

Town of Fairfield Select Board Minutes

January 9, 2017

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

Visitors: Maurice Jettie, Susan Magnan, Laura Fulwiler, Bridget Rivet, Albert Tetreault, Kerri Lambert, Jen Archambault and Emmett Archambault

Town Administrator: Amanda Forbes

Secretary: Melissa Manson

1. Library Trustees and Friends of the Library came to discuss the management and funding of the library. They did some research and found there was a lawsuit in Vermont about this and the ruling was that Towns fund the library and the trustees manage the library. They checked 4 neighboring towns to see how their libraries were managed – Sheldon, Franklin, Enosburg and Fairfax are all funded by a line item in the Town budget. The library proposes that they pay the mortgage with the returns from the endowment and the Town should pay the rest of the operating expenses. The library was asked to develop a budget for next year and return to the meeting on the 23rd when the warning will be approved. This issue will be a warned item.
2. Gavin made a motion to approve the minutes. Gene seconded. All in favor.
3. Sand discussion. Sand policy reviewed approved, and signed.
4. Review of the new truck. Some discussion on who does work on the trucks. Try Charlebois.
5. Appreciation plaque in the garage needs to be updated to include Rodney and Phil Marshia.
6. Power surge protectors for the garage and fire station are \$300. Get them!
7. 2017 budget review. Increase of \$27,201 or 1.6 cents (0.016). Gene made a motion to approve. Greg seconded. Gene, Greg, Norm and Tom in favor. Gavin opposed. Budget passes.
8. Certificate of highway mileage signed.
9. Warning reviewed. Usual things. No changes.
10. Salt Shed project review. No environmental hazard. Need to get a ROW easement. Discussion re what work Town can do on the project and still be in compliance with federal grant regulations. We want to do demolition and prep work at a minimum.
11. Sidewalk project review. 3 possible options reviewed. Funds available \$591,675. Option 3 costs are \$574,00 and builds sidewalks on the north side of Rt. 36 from the town office to the store. Gavin is strongly opposed to the project. Motion to approve option 3 by Norm, seconded by Greg and approved by all except Gavin who remains opposed.
12. Gavin made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the Swanton Wind project financial contribution. Greg seconded. All in favor. Gavin made a motion to exit executive session. Greg seconded. All in favor. Fairfield has contributed \$10K to the opposition project. SB would like to know how the townspeople feel about this.
13. Melissa will do a questionnaire for Town Meeting day to cover the wind project and also possible changes to the zoning requirements.
14. 911 dispatch was level funded for 2017.

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

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15. Gavin made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue regarding health care. Greg seconded. All in favor. Gavin made a motion to exit executive session. Greg seconded. All in favor. Information only. No decision.
16. Gavin made a motion to approve the warrants and adjourn. Norm seconded. All in favor.