

**Minutes**  
**West Rutland Selectboard Meeting**  
**Monday, June 10th, 2024**  
**6:00 pm**

**Present:** John Harvey, John Center, Dick Daley and Chet Brown

**Others Present:** Mike Moser, Sean Barrows and Robert Bach

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion made by Chet seconded by John Center to approve the agenda with the addition of Action Items: f.) Carroll retaining wall proposal g.) Bike/Ped Small Scale Grant Program letter of support. All in Favor. Motion approved.

**Minutes Approval:** Motion made by Chet seconded by Dick to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion approved.

**Public Concerns: None**

**Discussion Items:**

- a) **FEMA Approval** – We were notified that FEMA approved our change of scope for the Dewey Avenue repair. The change order has an additional cost of \$140,000. The total cost of the project was \$899,232.49 and the Town portion is \$122,530.31
- b) **Town Manager Report** – We received a \$4,000 energy grant that we are looking at purchasing e-bikes for a loaner program to residents. There is a local concerns meeting on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm to discuss the Tri Town Loop, a pedestrian connection for all three towns of West Rutland, Proctor and Pittsford.

**Action Items:**

- a) **Award Paving Bid** – Sean put together a very comprehensive list for the paving bid: Fox Run, Tower Lane, Marble (R/R to Crescent), Barnes (R/R to Marble), Pleasant (BR4 to Thrall) and Elm Street. The three bids came in as follows: Wilk \$215,742.80, Fuller \$235,690 and Pike \$275,430. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dick to accept the paving bid from Wilk Paving in the amount of \$215,742.80. Motion approved.
- b) **Appoint Fire Warden** – Steve Czachor has held the position for many years. Discussion on the qualifications and duties. Motion made by John Center seconded by Chet. Motion approved.
- c) **Child Care Contribution payroll tax**– A new law will begin on July 1 that will require all employers to subject to the Childcare Contribution tax. Employers must remit this tax for all employee wages for which they withhold Vermont income tax. Employers may split the cost with employees. Employers must pay a minimum of 75% of the 0.44% contribution rate. Employees can contribute a maximum of 25% (i.e., 0.11%) of the

0.44% contribution rate. Discussion on making sure the employees seeing the deduction on their paycheck stub so they can make informed decisions when voting. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dick for the Town to cover 75% of the childcare tax and the employee will pay 25%. All In Favor. Motion approved.

- d) **Sheriff's 2024/25 Contract** – The budget was approved in March but the contract doesn't begin until July 1. The fee is \$55.22 per hour for 2080 hours capped at \$114,857. Motion made by John Center seconded by Chet to accept the sheriff 2024/25 proposal for a total cost of \$114,857. Motion approved.
- e) **ARPA Proposal** – The restrictions on ARPA funds have loosened and we moved the \$642,842.50 into the general fund. Mary Ann proposed paying a stipend to employees totaling \$18,000, for additional labor in serving the community during COVID. Motion made Dick seconded by John Center.
- f) **Carroll Proposal** – John Center recused himself. Fabian's submitted a proposal to fix the existing retaining wall near Robert Carroll's house at 144 Durgy Hill Road. Motion made by Dick seconded by Chet to accept Fabian's proposal of option #2 to remove the exiting timbers and replace with wall blocks for the price of \$5,350. Motion approved.
- g) **Letter of Support for the VTrans Bike/Ped Small Scale Projects** – Motion by John Center seconded by Chet to sign a letter of support to replace the sidewalk on Pleasant Street from Route 4 to Sheldon. The State has signed off moving the sidewalk to the west side for safety issues.

#### **Board Member Concerns:**

John Center – the Memorial Day Parade had a few new entries and everything went very well. He heard many good comments about the American Legion dinner. The Town should purchase new banners for the town hall. Mary Ann will also look into flags on Clarendon Avenue.

Dick Daley – The Regional Ambulance had a very nice grand opening and 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Dick reminded everyone West Rutland was one of the first towns to sign on to the service. Will Pleasant Street have a center line painted? Mary Ann will call them to make sure they schedule us after the paving.

Chet – The Blanchard Avenue drainage is still an issue. Mary Ann and Sean are meeting with the engineer. Aimee will begin using the library for some Town events. The downstairs to the library will soon be open for rentals.

**Adjournment:** Dick Daley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm and John Center seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Goulette