

Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes

April 10, 2024

In Attendance: Tom Howrigan, Gavin Ryan, David Persons, Brian Dubie and Ron Bocash

Roads: Maurice Jettie

Town Clerk: Linda Hodet

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: Melissa Manson

Visitors: Emily Biron, Cathy Branon, Julia Callan, Torrey Crossman, Albert Menard, Dawn Menard, Liesl Ulrich Verderber and CCVTV.

1. Paving bids opened. 4 received:

- Whitcomb 1,565 Tons at \$90.67= \$141,898.55
- Pike 1,600 Tons at \$91.47= \$146,352 (in attendance)
- Hungerford 1579 Tons at \$92.49= \$146,041.71 (in attendance)
- Hutchins 1,626 Tons at \$98.75= \$160,567.50

Selection to be made on the 22nd, after Cathy checks to make sure the low bidder (Whitcomb) meets all requirements.

2. Public Comment: Emily Biron asks if the TOF is planning to participate in the appeal of the P&Z decision on 837 Church. SB has not discussed as a board yet. Torrey Crossman says he's still interested in serving on NRPC but supports Julia Callan's interest as well.

Brian made a motion to adjust the agenda to include NRPC appointment under old business. Gavin seconds. All in favor.

3. Overweight permits signed.

4. Maurice reports that the new truck arrived. He would like to discuss the 550 in executive session.

Brian made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a contract issue. Gavin seconded. All in favor. Information discussion only. No decisions.

Brian made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a legal issue. Gavin seconded. All in favor. Information discussion only. No decisions.

5. Linda said she received a concerned message from Lori Paradee on Pumpkin Village Rd. Since the drilling last fall, she's been running out of water. Suggest she contact the blasting company. Cathy will contact her and the blasting company.

Brian made a motion to approve the minutes of 03/25/24. David seconded. All in favor.

6. Cathy reports that she has just returned from vacation and still has some things to follow up on. The Community Center insurance claim is in process. Cathy to follow up.

7. Liesl Ulrich Verderber reports that the Common School committee has a meeting on Friday to create the agenda. Previous meeting discussion requested that this committee's meeting minutes be posted on the website. Cathy will do this.

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8. Cathy says we received a bill for \$21K for the damage on Pumpkin Village Rd in November. Forwarded to insurance company. Selectboard requests the insurance company knows that there are lines in Fairfield that are too low. Gavin suggests that the Road Crew take pictures and document these to avoid future issues.
9. Cathy gave an update on the annual workers compensation insurance audit. In the future, although it would be more administrative work for road staff, having each contractor sign a "hold harmless agreement" will save the town from paying workers comp on the value of uninsured contractor's work. Cathy to create a checklist for Maurice to make sure all contractors sign before doing work.
10. James Guilmette is behind schedule and will do the estimate on the Old Town Clerk's Office ramp this week. He is unable to take on replacing the windows or doors at this time. Brian will provide Cathy details of these jobs so she can prepare a bid. SB agreed to use ARPA money for these jobs.
11. Aggregate stockpile is at 80% of budget for the year already.
12. Rob Burns is increasing the cost of the added garage mowing from \$80/mow to \$100/mow. Do we want to send this out to bid? No, he does a great job, this does not increase his overall agreement with the town by much.
13. Cathy will prepare for continued property discussion in executive session at the next meeting.
14. We received two hydraulic studies from Tyler Billingsley: South Road and McKenzie Rd. Cathy will price and submit grants for these projects. St. Rocks culvert is still considered in bad shape but is a major project. Hydraulic study finally received from the state. Will need to look for significant funding to cover this.
15. Bike race requested a closure of School St. in August from 4-6pm. Need to coordinate with Community Center and Roads Department.

Brian made a motion to approve the warrants. Ron seconded. All in favor

16. NRPC open seat discussion. Julia Callan was invited to introduce herself to the board. She spoke about her experience as a School Board Member and her interest in volunteering for this position.

Brian made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a legal issue. David seconded. All in favor. On exit, Brian says the TOF has decided to closely monitor the appeal to the Environmental Court regarding the P&Z decision on 837 Church Rd LLC subdivision and will not have party status at this time.

David made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel appointment. Brian seconded. All in favor. On exit, Brian made a motion to appoint Julia Callan to the vacant NRPC commissioner position as a representative for Fairfield. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Brian made a motion to adjourn. Gavin seconded. All in favor.

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