

**Town of West Rutland
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2008
West Rutland Town Hall; 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Sean Barrows, Pete Bianchi, Nick Notte, Dick Daley, and Chet Brown, Jr.

Also Present: Judi McCullough, Mary Ann Goulette (Town Manager), Leo and Eva Wedin, Ernie Wedin, Alex Alexander, Joe Skaza, and Tom Witham.

Item 1) Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to Order at 6:05 p.m. by Sean Barrows. Dick Daley nominated Sean Barrows for chairman. Nick Notte seconded and it was approved unanimously.

Item 2) Approve Minutes from the Previous Meeting: Pete Bianchi made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting as written. Dick Daley seconded and it carried unanimously.

Item 3) Public Concerns:

A) Leo and Eva Wedin (animal complaint):

Leo and Eva Wedin brought a complaint regarding animals that their neighbors, the Brewster's, have. Tickets have been issued in the past for their dogs and a horse was hit in the road last fall. Discussion. Sheriff Giddings stated that if he saw the horses in the road, then he could issue a ticket, but it is a civil matter when they are in someone's yard. Dick Daley made a Motion to send a letter from the Town asking that they contain their animals for safety and nuisance reasons; and to prevent another accident involving these animals in the road. Nick Notte seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously. The Wedin's will be copied on the letter.

Joe Skaza again brought up the sand and gravel on the roads and how it has built up to the point of being a hazard. He feels it is over kill. Nick Notte had this issue as a Board member concern. Nick's suggestion is that the road be sanded going one way and not the other. The clean up is going to be a huge job and the drains are now going to need cleaning. Alex Alexander stated the sidewalks were also covered.

There is a tree on Clarendon Avenue that is getting very thin from the work a woodpecker has been doing to it. Mary Ann noted that CVPS has been notified and will be taking it down very soon.

Joe said that Jack Russell, a taxpayer in Town, stopped by and looked at the ladder truck and asked several questions regarding it. His business is located across the street from the fire department. He would like to buy the ladder truck for the Department and the Town and would like to know who to write the check to. Nick Notte made a Motion to accept the donation of \$5,000 to be used to pay for the ladder truck. Pete Bianchi seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously. Discussion of other matters regarding the fire department.

Item 4) Action Items:

A) Consider Liquor and Tobacco Licenses: Westside Tavern applied for a liquor license. Stewart's #198 and Rite Aid #1174 applied for liquor and tobacco licenses. Chet Brown made a Motion that the above requests for licenses be approved. Pete Bianchi seconded and the Motion

carried unanimously.

B) Appoint Town Officials: Dick Daley nominated Pete Bianchi as Vice Chair. Nick Notte seconded and it carried unanimously.

C) Municipal Water Hookup: A request for a water connection at 74 Thrall Avenue for Carris Reels was received and reviewed. Dick Daley made a Motion to approve the request for Municipal Water to Carris Reels at 74 Thrall Avenue. Nick Notte seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

Item 5) Discussion Items:

A) Manager's Report:

- The highway crew has been working on cleaning culverts to help with the drainage issues.
- Working on a Class II highway grant for 2 ½ miles of Whipple Hollow Road
- Mary Ann is trying to get a good working breakdown on costs for the highway department.
- The pump station had an issue over the weekend. A mop head was the issue.
- A local company approached the Town regarding municipal insurance rates.
- Dick and Mary Ann attended a fiber optic conference on Friday. Rutland City will be moving forward with this project. ValleyNet in the White River area is offering a similar project in that area. The would be for cable, telephone, and broadband. This would be a way of making money for the Town. A feasibility study would need to be done. Administration and financing of such a project needs to be looked into. Dick gave an overview of what such a system would provide. The next step would be to apply for a grant to conduct the feasibility study.
- The Chamber business show is tomorrow. A questionnaire will be available for people to fill out.
- The upstairs is moving ahead. The ribbon cutting will be March 27th starting at 7:00 p.m. The Governor has been invited as well as other guests.
- Due to Wallace Nolin winning a case regarding release of open record information, the Town needs to send the requested information to him. We are also allowed to charge a fee for the information.

Item 6) Board Member Concerns:

Pete - the culvert and ditch on Pleasant Street just near the Belock's property needs to be cleaned out. The catch basin gets very full too.

Nick - road sanding.

Chet - washing of the Town vehicles, noticed they were extremely dirty; and have some scratches that should be taken care of as soon as weather permits. Pot holes are pretty bad in Town, they need to be packed down when filled. The sewer truck is driving around with a snowplow on it. It is used as backup when there is a breakdown of a highway truck. There are some willow trees on Whipple Hollow Road that need to come down.

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

Item 8) Adjournment: A Motion was made by Pete Bianchi to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Dick Daley and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi McCullough