

Ehrhard Frost
CERTIFIED ECOFORESTER
N.H.L.P.F. #103



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25 June 2013

Georgette- Wolf-Ludwig, Town Clerk
Town of Fairlee
PO Box 95
Fairlee, VT 05045

COPY

Dear Georgette

Thank you for your letter of 19 June 2013. I appreciate all the material you pulled together as well as your assistance when I stopped by the Town Office to review the file.

Unfortunately, the Bidding Time Line, prepared 18 June 2013, does not satisfy my request for documents related to the bidding process. This is merely a summary of the process created after the fact and does not represent my complete document request, specifically Redstart Forestry's original proposal.

Frankly, I am appalled that Redstart's original proposal was "shredded or thrown out". This is inappropriate procedure for conducting municipal business. It also calls into question why this document destroyed instead of maintained as a part of the file. The documents that I reviewed at your office on 13 June included letters, notes, email and other information pertaining not only to the bid process, but to various other Town Forest issues and discussions. Why is every possible scrap of information included in the file, yet this document was destroyed? Is there something to hide? The inclusiveness of the file and the fact that Redstart's original proposal is absent appears inconsistent. Was this document actually destroyed or simply withheld? If it was destroyed, when did this occur? Upon receipt of Redstart's revised bid or after my request was made. When I requested documents from David Mattews by phone he stating repeatedly "I'm not going to do it"; he never stated that any document was unavailable. This method of conducting Town business is unacceptable.

Fortunately, the solution is very simple: obtain another copy of the original proposal from Redstart. I trust that they have either a paper copy and/or an electronic copy on their computer. Along with a copy of that original proposal, I would also like a copy of any and all correspondence/email between the Town of Fairlee, Redstart and the Town Forest Committee regarding my document request along with any other documents pertaining to forestry activities on the Town Forest.

Thank you again for your help. My check #9284 for \$3.80 is enclosed. If I may, I will collect the other copies in the file that I chose not to take on the 13th of June when I stop by to pick up the outstanding requested documents.

Sincerely,

Ehrhard Frost,
Certified Ecoforester, NHLPF # 103
VT Certified Pesticide Applicator
NRCS TSP-11-7197

CC: Mary Daly, Fairlee Selectboard Chair and Annette Lorraine, Attorney at Law