

## **Town of Fairfield Select Board Minutes**

October 12, 2020

In Attendance: Tom Howrigan, Gene Archambault, Charlie Thomas and David Persons  
Road Foreman: Moe Jettie

Visitors: Phil and Shaunee Higgins,  
Doug Flack, Diana Bailey

Town Administrator: Jonathan DeLaBruere  
Town Clerk: Linda Hodet

Secretary: Melissa Manson

1. Diana Bailey, Pumpkin Village Rd. came to discuss shots fired in her area at 9:30pm on 9/27. Lots of 4-wheeler traffic and concerned about traffic on the road. Another neighbor heard a shot fired a little further down the road.
2. Phil and Shaunee Higgins have the same concern about 4 wheelers and gun safety. They have seen issues with kids on 4 wheelers. They would like to formally register a complaint about speed and reckless behavior.
3. Discussion followed re policing and cost of same. The Town of Fairfield does not support ATV use on town roads and we do not condone the irresponsible and or illegal use of firearms.
4. Doug Flack asked if the town could pass an ordinance restricting ATV use. He has seen an increase in numbers and speed. Gene said it's not enforceable. Asked Jonathan to research other towns and see how they handle it.
5. Gene made a motion to approve the minutes of 9/14. No quorum on 9/28. Charlie seconded. All in favor.
6. David went to look at the old maples on Pond Road. There are 3 in the town right of way. Not an immediate priority.
7. Discussion re Paradee Rd Bridge. Should we create turnarounds for the plow trucks? How to plow it? Close it for the winter? Is there a temporary fix? Perhaps install some used I-beams to hold it a year or two? Jonathan to check with VTRANS to see if it made the accelerated bridge program. Moe to call Jim Cota to ask about I-beams. If not possible, we may close it for the winter.
8. Moe reports that John Howrigan doesn't much want to plow this winter. We'd be short a person. Discussed a few other people. Moe to check with John to be sure.
9. Moe asked if we are considering a new truck in 2021. Not right now.
10. Generator at town office serviced. Garage one needed some parts. May not be worth fixing. Jonathan to follow up.
11. Linda reviewed the lease on the Town Forest. Rental has been paid, less the late fee. If not paid on time next year, 10% fee will occur. JD to send a letter.
12. Church Road easement for Green Mountain Power to put power under the road. Tell them it has to be at least 4 feet down.
13. We did not get the Pion Road culvert grant.
14. Sidewalk sign off not done. Jim Cota wants Do Not Enter signs on Minor Rd
15. Juare Rd culvert RFP has to go on the State Bid Portal and we have to go with the lowest reasonable bidder. Ok to publish.
16. Department of Environmental Conservation Grant-in-Aid Program. \$24K guaranteed funding for next spring/summer roadwork. Charlie made a motion to apply, Dave seconded. All in favor.

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17. Reappraisal bid discussed. References for bidders reviewed. Linda favors NEMRC because their system all talk to each other. JD to see if they will reduce their price at all. Gene made a motion to select NEMRC if they come down some in price. Tom seconded. All in favor.
18. Personnel Policy update reviewed and compared with some other towns. Changes made. JD to create a draft to adopt at the next meeting.
19. In the July 13, 2020 meeting an Executive Session resulted in a decision to give Jim Paradee one extra week of vacation in 2020.
20. Budget development reviewed. Do it the same as before. JD wants it accelerated to be complete by December.
21. Gene made a motion to enter executive session to discuss land purchase. Dave seconded. All in favor. On exit, no decisions. Discussion only.
22. Jonathan applied for a VTRANS grant \$660K for the North Road culvert. It's a 3-year project. We'll find out in February or March of 2021 if we get the grant.
23. Gene made a motion to approve the warrants. Charlie seconded. All in favor.
24. 44 adults and 25 kids at the Run For Chet. Raised \$1K for the recreation committee
25. MM reports that NorthWest Regional Planning wants us to include an enhanced energy plan in the Town Plan. Discussed the pros/cons. Include.
26. Gene made a motion to adjourn. Dave seconded. All in favor

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