

**Town of Fairfield  
Select Board Minutes  
August 8, 2011**

In Attendance: Gavin Ryan, Gene Archambault and Greg Christie

Visitors: Lynn Dickinson, Tom Dart, and Denise Smith

Town Administrator: Amanda Forbes      Secretary: Melissa Manson

1. Gavin opened the meeting at 8:30pm once a quorum was present.
2. Lynn Dickinson came to discuss what's going on in Montpelier.
  - The disaster declaration through FEMA has **not** been confirmed. FEMA is coming back on August 9<sup>th</sup> to review everything again. It will not include any private or class 4 roads. Landowners should have an agreement among themselves to handle maintenance of their private roads.
  - Act 34 "complete streets" addresses all users of the roads – vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles etc. All road users must be considered when doing any road modification/construction.
  - Act 60 tax rates have increased. Some changes to how taxes are calculated which will have an impact on taxes.
  - Current Use has been reworked and the new plan has passed the House and is in the Senate. Some changes to how the land is taxed based on how long it has been owned by one family. Further discussion on possible changes to how conserved lands are taxed.
  - Nick's law passed. The bill includes stiffer sentences for repeat offenders, especially those who cause serious injury or death. It also lowers the legal blood alcohol limit for third offenses. And the bill makes it a crime for anyone who knowingly lends his or her car to someone who is drunk.
  - No apparent change to federal monies projected in 2012.
  - Discussion regarding high speed Internet accomplishments
3. Tom Dart wants to know what is happening with the intersection of Pond and Sheldon Woods. There is a NWRPC grant to change the way the intersection is controlled, moving the stop to the Pond Road and having Sheldon Woods to Pond be the through road. They have said it will be completed by August or early September. MM to check with the State to see about holding off on striping until the intersection is redone. An engineered traffic study should be done to reduce the speed on Sheldon Woods as well as many other roads. Amanda will check with NWRPC to get a cost/road on engineering studies.
4. Greg made a motion to approve the minutes. Gene seconded. All in favor.
5. Denise Smith reported on grants action. Finally got a grant on a trail rehab for the school. Grant is \$20K, project is \$31K. Some in-kind service allowed \$500 each from the rec committee and school. \$10K in cash must be documented and will come from the rec committee budget. Greg made a motion to approve. Gene seconded. All in favor.
6. Amanda sought approval for a bill for mulch hay submitted by Rod, payable to Gavin. This is correct.

7. Greg made a motion to enter executive session to review a personnel issue. Gene seconded the motion. All in favor. Greg made a motion to exit executive session. Gene seconded. All in favor. Discussion only. No decisions made.
8. Advise from Tim Hawkins, legal counsel, to wait on the tax sales. New policy has been approved by the lawyer - "Tax sale of your property will occur upon delinquency unless there is a written payment plan submitted and accepted by the town. Monthly payments must be received on your delinquent tax balance or this will place you in default of the agreement and tax sale arrangements will be made immediately".
9. Mark Paradee and Wrights should be offered the opportunity to resubmit a screened sand sample. MM to handle.
10. Approval received from ANR to replace the temporary bridge on Rt. 36 – anticipate Route 36 being closed for a Friday to Monday period.
11. Gene made a motion to approve warrants and adjourn. Greg seconded. All in favor.

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

## **AMENDMENTS**