

TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

**SELECTBOARD; Water and Sewer Commissioners; Liquor Commissioners; Cemetery Commissioners
Municipal Building, Fair Haven, VT -- February 23, 2021 -- 7:00 P.M. -- REGULAR Meeting**

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969578971>

Phone: 1 929 205 6099 | Meeting ID: 899 6957 8971

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Bob Richards, Jeff Sheldon (on phone), Jay Brown, Carol Egan, Glen Traverse

Others Present: Town Manager Joseph Gunter, Recording Secretary Claire Stanley, William Chmielewski, Peg TV, Rod Holzworth, II, John Lulek, David Hendee, Police Chief Humphries (on phone)

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

Amendments to the Agenda: Mr. Traverse moved to add "Water/Sewer allocation increase -- Sherman V. Allen" to New Business; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Traverse moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 meeting as written; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Five Minutes for Public Comment: None

Department Head Reports: Town Manager Joe Gunter reported:

- * Dept. of Public Works is pushing back snow as needed; there was severe icing on sidewalks causing delays with removal
- * One of the trucks was showing exhaust codes causing shutdown; expect it to be back on the road by the weekend
- * The Water Dept. is doing well; monitoring (no change) the water drainage
- * Five contractors attended the Sewer Upgrade pre-meeting; should learn who is awarded the contract in early March
- * Will meet with contractors for the Adams and Academy Streets pump station project this week; several contractors have responded
- * Police Dept. reports one arrest
- * Are monitoring Main Street apartment buildings where there were minor issues
- * Have installed fingerprint reader and two computers, both purchased with no match grant funds
- * The office is chipping away at tasks as they come up
- * There were two sewer issues this week; both were homeowner resolved
- * The Pet Mayor election is coming along; The Rec Director will bring ballots to school for vote
- * There is a new GoFundMe page for the Dog Park; fund raising efforts continue
- * March 3rd is a meeting with Dubois and King re: lights in the park and the Park and Ride
- * The Engineer plan draft for the building beam is received
- * The Salt Shed is in the process of being permitted

OLD BUSINESS -- None

NEW BUSINESS

Water/Sewer Connection Application -- 30 South Main Street: The Engineer sent a request to re-connect for a proposed single family dwelling. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the 30 South Main Street application for water/sewer re-connection pending fees payment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Traverse and passed unanimously.

Water/Sewer Allocation Increase Application -- Sherman V. Allen: Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Water/Sewer allocation increase application as requested by Sherman V. Allen; seconded by Mr. Traverse. All fees are paid. The motion carried unanimously.

Liquor Licenses: Mr. Traverse reported he had asked Mr. Hendee to attend to discuss complaints received last summer of dogs barking left in cars, parking, noise, and loud motorcycle activity before consideration of a liquor license. Mr. Hendee stated the Eagles Aerie has new leadership, trustees and administration that has/is addressing those issues. They have drafted guidelines, installed fencing, and spoken to individuals. He feels they have curbed those issues -- if problems re-occur, the Aerie will start considering suspensions. Board members noted there was concern because of complaints; consider the Aerie to be good community members. There were no issues until last summer and ask only that the Aerie be good neighbors. Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by Eagle's Club Aerie #3907; seconded by Mr. Traverse and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 3rd Class Liquor License as requested by Eagle's Club Aerie #3907; seconded by Mr. Traverse and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant an Outside Consumption Liquor License as requested by Eagle's Club Aerie #3907; seconded by Mr. Traverse and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by Stewart's Shops; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by Walgreens; seconded by Mr. Traverse and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by S.W. Wolk d/b/a Liberty Street Market; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by Brockton Corporation d/b/a Shaw's Beer & Wine; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by Midway Oil d/b/a Fair Haven Mobil; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion to grant a 2nd Class Liquor License as requested by R. L. Vallee Inc; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed unanimously.

Parking Lot: The Zoning Board made a decision not to meet during the Covid-19 pandemic. Working on the **Sewer Abatement Policy**; not quite ready for tonight's meeting.

Board Roundtable: * Mr. Brown inquired why is the Town salting the High School parking lot? Manager Gunter stated, they buy a load of salt, and the Town spreads it. Mr. Brown said, this is a liability to the Town. The school has equipment to do the spreading and should do it themselves. * Mr. Brown said, there is no need for a 4-door truck at DPW at an extra \$7,000 cost. Mr. Richards stated, we don't know there was an extra cost for that style of truck cab. Mr. Traverse noted it was thought at the time, that the cost was a good deal. Manager Gunter stated the truck cost was \$43,000; box \$13,000. * Mr. Brown reminded that there is a policy re: no smoking in trucks and Town buildings. Manager Gunter noted this issue is periodically addressed with employees -- if caught, it results in time off. * Mr. Brown said he thought that unspent money for cancelled Memorial Day Parade and Concerts in the Park was put into the general fund and not in a "slush" fund.

Mr. Sheldon reported that ice fishermen blocked a private Road off Inman Pond Road. The police are aware of this; plan to install "no parking" signs.

Mr. Richards reported that Fair Haven Concerned is losing their Director who is moving to a position at United Way. He noted she did an excellent job and is a loss to the community. * Mr. Richards inquired re: status of Dept. computers? Transfer Station has a new laptop; DPW replaced theirs two years ago; Police has new ones as do all Central office. All computer upgrades were financed with Covid money. * Mr. Richards stated he learned (during a haircut) that the State is expecting to receive a billion dollars in Covid relief -- most to be used for schools; however to keep a heads up to apply if any funds become available to municipalities. * Ms. Ceil Hunt has stated she can/will monitor Town Meeting; Representative Canfield has said he will send a report for Town Meeting.

Review of Financial Reports: The checkbook status is \$127,720.58

Mr. Traverse moved to approve payment of the Payroll warrant for \$27,999.58; seconded by Ms. Egan and passed.

Mr. Traverse moved to approve payment of the General Fund Warrants of \$657,806.70; seconded by Mr. Brown. This amount includes a large school payment. The motion carried.

Mr. Traverse moved the Board into executive session at 7:54 p.m. to discuss Town Manager evaluation -- 1 VSA 313(a)(3); seconded by Ms. Egan and passed.

The Recording Secretary was excused at this time.

Board came out of executive session at 8:33. Mr. Brown motioned to adjourn at 8:34; seconded by Ms. Egan.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire L. Stanley



Jeff Sheldon, Board Clerk