

# **Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes**

November 24, 2025

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

Roads: Absent

Town Clerk: Linda Hodet

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: Absent

Visitors: Andrew Douglas, Chris Goulette, NWATV

1. Andrew Douglas came to talk to the SB about Sherman St. He would like the town to throw it up. Mr. Douglas owns all the land around it. He has a magnetic gate/chain across the road. Cathy to post the 30-day warning for a site visit at 10am on January 5, and a hearing to take place at the Selectboard Meeting on January 12. At the site visit, people can park at Andrew's house.
2. Chris Goulette, AM Peisch came to review the 2024 Financial Statements. The Town had another clean audit with no findings. He said that the audit includes reviewing finances 3 ways; as cash, cash & accrual and accrual. When Peisch started with the Town, up until only a few years ago, they reviewed the statements as cash. He suggests a new method for accounting for deferred revenue and reporting investment activity and will work with Cathy on this. Chris advises that next year will probably be AMP's last year doing municipal audits.
3. Linda asks the SB to decide if only postmarks on taxes count, for mailed-in property tax payments, or if a meter strip would count? The Selectboard says that the US Post Mark is and always has been required to prove date of mailing. David wants to know what the tax refunds are in this week's AP. Linda says these are overpayments that mostly come from tax payments that are escrowed and people don't realize or are State property tax overpayments.

**Ron made a motion to approve the minutes of 11.10.2025. David seconded. Motion carries.**

4. Cathy provided her report: The school payment has been made. Property valuation for insurance is now an agreed amount, a 3.5% increase based on the old values, versus a guaranteed replacement cost based on their appraised amounts. The library will come to the next meeting to review their budget. Cathy's end of year banking procedures and CD updates are almost complete. The PUC is scheduled for oral arguments on the proposed Howrigan Wind Project on Friday 12/5. Discussion re: laptops/computer upgrades. Bouchard estimate is approximately \$3400 for 2 computers including all the software and IT.

**Tom made a motion to purchase 2 computers. Ron seconded. Motion carries.**

**Ron made a motion to amend the agenda to add an executive session for personnel. Tom seconded. Motion carries.**

**David made a motion to exit executive session. Ron seconded. On exit, information only. No decisions. Motion carries.**

**Gavin made a motion to adjourn. Ron seconded. Motion carries.**

**These minutes exist in draft form until approved by the Selectboard.**