

Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes

June 9, 2025

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

Roads: Maurice Jettie

Town Clerk: Not Present

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: Melissa Manson

Visitors: Dennis Hendy, Bill Fairchild

1. Dennis Hendy came to talk about White's Camp Rd. He invited the Town to join the association, now that the Town owns property on the road. The Association manages the road and shares in the cost of maintaining it, as it is a private road. Gavin notes that cost sharing/road maintenance was not part of the deed or purchase agreement. SB to discuss.
2. Moe Jettie reports that John Deere has substantially lowered the quote on a new grader. Trade in value has increased from \$87.5 to \$92.5. New grader price has dropped from \$378K to \$300,057K. \$264.5K new price. Price good until July 1 when tariffs will increase the price. This price includes and extended warranty 84 months or 5K hours. Cathy will bring financials to next meeting to assist in decision making.
3. Menard Rd update from Cathy. We can improve 20% of our "not up to standard" roads each year and still be in compliance with State rules.
4. Cathy attended a Municipal Roads General Permit roundtable. Coordinator of Better Roads grants said \$60K is budgeted for the McKenzie Rd grant. Awaiting a contract. No work should be done before July 1, 2025 and has to be complete by the end of next summer. Tyler Billingsley has already done hydro study. Other permits and engineering will need to be completed prior to construction.
5. Bid opening for sale of town properties. Brian says this is the first time the Town has put land up for sale. Whether the properties are buildable or not is not up to the SB to determine. The buyer needs to do the research. Properties were advertised with a minimum bid of 51% of the appraised value.

169 Sherman St. One bid received \$71K from abutting property owner Andrew & Casey Douglas.

4142 North Rd. Two bids received. Magnan Bros Dairy \$12.5K and James & Kristie Callan \$9K.

1175 Romar Rd. Two bids received. James & Ashley Hungerford 29.3K and James St. Pierre \$42.5K

277 Barrywilde. No bids received by the bid date. One bid received a day later. Legal opinion was to rebid. David Persons recused himself from discussion

Ron made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the bids. David seconded. All in Favor. David made a motion to exit Executive Session. Ron seconded. All in favor.

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Brian made a motion to accept the bid from Douglas on 169 Sherman St. for \$71K. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Brian made a motion to accept the bid from St. Pierre on 1175 Romar Rd for \$42.5K. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Brian made a motion to accept the bid from Magnan Bros on 4142 North Rd for \$12.5K. Ron seconded. All in favor.

The unopened bid should be returned to the bidder for 277 Barrywilde Rd and the property will be rebid per counsel of Town Attorney.

6. Bill Fairchild came to discuss the management of the Bradley Rd Cemetery. Before the Town can assume responsibility for the cemetery, we need some sort of accounting and a formal request from the association for the Town to do this.

Brian made a motion to approve the minutes of 5/27/25. Ron seconded. All in favor.

7. David reports that AmCare will increase next month by 4%. David recalls the contract said the increase was limited to 3%. Cathy will check.
8. Maple Run is putting Fairfield Center School's winter plowing out to bid because they feel the Town's price was high. Increase this year was due to plowing 55 times as compared to a norm of 44 times. Gavin reminds that the reason the town started doing the plowing for the school was due to the dissatisfaction with the prior service. Cathy to call and give them history.
9. Cathy reports that she testified at the PUC last week regarding the proposed Howrigan wind farm.
10. Cathy updated the Emergency Management Plan and notes that the plan is now required to include Fairfield's Emergency Services Appointee to the Regional Emergency Management Council. Cathy has been attending these meetings and will continue to be the appointee.

Brian made a motion to approve the local emergency management plan with Cathy as the manager. Ron seconded. All in favor.

11. No quote yet from Bugbee on insulation in the garage.
12. Animal Control Officer resigned.
13. Overweight permits signed.

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

Brian made a motion to enter Executive Session for personnel. Ron seconded. All in favor. David made a motion to exit Executive Session. Brian seconded. All in favor. Discussion only.

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

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