

# **Town of Fairfield Selectboard Minutes**

September 9, 2024

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

Roads: Maurice Jettie

Town Clerk: Linda Hodet

Town Administrator: Cathy Ainsworth

Secretary: David Persons

Visitors: Eleanor Wirts, NWATV.

1. The meeting began at 7:00pm.
2. Eleanor Wirts, of the Fairfield Community Center Association requested the Selectboard support an Educational Facilities grant application for a new bathroom, with a letter of interest to the VT Department of Buildings and General Services. Letter signed.
3. Linda Hodet reports that Tax Revenue is steady. Regarding the Swanton land transferred to Fairfield, does the Selectboard want to send a tax bill? No- we should not send a tax bill to Swanton as the land was given to the town without cost, although it has value.
4. Maurice says they have almost filled the Winter Sand shed stores. No update regarding a new truck. The damage to the East Fairfield covered bridge was repaired with new board; planning to close this bridge over the winter, as the new truck will not fit.
5. Cathy reports that the VLCT Loss Control Consultant needs to inspect property and buildings. Selectboard requests that Mo be available for the garage, salt shed and equipment, David will be available for the fire departments and Cathy will be available for the other properties. The final FEMA payouts, for administration of the 2019 Halloween Storm of will be received within the next 3 weeks. AP warrant is high due to Paving payment, which came in under budget. Selectboard may want to transfer the balance to the Paving fund later in the year. Cathy is planning to work with Friends of Lake Champlain for a stone-lined drainage project they proposed and at the Beach. Hazard Mitigation grant pre-applications.
6. Capital Plan discussion tabled.
7. A Dog and Wolf-Hybrid ordinance draft was provided and reviewed by the Selectboard. Cathy pointed out a few details of note: Fairfield version includes language found in all other ordinances reviewed and includes Fairfield-specific pieces borrowed from neighboring communities (focus on Dogs vs. all domestic animals, simplified penalties section, inclusion of hunting dog exemption, broad definition of enforcement officer, etc). SB likes the draft, requests it be reviewed by legal counsel. Discussion about budget and job description for animal control.

**Brian made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/26/24 minutes, with removal of item 6 (and renumbering thereafter). David seconded. All in favor.**

**Brian made a motion to approve the warrants. Ron Seconded. All in favor.**

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

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**Brian made a motion to transfer \$33,860.25, the balance from the sale of the F550 after equipment for the F600, from the general fund to the Small Truck Fund. Ron Seconded. All in favor.**

8. Budget status review as of end of August. Discussion of ARPA-Cathy to bring the Selectboard projects/ purchases for consideration (i.e. cost of new payroll tracking software system, etc.). Currently underbudget for the year. No action taken.

**Brian made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a legal issue. Ron seconded. All in favor.**

**Ron made a motion to enter Executive Session for a personnel discussion. Gavin seconded. All in favor.**

**Brian made a motion to exit Executive Sessions. Ron seconded. All in favor.** Executive sessions were discussion only- no decisions made.

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