

TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

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

REGULAR MEETING -- Tuesday, January 21, 2025 -- 7:00 PM

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

Phone: 1 929 205 6099 | Meeting ID: 8564 655 688

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

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

Others Present: Town Manager Joe Gunter, Recording Secretary Claire Stanley, Greg M'Cormack, Peg TV, Nathan Eagan, Lauritz Rasmussen, Glenn Heitsmith

Call to Order: Chairman 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 Tenants for Water Shutoffs: Mr. Rasmussen said there is/has been some confusion re: address(es) on the statements of his tenants; there was also a tax payment credited to water bills. Discussion included that he has been working with Eileen, Accounts Receivable who has been helpful to rectify the problem; Mr. Rasmussen's water will not be shut off; the landlord is responsible for water payment; that checks have been sent but not yet received at the Municipal office. Mr. Rasmussen said it is important that the addresses and numbers correspond correctly with locations.

Amendments to the Agenda: Mr. Traverse **made a motion to add** to the agenda, approval of the January 16, 2025, meeting; seconded by Mr. Viger and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of: Mr. Traverse **made a motion** to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2025, meeting as written; seconded by Mr. Doran. CORRECTION Mr. Traverse **made a motion** to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2025, meeting with the correction: Pg. 3, ¶4; the last two lines were general discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Traverse **made a motion** to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2025 meeting; seconded by Mr. Viger and passed with Mr. Greenough abstaining.

Five Minutes for Public Comment: Mr. Eagan commented that sidewalks were in good shape during and after the recent snow events; the plow drove over grassy area at Stewart's corner; He takes issue with salting an employee driveway.

Mr. Heitsmith said he attended a Historical Society presentation about Matthew Lyon who donated the land for the Park. He feels it would be nice to have a street named after him. Chairman Richards noted he thought the Post Office bares his name,

Department Head Reports: Manager Gunter reported:

Police report

- * 4 arrests (4 yr. to date)
- * 92 Traffic/municipal violations (111 yr. to date)
- * 35 Written warnings (40 yr. to date)
- * 1 Parking violation (1 yr. to date)
- * 5 Car crashes (5 yr. to date)
- * 1 Overweight permits (1 yr. to date)
- * 8 Sets of fingerprints (1 yr. to date)
- * 167 Service calls (203 yr. to date)
- * Chief William Humphries began his 21st year as Police Chief; Ptl. David Ricard began his 21st year with the department; Ptl. Cain Quinn began his 2nd year with the department. Manager Gunter thanked them for their service.

Town Manager Report & Communications:

- * Police have determined the person that hit the light pole. Quotes are \$13,000 to replace it; later in the summer; this will be billed to the offender.
- * Have received quotes for the insulating the upstairs ceiling; it might behoove us to patch, repair and paint rather than replace the ceiling. Mr. Greenough said he agrees.
- * A hearty thank you to Dept. of Public Works (DPW) for the fast response on the River Street water leak. It was hard work in difficult conditions. Also, to Mr. LaDuke who got samples to the State quickly to put out a boil water alert. Good job.
- * The Munger Road solar project is slowly making its way through the State process
- * The downtown waterline replacement bids are due tomorrow
- * Green Mountain Power will replace the 3 utility poles on North Park Place (in front of the Municipal Building and Congregational Church
- * Respect in the Workplace training will take place early next month paid by a \$1200 grant. Manager Gunter has invited the Castleton office to participate
- * Scott Guest starts Monday with DPW; he has a CDL license.
- * Mr. Heitsmith commented that the Munger Road solar project includes studies re: pre-contact aboriginal people and protection of rat snakes. Why not protection of rattlesnakes. Manager Gunter explained that this is completely a private project; the only Town consideration is access to the property said Chairman Richards. There is no impact on the Air Park.

OLD BUSINESS

Purchase Agreement – “Skyline” Building: There is small progress

NEW BUSINESS

Parking Lot: Chairman Richards noted the Downtown Designation and Subdivision regulations will be addressed at the next Zoning meeting

Board Roundtable: Mr. Doran reported there were panhandlers on Washington Street over the weekend. Is there an ordinance against panhandling; what can be done

Mr. Viger reported attending the VLCT Rutland County Planning Commission event. He said the biggest takeaway is there are Towns interested in cost sharing of services and equipment to save money. Discussion included it could include wastewater sludge removal; most Towns have the same issues. Mr. Greenough said, this is done in other states, is a good idea. Mr. Viger said this was a one-time event, but plans are to do it again.

Chairman Richards noted it is time to remove the Christmas wreaths from the Park lightpoles.

Review of Financial Reports: The **checkbook status is \$953,442.93**

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the payroll warrant \$36,593.57**; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed unanimously.

Mr. Traverse **moved to pay the general fund warrant \$102,696.33**; seconded by Mr. Viger and passed unanimously.

Executive Session: Mr. Traverse **made a motion to enter** executive session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss personnel (1 VSA 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 7:59pm. Mr. Traverse motioned to adjourn; Mr. Doran seconded. Meeting **adjourned** at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted: Claire Stanley

Glen Traverse, Board Clerk