsie Hoyt

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm

Minutes: Ash moved to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2012 regular meeting as presented; Cook seconded; and the motion passed unanimously.

Financials: The year-to-date financial statements were reviewed. It was noted that a Budget Committee should be assembled following delivery of the third quarter financials.

Roads:

Marsh Hill Bridge: The bid opening for the project is scheduled for Wednesday September 19th at 1 pm. Austin moved that a Special Selectboard meeting be called for the same day (following the bid opening and staff review of the bids for completeness by Engineer Mark Bannon) to deliberate on the bids and choose a contractor; Cook seconded; and the motion passed unanimously.

Vermont Local Roads technical assistance: Cook and Hoyt met with Dave Antone of VLC and toured the Town's paved roads. Antone has resources in the form of a paving specialist to assist in developing a long-term paving plan at no cost to the Town. West Fairlee expects to be eligible for a Class II Road Grant in 2013, and the Selectboard wants to assure that these funds are deployed in the most effective manner. Antone will also consult on a comprehensive highway capital projects strategy and budget. A site visit with the paving specialist is planned for mid-October.

Beanville Road: A failing culvert across Beanville Road between the Cushman and Southworth properties will be removed. Run-off will be directed along the northern highway right-of-way to the existing culvert replaced last fall. Hoyt will draft a culvert easement for the Southworth property retaining the rights of the Town to reinstall a culvert, if necessary, east of the home. The Blakes will also lower the shoulders along the road where needed.

Driveway culverts: Several Towns are revising their ordinances to install or replace existing culverts in the Town rights-of-way in locations where their absence or undersize are causing damage to the road bed or unsafe conditions. The driveway ordinance will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Other road issues: The Fire Department attempted to flush a plugged culvert at the Power's property on Middlebrook Road. Winter ice build-up here and at the Begnoche property present a safety hazard. Cook noted that logging was underway on Bear Notch Road; several improvements including culverts and waterbars have been installed by the logging company.

Old Business

Town Plan: The 2012-17 Town Plan passed 45 to 13. The Planning Commission will be contacted regarding their plan for its publication.

Untagged dogs: Most delinquent dogs have been registered since Ash contacted the Orange County Sheriff which visited owners. Judicial tickets will be issued to those who have not responded.

Ordinance re: illegal burning: Tabled

ICS402 Emergency Preparedness training: Hoyt enrolled in this web-based seminar and provided an overview for the rest of the Selectboard. She noted that a “table top” disaster drill in conjunction with the West Fairlee Volunteer Fire Department was strongly recommended to work out the incident command structure. Participation has the added benefit of making the Town eligible for a variety of Vermont Emergency Management and Homeland Security initiatives and grants. Hoyt will also contact the VT Red Cross which has a new small shelter initiative available to Towns which provides basic training and supplies.

New Business: There was no new business to discuss.

Sign Orders: Due to the holiday, orders will be signed at the next meeting.

Correspondence: A letter from Upper Valley Ambulance indicated that an increase in the organization’s per capita request will likely increase in 2013. The contract for services of the Orange County Sheriff’s Department will be taken up at the next meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Ash moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:50pm; Austin seconded; and the motion passed unanimously.