

Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes

May 12, 2025 (AMENDED)

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

Roads: Maurice Jettie

Town Clerk: Not Present

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: David Persons & Cathy Ainsworth

Animal Control Officer (ACO): Sara Currier

Visitors: Zachary Friend, David Howrigan, Peggy Howrigan, Tim Putnam (Zoom), NWATV

1. Tim Putnam, of Detoer, requested that his group be able to close School Street, at Mill Street, to traffic, except for emergency vehicles, for a Fairfield Community Center Association biking fundraiser on August 16. Selectboard and Road Foreman agreed to the closure.
2. Sara Currier, requested animal control systems be determined based on Fairfield's Dog Ordinance (i.e., how do we issue fines outlined therein, etc.). She made suggestions, based on experiences in other towns. David and Sara will meet to discuss scenarios and possible systems to put into place.
3. 2025 Paving Bids, for Chester A. Arthur rd. unsealed. Selectboard discussed whether to go with option 1, to pave to the end of the road, and 610 feet of Duffy Hill Rd., or option 2, to only pave up to the \$155,000 budgeted in the general fund. Cathy proposed strategies for financing the amount over \$155k with CD funds. Selectboard decided on option 1.

Bid results for option 1: SD Ireland- \$191,436.80: 2560 Tons @ \$74.78 per Ton; Hungerford- \$212,480: 2560 Tons @ \$83.00 per Ton; Pike Industries- \$218,151.60: 2568 Tons @ \$84.95 per Ton ; FW Whitcomb- \$221,669.76: 2568 Tons @ \$86.32 per Ton; J. Hutchins: \$237,346.65: 2529 Tons @ \$93.85 per Ton.

Gavin made a motion to accept the Option 1 bid from SD Ireland. Ron seconded. All in favor.

4. Moe says he has 5 culverts to replace prior to Chester A Arthur Paving.
5. Grader Discussion: Selectboard discussed warranty-based equipment rotation, and priorities for upcoming years with Moe and Cathy. Next large truck order will be 2027 to replace the 2020 Truck. SB determined that the grader is an essential piece of equipment/ used daily during the summer but is in acceptable condition and reliability- revisit replacement at the end of the season. Cathy shared Equipment fund balances and debt retirement schedule. Cathy will put the Cub Cadet mower out to bid when she returns from vacation. .

Gavin made a motion to approve the minutes of 04/24/25. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Gavin made a motion to approve the minutes of 04/28/25. Brian seconded. All in favor.

6. The Selectboard discussed Menard Road next steps. Gavin suggested getting a cost estimate to improve the 0.49-mile segment up to class 3 standards. David Howrigan requests the Selectboard to improve the segment, vs. reclassify it to class 4, to avoid any impact on the

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

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future sale-potential of his land. **(AMENDED) on 5/27 minutes amended to add “and enhance the agricultural utilization of the land”.** Cathy says the process for reclassification would include a 30-day certified letter notice to abutting landowners of an on-site visit and a warned hearing. Then, the Selectboard would base their decision on whether or not to reclassify on state statute (which decision would promote the greatest public good and least inconvenience and expense?). Selectboard wants to hold off on this reclassification process until they have a full understanding of improvement costs. Cathy will schedule a meeting for a couple Selectboard members and Moe, with District 8 Project Manager Steve Stanley to discuss improvement needs further.

7. Cathy requested that the Selectboard approve that she be able to extend the new 6-month CD terms for one extra month, at the same rate, so they can mature at the beginning of December.

Ron made a motion to extend the new 6-month CD terms for one extra month. Brian Seconded. All in Favor.

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

Brian made a motion to enter executive session to discuss contracts. Gavin seconded. All in favor.

David made a motion to exit executive session. Brian seconded. All in favor. No decisions

David made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Gavin made a motion to exit executive session. David seconded. All in favor. No decisions

8. David reports that a person, who is not a resident of Fairfield, requested follow-up on a junk ordinance compliance question. No action to take.

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