

# Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes

December 9, 2024

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

Roads: Absent

Town Clerk: Absent

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: Melissa Manson

Visitors: Julia Callan, Peggy Howrigan, David Howrigan, Lynda Ulrich, Emily Kloft, Matt Walker, Randy Brock, James Gregoire, Robert Norris

**David made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/25. Ron seconded. All in favor.**

**David made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/29 Ron seconded. All in favor.**

1. Cathy reports that Property Insurance/Workers Comp insurance has changed from last year \$53,688 to \$54,350.
2. Robert Karmin has started in his position as ZA.
3. Sen. Randy Brock, Sen. Robert Norris, Rep. James Gregoire and Rep. Matt Walker came to talk with the SB in preparation for the new legislative Session. They talked with the SB about their concerns about tax increases and the increased cost of healthcare/ health Insurance. They also discussed state funding for road and bridge projects with the SB. The SB members said our primary issue is with how funding happens. We've been waiting for many years for Bridge 51 (Chester Arthur Road) to be funded where there are 100+ cars per day. Instead, the State funding is going to Paradee Road (8-10 cars/day) to the tune of 2 million, but it has taken almost 6 years to get the project started. The regional construction priorities list at NRPC is long and only one project is chosen a year for this region. The only other options are grants that are either too complicated, because of federal requirements, or competitive with neighboring towns for not enough money. It doesn't seem to make sense. James pledged to investigate and Matt Walker, who has been serving on the Transpiration Committee, said he wants to look into the formulas for how funding is provided for municipal infrastructure projects. The delegates commended the Town for consistently writing grants for road projects.
4. Emily Kloft, NRPC, came to update the SB on the facilitated Zoning Bylaws Revision Project. Emily reviewed the work completed by Fairfield's Planning Commission so far and discussed a number of zoning tools that could be employed to manage development in the municipality. She explained where we are in the process and that public outreach is the next step, which will employ multiple strategies to engage the community in providing feedback on the ideas on the table.
5. Public comment: Lynda Ulrich requested an update on the Planning & Zoning Board vacancy appointment. Cathy says the opening will be posted locally and online, and a

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

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member will be appointed at the 12/30 SB meeting. There is currently one candidate interested in the seat.

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

6. Issue with the pump on the new truck. SB asks Cathy to check the warranty to make sure it's completely covered.

**Ron made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a legal matter. David seconded. All in favor.**

**Brian made a motion to exit executive session. Ron seconded. All in favor. Discussion only. No decisions made.**

**Brian made a motion to adjourn. Ron seconded. All in favor.**