



**Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
**Final**  
**Town of Fairlee Town Hall**  
**Monday, May 28, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Peter Berger, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**PRESENT**

**Selectboard Members:** Peter Berger, Chair; Lance Mills, Vice Chair; Miranda Clemson  
A quorum was met.

**Town Administrator:** Ryan Lockwood

**Minutes Taker:** Patty Tompkins

**Visitors in person:** Lance Colby (Water Operator), Bob Wertheimer

**Visitors on ZOOM:** Alex Nuti-de Biasi

**AGENDA APPROVAL AND MODIFICATIONS**

*Change Newsletter Draft Edits to Newsletter Updates.*

*Change Approval of 5/15/2024 Draft Minutes to Approval of 5/20/2024 Draft Minutes.*

*Add Executive Session for Personnel.*

**MOTION:** Miranda Clemson/Lance Mills moved/seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC AND STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS**

**Zoning Administrator's Report**

The Selectboard reviewed Brimmer's report. They discussed the following:

- The effectiveness of the Alum treatment on algae blooms as well as cyanobacteria.
- The Wings addition in reference to the railroad property and the flood zone area.

**Town Administrator's Report**

Lockwood presented his report and gave updates on the following:

- The sprinkler system repair at the Town Hall went well. They will be back to test the fire alarm and emergency lights system.
- All additional tax exemption paperwork related to the fire truck purchase has been filled out and submitted.

- Attended a Grant Basics webinar through VLCT, which focused on the administrative side of Grant tracking. Guidance on tracking multiple grants for one project is being pursued.
- Two final contracts need to be signed by SOLitude and Arrowwood.
- Contacted Logan Perron at the VTrans about the use of engine braking through the village. His reply was that the State will never post a sign discouraging the use of vehicle safety features, which engine brakes are considered.
- Energy assessments for the old fire station and the library buildings are scheduled.
- Two Greeter spots need to be filled quickly so they can attend Greeter Training. The Selectboard engaged in a lengthy discussion about the role of a Greeter and enforcing boats being admitted.
- Andrew Godfrey received applications for two new members for the Fire Department.
- There is a dangerous overhanging tree limb on Bald Top. Calls are being made to take care of it.
- Hammond Brush Grinding Services was contacted to get rid of the brush pile at the transfer station.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Asset Management Discussion w/ Water Operators**

Lance Colby, Town Water Operator, was present for this discussion.

Berger stated that the Board received a request to sign the second phase of the contract. He would like to schedule a meeting with Lance Colby and Elizabeth Emmons of Dufresne, to review the first phase and look at any missing pieces.

Colby revisited the topic of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) inventory report, which appeared in the 05/13/2024 Selectboard Minutes:

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) inventory report has been submitted by TruePani, a company that was hired by the State to help municipalities identify water line inventories and look for any remaining lead lines. No lead lines were found, however, very few households responded to the letter of inquiry that was put out by TruePani, only 5 responded out of 200+ accounts.

He stated that it was an inconclusive report. TruePani should have contacted the remaining 195 residents that did not respond to the postcard. They also failed to contact him.

Colby would like to put a notice in the upcoming town newsletter that informs residents that the EPA has new regulations that every water system in the United States must be inventoried, especially water lines that come into a house.

Clemson asked if it could be done online, what would each household look for, and how would they report the information.

The Selectboard is considering procedures to correct the reporting made by TruePani.

### **Water Allocation Request for Gryphon Building**

The storage capacity for the village is 375K gallons.

### **Lake Morey Road Paving Project**

The Selectboard is concerned about how the project is funded. The Board is expecting to receive a plan from the Road Foreman and price quotes from the paving company.

The Board is also concerned about the surface repairs that have been made in the last three (3) years and the life expectancy of the repair.

### **Forgivable Loan Application Amendment**

The Selectboard approved the application amendment.

The Selectboard would like to recognize the Lake Morey Foundation, whose generous donation paid for the feasibility study that made the forgivable loan possible, resulting in a zero cost to the Town for the Alum treatment.

### **Liquor License Approval**

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to approve a 2<sup>nd</sup> class liquor license for Vermont Retail II and Incorporated. The motion passed unanimously.

### **I-91 Closure Discussion**

The Selectboard received a notice that the work on I-91 will continue into the Fall.

They discussed the current traffic light and traffic flow on Route 5.

Lockwood will contact VTrans and ask for a traffic study to improve the traffic flow.

### **Childcare Payroll Tax Contribution Discussion**

The Childcare Payroll Tax is going into effect on July 1, 2024. It is a 0.44 percent quarterly tax. The Selectboard needs to decide if the Town will pay the tax or pass it on to the employee.

The cost is approximately \$2200 per year. Mills would like to know how other towns are managing it. The tax will be used by the state to develop childcare programs.

### **Lake Morey Road Speed Hump Discussion**

Berger distributed information on speed bumps to the Board. Each bump costs approximately \$110. Clemson mentioned that speed humps come in three (3) sections, one each for the left, right and center, and the cost is \$374 a piece. Humps lower vehicle speed to 15-20 miles/hour while bumps slow speed to 5 miles/hour.

The questions raised were:

- Where would the money come from
- Where would they be placed on the east and west sides of the lake
- Would police presence be better (and giving out speeding tickets)

Bob Wertheimer came to represent the Lake Morey Foundation. He asked how the bumps would be funded and if the speed bumps/humps would be temporary or permanent.

Bob and the Foundation would like to see bumps placed on the road around the lake and not rely on Chief Briggs' presence. The Foundation still wants a traffic study performed and is willing to pay for it.

The Board will look into the costs for speed bumps. They will also await a response from VTrans – to see if they are willing to do something as a result of increased traffic from the I-91 construction project.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Town Projects Strategic Planning**

Berger is waiting for clarification on file management between SharePoint and Microsoft Teams, before moving forward.

### **Lake Morey Alum Treatment Updates**

There will be five-to-six tractor trailers a day on the west side of Lake Morey to apply 160,000 total gallons of solution.

There are two contracts from SOLitude and Arrowwood to sign.

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to approve the service contracts from SOLitude Lake Management and Arrowwood Environmentals for the Alum treatment paid for by the state revolving loan program. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Ordinance and Procedures Discussion – Street Naming**

Mills started a draft copy with edits.

Berger recommends updating the ATV ordinance next.

### **Newsletter Draft Updates**

In addition to changing the timeline for the Alum treatment, the Board would like to give thanks to the parties that worked on the Alum treatment project.

## **ORDERS & CORRESPONDENCE**

Completed.

A letter was received from Gary Barrett.

### **APPROVAL of May 20, 2024, Draft Minutes**

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to approve the minutes from 05-20-24 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ACTION ITEMS/ASSIGNMENTS/AGENDA**

None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to open the Executive Session for personnel reasons. The motion passed unanimously.

Opened: 8:11 PM

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to come out of the Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

Came out: 8:23 PM

**No action taken.**

**NEXT SELECTBOARD MEETING: Monday, June 3, 2024.**

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Lance Mills/Miranda Clemson moved/seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Attest: Patty Tompkins, Minutes Taker