

TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

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

REGULAR MEETING -- Tuesday, July 23, 2024 -- 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, Michael Doran, Rich Greenough

Members Absent: Bob Richards, Chadd Viger

Others Present: Town Manager Joe Gunter, Recording Secretary Claire Stanley, Peg TV, Rose Anne Vanlew, Glenn Heitsmith, Lillian E. Billewicz, Johnathan J Billewicz, Police Officer Cheri McDermott

Call to Order: Acting Chairman Glen Traverse 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 Renters for Water Agreement: No renters present

Amendments to the Agenda: Mr. Doran **moved to add to Executive Session:** Real Estate contract, 1 VSA ¶ 313 (a)(1); seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Doran **made a motion to approve the minutes** of the June 9, 2024, regular meeting as written; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed.

Five Minutes for Public Comment: Mr. Billewicz commented that the Town did not make a formal bid in 2014 on the tax sale property. Mr. Traverse said this is a public comment agenda item and there will not be an answer to the comment.

Ms. Lillian Billewicz asked, what is the status of the Town Manager contract. Mr. Traverse said the Town Manager has a contract.

Mr. Heitsmith thanked the Board for changing the sign on the door.

Ms. Billewicz commented re: there has not been an open house for the upstairs area; glad to see some progress has been made in moving. Manager Gunter thanked her for her comment.

Department Head Reports: **Manager Gunter reported:**

Police report:

* 29 Traffic/Municipal violations (2024 yr. to date)

* 6 written warnings (357 yr. to date)

- * 4 car crashes (43 yr. to date)
- * Completed 7 sets of fingerprints (119 yr. to date)

Town Manager Report & Communication:

- * Still waiting for the Education Tax report from the State
- * Water Dept. Chief sold a tanker of water
- * Re: Airport Road water issues; the State has not communicated their target date for repair
- * The State has promised that the 2026 Main Street paving will be done at night
- * Dan Gray did some electrical work in the office
- * The 2024/2025 budget paving is done
- * Some parts of the Cedar Grove cemetery post and rail fence have been replaced
- * The Park fountain has been cleaned
- * The Park lights are on two circuits; depending how the daylight/sunshine hits them, they do not come on and go off at the same time

Ms. VanLew commented that at some particular times of the day, the fountain is “freakin” gorgeous

OLD BUSINESS

Munger Road Reclassification: The previously cancelled meeting is rescheduled for August 23, 2024 at 9:30 am. Mr. Greenough **made a motion to sign the letter to the Planning Commission;** seconded by Mr. Doran. The letter is to inform the Commission of the meeting and the change in classification. At some point in the past, the road was changed to a trail; this action returns it to Class 4 status. The road will now be maintained and be passible. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Unlicensed Dog Report: Mr. Greenough **made a motion to accept the Clerk’s report;** seconded by Mr. Doran. The report notes 58 dogs registered last year are not this year. That best efforts will be made to get folks to register their dogs; there is a late fee. The motion carried.

Planning Commission Appointments: The Board thanked Ms. Lorraine Brown, who retired this year for her past service on the Planning Commission. Mr. Greenough **made a motion to accept** Ms. Linda Sienkeiwicz application to the Planning Commission; seconded by Mr. Doran and passed.

Revenue Efforts – Additional Discussion: Mr. Doran reported there are not many places in the State that charge for parking permits. He noted that at Park events, it is difficult to find parking because tenants take up most of the “prime” parking in the Park and Ride. Mr. Traverse noted that the EDC is reviewing the Junk Ordinance and that could be part of the review. It is suggested that tenants park “out back” of the buildings. Mr. Greenough said where would that be. Who owns the property; that it is the landlord’s responsibility to provide parking for tenants. Mr. Traverse suggests putting the matter on the agenda so affected people can attend a meeting and voice their ideas/concerns.

Parking Lot: No discussion

Board Round Table: Mr. Greenough noted the offending Park tree has been trimmed; He appreciates that things are getting done.

Mr. Doran commented re: is there a schedule for street striping; especially at the top of Main Street hill where there is a left turn lane for Liberty Street. Manager Gunter noted Fair Haven is on the list for Street striping, but there is only one company that does the work. Mr. Traverse stated we need to make more noise to the State and try to pin them down to a date for the work.

Review of Financial Reports: The **checkbook status is \$88,488.06.**

Mr. Greenough **moved to pay the Payroll Warrant, \$43,893.32;** seconded by Mr. Doran and passed unanimously.

Mr. Greenough **moved to pay the 2024 General Fund Warrant, \$60,546.33;** seconded by Mr. Doran and passed unanimously.

Mr. Greenough **moved to pay the FY 2025 warrant for \$148,819.47;** seconded by Mr. Doran and passed unanimously

Executive Session: Mr. Greenough **made a motion to enter into executive session,** including the Town Manager at 7:39 p.m. to discuss Personnel, 1 V.S.A. ¶ 313 (a)(1); and Real Estate contract, 1 V.S.A. ¶ 313 (a)(1); seconded by Mr. Doran and passed unanimously.

The recording secretary was excused at this time.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:00pm

Mr. Greenough **motioned to approve** an amendment to the Police Union contract which allows the Town to hire Class II certified police officers; seconded by Mr. Doran. Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Greenough **made a motion to approve** the sale of 16-18 River St. to Jake Helm for \$20,000; seconded by Mr. Doran. Motion passed unanimously

Meeting **adjourned** at 8:06 pm

Respectfully submitted: Claire Stanley

Glen Traverse, Board Clerk

