

**Town of West Rutland  
Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, June 25, 2007  
West Rutland Town Hall; 6:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Sean Barrows, John Harvey, Pete Bianchi, Chris Mathewson and Dick Daley.

**Also Present:** Judi McCullough, Tom Yennerell, Rep. David Potter, and Alex Alexander.

**Item 1) Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to Order at 6:01 p.m. by Sean Barrows.

**Item 2) Approve Minutes from the Previous Meeting:** A Motion was made by Chris Mathewson to approve the Minutes of the June 11, 2007 meeting as written. Sean asked that a change on page 3 be made, under Sean's concerns change to "looking to get a quote regarding paving the islands". The Motion was seconded by John Harvey and approved unanimously.

**Item 3) Public Concerns:** Judi McCullough asked whether a "Children at Play" sign could be placed on Harrison Avenue or a lowered speed limit. Drivers come up around the corner quite fast and they cannot see if there are kids playing near the road. There are several young school age children and now some toddlers as well along the top of the hill along the corner. The Board felt it would be fine to get a sign placed at both ends of the street.

**Rep. Potter** came to the meeting to check in with the Town on any questions or issues that they would like to address. Mr. Potter stated that \$2 million was added to the Class II road budget. Public transit funds for people with disabilities had extra money added.

A bill passed that any school district that spends over 1% of inflation their vote will be in two items: one on the average threshold established by the State, and two, the amount that is above the inflation rate. Why are caps on education spending not being used? Rep Potter stated that in other States this failed, because it was felt that the quality of education went down. Discussion on education, and the trend in education spending now. There is a study being conducted on how to reign in the special ed costs and still be within the Federal mandates. A workforce training and development initiative was passed.

Catamount Health has already started billing businesses, with coverage starting up soon. This insurance is available for those who qualify; there are specific qualifications and rules that apply; it will be available this fall. Human Services will play a role in this program.

**Item 4) Action Items:**

**A) Sign 2006 Grand List:** A Motion was made by Pete Bianchi that the Board sign the 2006 Grand List certifying that there are no appeals or suits pending against the 2006 Grand List. John Harvey seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

**B) Set Municipal Tax Rate:** John Harvey made a Motion to approve the 2007 tax rate at \$1.1145. Pete Bianchi seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

**C) Consider Wastewater and Water Permits:** These permits are for the two lots at the top of

Thrall Avenue. This is for 2 sewer connections and 1 water connection. A Motion was made by Chris Mathewson to approve the application from Jaybar, Corp. John Harvey seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

**D) Appoint Members to State Police Committee:** Dick Daley volunteered to sit on this Committee and Tom will be the alternate.

**E) Consider Sheriff Department Contracts:** John Harvey made a Motion to approve the Law Enforcement Contract presented with a letter dated June 15, 2007 from Stephen P. Benard; the contract period running July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Pete Bianchi seconded the Motion and the Motion carried unanimously.

Chris Mathewson made a Motion to accept the Animal Control Services contract for the period running from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. John Harvey seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

**F) Recreation Funds:** Chris Mathewson made a Motion to carry forward the amount of \$3,722 from FY07 to FY08 for the purpose of hiring a recreation director/coordinator. John Harvey seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

**G) Hold for 2008 for Pleasant Street Project:** Pete Bianchi made a Motion to carry forward \$39,243 from FY07 to FY08 for the highway department Pleasant Street project. John Harvey seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

#### **Item 5) Discussion Items:**

##### **A) Manager's Report:**

- The State is going to look into the seams that are coming apart in the paving project. There is a rut forming in front of Stewarts.
- The Regional Construction Engineer visited Tom to ask if he was satisfied with the work. Tom pointed out the areas where there are issues.
- CVPS will install a street light out by the jug handle. The Agency of Transportation was asked to place one in the middle of the jug handle. Discussion on the crosswalk and how to get people to observe the pedestrians between Stewarts and Price Chopper.
- The next business meeting is this Thursday.
- Pleasant Street has been paved. It needs the finishing touches and another 1" of pavement. Tom asked how the Board felt about having just one yellow stripe on Pleasant Street instead of a double line. The Board felt this was fine. Discussion about speeding of trucks on the new road. Tom will speak with the parties involved.
- Sean asked if there was anywhere that changes could be made in sewer and water department to streamline things? Tom felt there was excessive manpower. The Board would like Tom to act on streamlining this area. Discussion on checking for and cutting duplications in equipment, etc.

##### **Item 6) Board Member Concerns:**

**Pete** - 1) what is going to be done about the Rigg's building? The sidewalk is closed down by the yellow tape. 2) The patch on Clarendon Avenue came out well. The seam on the Clarendon Avenue bridge by McGann's may need some attention. 3) Is there anyway that something can be done to prevent the brush hog from throwing things into the road when in use? Tom will check.

**Sean** - 1) can an attachment for patching pavement be purchased or rented from Fairfield for doing small patches? 2) Need to have a rec committee meeting regarding hiring a director. Tom

has a job description. The Board set July 9th at 7:00 p.m. for this meeting at the regular Board meeting. Tom will also invite the School Board to this meeting. 3) Sean would like to see West Rutland work together with other Towns on equipment sharing, programs, etc. and would like to discuss this further. 4) Would like a Fire Department report every quarter.

**Dick** - the Town Garage door should be cleaned or painted.

**Item 7) Approve Orders:** The Orders were reviewed and approved as presented.

A Motion was made by Chris Mathewson to enter into Executive Session for a real estate and legal issue at 7:38 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Pete Bianchi and approved unanimously.

A Motion was made by Chris Mathewson to exit Executive Session 8:13 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Pete Bianchi and approved unanimously.

**Item 8) Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by John Harvey to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Pete Bianchi and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judi McCullough