

## TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

Selectboard, Water & Sewer Commissioners, Liquor Commissioners, Cemetery Commissioners

**REGULAR MEETING -- Tuesday, July 9, 2024 -- 7:00 PM**

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

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

### APPROVED MINUTES

**Members Present:** Glen Traverse, Bob Richards, Chadd Viger, Rich Greenough

**Members Absent:** Michael Doran

**Others Present:** Town Manager Joe Gunter, Recording Secretary Claire Stanley, Tucker Babcock, Peg TV, Rose Anne Vanlew, Glenn Heitsmith, 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.

**Amendments to the Agenda:** Mr. Traverse **made a motion to add** *“legal Correspondence” and “Contract” to Executive Session under 1 V.S.A. ¶ 313 A (1)*; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Traverse **made a motion to approve the minutes** of the June 25, 2024, regular meeting as written; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

**Five Minutes for Public Comment:** Mr. Heitsmith commented that when he arrived, he saw the door closed and thought it was a closed meeting. He suggests a sign on the door inviting folk in.

At Ms. Vanlew 's inquiry, there is no information re: repair of Southside Railroad tracks.

**Department Head Reports: Police Chief Humphries reported:**

- \* 2 Arrests (37 yr. to date)
- \* 72 Traffic/Municipal violations (917 yr. to date)
- \* 29 Written warnings (351 yr. to date)
- \* 4 Parking violations (32 yr. to date)
- \* 1 Car crash (39 yr. to date)
- \* 1 Overweight permit (41 yr. to date)
- \* Completed 11 sets of civilian fingerprints for employment (112 yr. to date)
- \* 161 Calls for service (2019 yr. to date)

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

- \* Grinding on Liberty and Cottage Streets prepping for paving started yesterday
- \* The grant for the new backhoe is received

- \* Repairs to comply with the Work Safe report will be done this week
- \* The Selection Committee selected and will offer the full time Rec Director position to Mr. Reese DeCastro -- expected to start work next Monday
- \* Attended a hearing re: Lake Bomoseen herbicide appeal
- \* The lights in the Park poles have been (re)set straight; the timer sensors also were repaired
- \* \$150,000 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds were set aside for the Downtown Sidewalk project that was scrapped. \$64,000 remains in the fund after the required amount is returned. Need to decide how the remaining ARPA funds are to be allocated by the end of this year
- \* There will be an information meeting on July 15th re: the sale of the River Street property; vote at the American Legion on the 16<sup>th</sup>, "yes or no" to allow the Town to sell the property to Mr. Sayers for \$30,000. Mr. Sayers has backed out of the sale; the Board will discuss options in executive session. A legal opinion has been sought.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Water/Sewer Rates and Fees:** Manager Gunter explained that the rates were approved at the last meeting as follows:

**Water use rate: \$8.62** (up \$.50)      **Sewer use rate: \$14.32** (down \$.20)

**Water base rate: \$38.50** (unchanged) **Sewer base rate: \$25.00** (unchanged)

Members signed the formal Water/Sewer rates and fees document.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Revenue Efforts -- Additional Discussion:** Chairman Richards commented that there are different solid waste fees in other communities. Mr. Greenough noted there needs to be a fee set for vendors at Park events. We need to generate income to pay for services -- electricity, water, clean-up, etc. Chairman Richards noted it was discussed to put fees in place starting next year; plan to discuss this at budget time. Chief Humphries commented to charge "for profit" vendors (only). Mrs. Stanley noted that the Lumberjack Show did an excellent job of clean-up leaving no evidence of their being an event that attracted a large crowd.

**Parking Lot:** No discussion

**Board Roundtable:** Mr. Greenough stated that the RR tracks are a real issue. If the repair is not serious and done well, there will be severe winter problems, plowing, etc. There followed discussion re: areas of RR track concern. Manager Gunter noted the Town has no jurisdiction over the railroad. If the Town puts up (caution) signage, it takes on liability. Ms. Van Lew said she spoke with a RR person who told her that new rails are being installed all over the country, but there are no contracts with paving companies to finish the projects.

Mr. Viger commented that it is good to see the lights in the park up.

Mr. Greenough said striping the new parking spaces on West Park Place needs to be done ASAP

Chairman Richards noted the Planning Commission is down to 4 members; there is need to advertise for another member.

**Review of Financial Reports:** The checkbook status is **-\$181,745.02.**

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the Payroll Warrant, \$37,365.64;** seconded by Mr. Viger and passed unanimously.

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the 2024 General Fund Warrant, \$32,498.17;** seconded by Mr. Viger and passed unanimously.

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the FY 2025 warrant for \$173,040.36;** seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

**Executive Session:** Mr. Traverse **made a motion to enter executive session,** including the Town Manager at 7:28 p.m. for a legal correspondence, and contract, 1 V.S.A. ¶ 313 (a)(1); seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

The recording secretary was excused at this time.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:45pm with no decisions made.

Mr. Viger motion to **adjourn** at 7:46pm

Respectfully submitted: Claire Stanley

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Glen Traverse, Board Clerk