

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, September 13th, 2021
6:00 pm

Present: John Harvey, Chet Brown, Nick Notte and Jayne Pratt **Remote:** None

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Mike Moser, Chuck and Charles Greeno and fire chief Michael Skaza.

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

Agenda Approval: Motion by Nick seconded by Jayne to approve the agenda as written. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 9th, 2021. Motion approved. Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 31st, 2021. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: None

Action Items:

- a) **C & C Fireworks vendor permit** – Chuck and Charles Greeno submitted a vendor permit to operate a trailer at Wilk’s property on Route 4 to sell fireworks during the months of May through October. They currently operate in Pittsford and only sell to Pittsford residents that have a permit. Discussion on the current legislation and the conflicts that exists on who can possess fireworks. Municipalities do have the authority to require a permit for any person selling fireworks for supervised display. Also, any person wishing to purchase, possess and use fireworks for a public display must obtain a permit from the municipality. Michael Skaza, the fire chief was present and spoke that he was not in favor of increasing consumer use of fireworks. He questions how to determine who is competent operator and therefore we do not issue permits in West Rutland. Motion by Chet seconded by Nick to table the permit based on legal advice or until there is new legislation. Motion approved.
- b) **Frickin’ Chicken vendor permit** – We requested they attend at some of our little league games because the concession stand is not open. Mary Ann said it was a nice addition to the recreation area. Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to approve the vendor permit for Frickin’ Chicken. Motion approved.
- c) **Listers: Errors and Omissions** – The request from the listers is the addition of \$6,200 to the grand list. Upon inspection of the Corey Knoll Land Co. parcel 064002950 the listers have added a camp value, added a site value for the camp site and have adjusted the value of the 370 acre parcel value due to a power line access and easement. Motion made by Chet seconded by Jayne to approve the lister’s request to increase the value of parcel 064002950 owned by Corey Knoll Land Co. to \$315,700 an increase of \$6,200 based on the listers recent inspection. Motion approved unanimously.
- d) **Adopt VCDP Resolution** – Motion made by Chet seconded by Jayne to approve the VCDP resolution for grant #07110-IG-2020 of \$425,172.00. The grant is to provide

households that have been affected by COVID with housing related financial counseling and emergency payments for housing related costs in the form of mortgage, rental and utility payment assistance. NeighborWorks of Western Vermont will administer the grant. Motion approved unanimously.

- e) **Approve Subgrant Agreement with NeighborWorks of Western VT** – This agreement with NeighborWorks of Western VT is for the administration of VCDP grant #07110-IG-2020 for \$425,172.00. Motion made by Chet seconded by Jayne to approve the subgrant agreement with NeighborWorks of Western VT. Motion approved.
- f) **Set Water & Sewer Rates** - We haven't adjusted rates since 2018. Based on estimated readings, Mary Ann is recommending we increase the water base from \$105 to \$115 and the sewer fixed rate from \$189 to \$208. Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to increase the water base to \$115 and the sewer fixed rate to \$208. Motion approved.

Discussion Items:

Town Manager Report – Mary Ann suggested a public meeting to get input on how to spend the ARPA money totaling \$642,690. We sold the highway truck for \$39,000. Chief Skaza is installing a dry hydrant on Marble Street extension through a grant which requires a 25% match. The Pleasant Street water line and Thrall Avenue sidewalk projects are complete. Paving and the Dewey Avenue Road project will begin in the next few weeks. We will also start the sidewalk scoping study and the design/construction for the Marbleway Path. We were notified by the Rutland Planning Commission that West Rutland ERAF (Emergency Relief Assistance Fund) score is 17.5% which is the maximum score if communities take certain steps to reduce flood risk. This is important because with FEMA projects because the State will increase its match from 7.5% to 17.5%. Based on the \$758,607.62 award for the Dewey Avenue project our match will be reduced to \$56,895 instead of \$132,756. Block party will be held on Saturday, the fireworks will be displayed from the school.

Board Member Concerns:

Nick – need no parking on both corners of Marble Street and Thrall Avenue. Cars cannot see to exit Thrall also the ladder truck has a difficult time pulling into the fire station if cars are parked there. We are receiving complaints of cars speeding on Pleasant Street and Clarendon Avenue.

Executive Session: Motion made by Nick seconded by Chet to enter executive session at 6:45 to personnel issues. Motion to exit executive session at 6:52 by Chet seconded by Jayne. No action taken.

Adjournment: Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm and Chet seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette