

## TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

Selectboard, Water & Sewer Commissioners, Liquor Commissioners, Cemetery Commissioners  
**REGULAR MEETING -- Tuesday, October 3, 2023 -- 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85646551688>

**Phone: 1 929 205 6099 | Meeting ID: 8564 655 1688**

### UNAPPROVED MINUTES

**Members Present:** Glen Traverse, Bob Richards, Chadd Viger arrived around 7:15, Jason Coupal Via Zoom, Rich Greenough

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Town Manager Joe Gunter, Steven Wilson, PEGTV, Rose Anne VanLew, Mike LaDuke, Carrie LaFond, Devon Neary RRPC, Police Chief William Humphries

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

**Meeting with Rutland Regional Planning Commission Director Devon Neary:** Mr. Neary introduced himself to the board and discussed the development projects downtown Fair Haven. He noted that all of the grant funded projects the RRPC is working on have seen budget increases, and the Fair Haven Sidewalk Project is no different. He believes it is a needed project in our town and said that the program was the highest ranked in the state the year it was proposed for funding. There are many funding sources available to fill the funding gap and the state, he thinks, will support the continuation of the project.

Mr. Neary also mentioned other possible planning grants for Fair Haven.

### **Otter Creek Communication Update:**

The board tabled the Discussion about the Otter Creek Communication District.

**Amendments to the Agenda:** Mr. Traverse **made a motion to add "Sand and gravel bids"** to New Business; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Traverse **made a motion to approve the minutes** of the September 5, 2023, meeting with edits on pages one, two, and three; seconded by Mr. Viger and passed.

**Five Minutes for Public Comment:** Ms. Vanlew asked what happened to the Salt Shed project and why there is a need for a new shed.

**Department Head Reports:** Water Dept. Chief Mike LaDuke reported there is a new intern, Blake Sheldrick is still doing well. He is pleased to report that the new electrical cabinet has

been completed and will be delivered soon. This will bring the water plant close to finishing the electrical upgrades in the water treatment plant. And there doesn't seem to be any residual damage to the water main break. The plant and water tanks are operating as normal.

Wastewater Dept. Chief Carrie LaFond reported that the Wastewater plant has teamed up with VT works for women to encourage women to enter fields that are considered typically male professions, like wastewater plant operation. Ms. LaFond took part in a 3 day exchange program in NH for wastewater plant operators where she made good connections and learned a lot. After spending time in NH she has decided to petition the state to change the testing requirements for wastewater plant operators. She is still looking into solar panels for the waste water plant.

Chief Humphries Provided the board with an update about the governor's Highway Safety program. The program has been used to purchase items like the speed cart, the two new speed signs, and some flashlights for the officers.

**Town Manager Report & Communication: Manager Gunter reported:**

- \* Health Officer Sara Trombley Sent an email resigning as health officer. The town will post the open position
- \* The Auditor Tab has been added to the website
- \* The board voted to sell some land. The Manager has sent letters to the abutting land owners in an attempt to sell the properties.
- \* The town has received 4 bids for the DPW F550 that is up for sale. The manage will leave the bidding open for another few weeks.
- \* The engineer decided that it was not necessary to replace the entire water main on Airport Rd.
- \* The town bought another picnic table for the park.  
The board discussed where to place the table. It was decided to put the table on the north side of the park near where the Lumberjack event happens each year.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No old business

**NEW BUSINESS:** The board tabled the sand and gravel bid discussion

**Parking Lot:** Mr. Richards informed the board that the zoning update will be presented to the selectboard on Octobe 31<sup>st</sup>

**Board Round Table:** Mr. Greenough feels that Scotch Hill Rd needs to be repaired. It needs to be raised and have a pipe put in. He would like sidewalks replaced.

**Review of Financial Reports:** The checkbook status is \$600799.54 .

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the Payroll Warrant, \$34,704.65**; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the General Fund Warrant, \$52,173.31**; seconded by Mr. Viger. The motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Session:** Mr. Traverse **moved the Board into executive session** at 9:15 pm to discuss Personnel, 1 VSA 313 (a)(3); seconded by Mr. Coupal and passed.

The Board left executive session at 9:47 pm. Motion to **adjourn** by Mr. Traverse; seconded by Mr. Greenough.

Respectfully submitted: Joseph Gunter

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Glen Traverse, Board Clerk