

# **Town of Fairfield Select Board Minutes**

**September 14, 2015**

In Attendance: Tom Howrigan, Gavin Ryan, Gene Archambault, Greg Christie and Norm Menard

Visitors: Mike McCarthy, Sue Magnan, Jim Paradee, Julie Wolcott, and Kristen Hughes

Town Administrator: Amanda Forbes

Secretary: Melissa Manson

1. The school is talking about a solar array and partnering with the Town. Mike McCarthy from Sun Common came to discuss.
2. Gene made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom seconded. All in favor.
3. Tom went to the South Road Bridge meeting. Contractor is still working on a punch list. Contractor recommends paving Howe Bridge on Elm Brook Rd.
4. We got some numbers on salt sheds.
5. Gene made a motion to enter executive session with Jim Paradee to discuss an employee issue. Norm seconded. All in favor. Gene made a motion to exit executive session. Norm seconded. All in favor. Discussion only.
6. Amanda reviewed the properties within a mile and a half potentially affected by the Swanton Wind project. There are 11 residential properties with an average assessment of \$147,833. Taxes raised \$34,780. Non-residential properties with an average assessment of \$102K. Taxes \$215,936. Total taxes \$250,716 or 13% of our tax base.
7. Letter of complaint re the NO WIND sign on the Town lawn. Not a Town opinion, someone else placed it. SB feels they can't regulate unless they ban all signage.
8. Liquor license for the Belfry for Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> approved.
9. Greg made a motion to allow the Town Clerk to approve liquor licenses as long as the SB is advised. Gene seconded. Gene, Greg and Tom in favor. Norm and Gavin opposed. Motion carries.
10. Norm made a motion to approve the minutes from the Swanton joint meeting. Gavin seconded. All in favor.
11. Need to do a thank you card for Steve Cushing.
12. Better Back Roads and Eco Restoration Grant for Gillin Rd. Grant is \$30,164 actual cost was \$29,035
13. Bushey Seal Coating quote for front and back better than the first quote. Hire them.
14. Wanzer Road complete. Approved and signed work completion for bridge and guardrail.
15. Cow Tales Driver Education using the back parking lot on September 23<sup>rd</sup>
16. Pond grant \$9K offered \$3,500 more. We could get a landscape rake or could prepay for sand and buy the posts and rope and store them until spring. Spend the money now so we don't lose it.
17. VEC right-of-way request on Hill Rd. approved.
18. Tuesday September 22<sup>nd</sup> seminar on conflict management and communication scheduled in the Chet Arthur Room. Norm and the entire road crew will go.
19. Green Mountain Power easement through Bradley cemetery approved for Jeff and Linda Corey
20. Going to bid for 4-way stop lights and signage.

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

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21. Jim Cota advised that District 8 had added several towns and he would like to have district meetings with revolving locations. We're in!
22. Gene made a motion to set the town tax rate at .58 down from .64 last year as promised. Tom seconded. All in favor.
23. Gavin made a motion to approve the warrants and adjourn. Gene seconded. All in favor.