

TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT

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

REGULAR Meeting -- Tuesday, June 23, 2026 -- 7:00 P.M.

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

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

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Sam Lucci, Rich Greenough, Keith Hier, Dennis Reid

Members Absent: Chadd Viger

Others Present: Town Manager Joe Gunter, Recording Secretary Claire Stanley, Peg TV, Ann Finley, Rose Anne VanLew, Police Chief William Humphries

Call to Order: Acting Chairman Lucci 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: None

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Reid **made a motion to approve** the minutes of the June 9, 2026, meeting as written; seconded by Mr. Hier and passed.

Department Head Reports: Manager Gunter reported:

Police

- * 2 arrests (34 yr. to date)
- * 69 traffic/municipal violations (1448 yr. to date)
- * 1 parking violation(22 yr. to date)
- * 30 written warnings (455 yr. to date)
- * 2 car crashes (11 yr. to date)
- * 9 sets of fingerprints for employment purposes (145 yr. to date)
- * 199 calls for service (2979 yr. to date)

Town Manager Report & Communication:

- * Received the Northern Borders grant for the Prospect Street Housing project engineering.
- * Heard from James Hill re: a credit card reader for the Transfer Station; can purchase July 1st.
- * Officially closed the \$700,000+ American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant.
- * Received the promissory note for the Dept. of Public Works (DPW) truck; first payment is August 27.
- * The Rte. 4A paving started today; the downtown work to be done during the night to accommodate business hours.
- * This year the Town is paving Sheldon Road, Cedar Street
- * The South Main Street paving project cost will be \$700,000 to \$1 million to mill and dig down for a new base. It will be patched before winter. Putting together a funding package.

- * Received the former Skyline grant; will be a public meeting at 6:30 before the next Select Board meeting, July 7th.
- * Was interviewed today by Vermont Public re: the Green Mountain Mobile Home Park; the State will meet with residents this Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Permitting Alcohol in the Park: In researching this matter, Mr. Lucci found a policy to not issue alcohol permits. Mr. Hier **made a motion** to repeal the 1979 Selectboard policy to not issue alcohol beverage permits; seconded by Mr. Greenough and passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Designation of Enforcement Official for the Animal Control Ordinance: Mr. Lucci said he is the Assistant Town Clerk and has been helping with Dog Registration. There are over 150 unregistered dogs. He is working to find ways to be more efficient next year, and proposes he be appointed as the enforcement official for the animal control ordinance filling the gap of not having an Animal Control Officer. Discussion included: \$7.00 of the \$13.00 registration fee goes to the State; are not covering cost. Discussion included: need for rabies shots, whether or not dogs are neutered; danger of house-to-house visits; reasons dogs are not registered -- death, moved; owners cannot get to Town Clerk before office closes. Animal control is now done by the Police Dept.

Additional Grant Match Approval: Received the \$100,000 Northern Borders grant for the Prospect Street Housing Project engineering; this Board previously approved \$25,000 match. Because the highest bid that includes additional studies was chosen, the project is short \$47,978. There is \$103,666.97 in the grant match reserve account. Manager Gunter noted that this project will have \$21 million worth of housing when finished. The matter is continued to later in this meeting.

Liquor Licenses: None

Water/Sewer Budget Review – Water budget Discussion Revenues and Rates: Manager Gunter reported that both water and sewer budgets are approved; have developed revenues. The average household uses 8,000 gallons/qtr. = \$246.92; the increase is \$30.53/qtr. Mr. Greenough said reserve accounts are needed; we have cut everything possible; don't know what else can be done. Manager Gunter said without reserve funds, the \$104,000 Fourth St. project would have been paid with a bank loan at 6% interest which would have to be included in the budget. Mr. Hier **made a motion to approve** the water and sewer rates as presented -- Water use rate is \$10.45/1000 gal; increase of \$1.99 (19%); Sewer use rate is \$16.08/1000 gal.; increase of \$1.80 (11.2%). Water base rate, \$38.50; Sewer base rate, \$25.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greenough. Manager Gunter noted that by building the housing project, it will decrease the cost per household. The motion carried with Mr. Reid dissenting.

Prospect Street Housing Project – continued: Mr. Reid inquired, what if the study(s) come back that the housing project can't be done? The additional studies to be done include: Brownsfield study, additional surveying, and flood water. The matter is tabled to the next meeting.

Two Minutes for Public Comment: Ms. VanLew said, how close is the discussion to prohibit electric scooters and motorcycles on sidewalks to be added to the skateboard ordinance. Chief Humphries said his Dept. is trying to do rules and education and is finding pushback; the problem is not unique to Fair Haven, it is everywhere. Ms. VanLew cited one (large) motorcycle that seems reckless. Ms. Stanley noted the danger involved, citing one scooter with two riders passing her while walking that was traveling (too) fast and recklessly. She also noted two times congratulating youngsters that were being very responsible on their scooters.

Parking Lot: Mr. Reid reported being at the **Transfer Station** this past Saturday where it was the busiest he has ever seen; he noted workers constantly fighting with the computer. We must invest in a more user-friendly computer system. He is still working on finding ways to make the transfer station more efficient.

Board Roundtable: Mr. Hier noted to remove **Park Ordinance** from the parking lot list. * He has issue with the stop sign on 22A at the Veterans' Memorial Park; this is under State control.

Mr. Greenough agrees with a Transfer Station re-design. * There is a worn-out catch basin cover at the corner of Academy and Pleasant Streets that is about to fail; need to do something soon.

* There is a little more work to be done on Cedar St. before paving.

Mr. Lucci applauded Mike LaDuke for being on top of getting the word out about water issues.

* He again urges folks to sign up for VT Alert; can stop by the office for assistance if needed.

Review of Financial Reports: The **checkbook** status is \$25,525.03

Mr. Greenough **made a motion** to pay the General Fund warrant. \$341,692.70; seconded by Mr. Reid. This amount included: Fabian (4th St.), \$104,025.00; Appropriations, \$89,454.75; the motion carried.

Mr. Greenough **made a motion** to pay the Payroll warrant, \$45,428.28; seconded by Mr. Hier and passed.

Executive Session: None

Adjourn: Mr. Greenough **made a motion** to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Hier and passed.

Respectfully submitted, Claire Stanley

Sam Lucci, Board Clerk