

## Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes - February 6, 2006

### Present

Berenice Brooks  
Alene Evans  
Henry Martin, chair

Jeffrey Russ  
Irvin Stowell  
Select Board

### Participating Members

William Eckhardt & Richard Jackson, Forrest Jacobs  
Townshend Business Loan  
Mr. Stevens Grafton Emergency Mgmt  
John Evans

The chair ***called the Meeting to Order, recognizing Participating Members:***

Grafton, Vermont fire chief and emergency management coordinator **Eric Stevens** asked if Grafton and Townshend highway departments couldn't coordinate radio frequencies, enabling neighboring towns to assist each other in times of emergency. After minimal discussion, the members agreed on this venture and *Martin moved to sign the radio operate able agreement drafted by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Brooks unanimously carried by the Board.* Townshend's road foreman joined the meeting, agreeing to work and coordinate with Grafton's road foreman.

Stevens mentioned additional emergency response and NIMS classes for select and school boards, fire department, etc. Martin expressed his interested in attending such classes. Stevens left at 7:15 PM

William Eckhardt & Richard Jackson, members of the Townshend Business Revolving Loan Fund (TBRLF) presented their recommendation to lend Zip Jacobs money. TBRLF exists in conjunction with the Chittenden Bank to lend money to local town businesses. After minimal discussion, as the Board had previously reviewed Zip Jacobs loan, *Martin moved to approve Forest "Zip" Jacobs loan application of \$4,000, as presented by the Townshend Business Revolving Loan Fund committee persons, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.* Eckhardt, Jackson & Jacobs left at 7:20 PM

**Road foreman**, Kurt Bostrom spoke about:

Ordered an additional 1500 yards of sand, at Cersosimo's quoted price only good until May. Members were advised as to why the Town should not stock pile next year's sand, now, at this price.

Last week, truck #6's transmission sprung a leak, upon examination found it had no oil coolant. The time warranty may have expired but Bostrom believes the Town should follow up, as the truck's repair bill states "! transmission was back flushed with coolant and topped off! ".

What should be done with this vehicle?

repair; replace;  
the need in having another one ton;  
cycle out vehicle replacement

Options to purchase and/or replace trucks met with discussion and with many opinions. Martin asked that Stowell and Bostrom work together on how and what to purchase to best serve the Town in the long run.

- Received new street signs, in the old sized lettering even though specified new size

- Additional blind person signage is needed in Simpsonville and the need to eliminate water pooling between W. Joyce's and D. Williams property
- Stowell will follow up as to what roads Jewell Trucking wanted in their excess weight permit application. Bostrom left at 7:45 PM

Around 7:50 PM John Evans popped in to present his concept on utilizing the "Janos" building for a fire station, thus allowing for the Town Garage to be reconstructed at its present site and leaving the Taft Meadows open land. Members did not interrupt Evans in his verbal and diagrammed presentation and ideas; some members even agreed with the concept. The longer J. Evans spoke the more defined and expanded his concept became to include the possibilities for Town use and the ability to rent out office space; the possibilities of leasing to the Town; the need to recreate the house lot allowing fire truck access. At this time price was irrelevant, added J. Evans,

Martin felt that, as a result of last weeks Taft Meadow's public meeting, the public pressure that time is of the essence. For the past three years committee's, personnel, etc. have been addressing the needs and where to build a fire station and town garage. He added that Janos owners had given the Town first opportunity to purchase the property. Martin reiterated the need for additional studies, etc would further lengthen this process and time spent. He personally felt this was worth looking into but not until the Town receives a dollar value to purchase, renovating, leasing, etc. and it is offered to the Town. J Evans left at 8:25 PM.

**1a. Liquor Control Board** —Harmonyville Store 2<sup>nd</sup> \$50 class.  
*Stowell moved to approve and sign Harmonyville Store's Second Class Liquor License, seconded by Brooks, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.*

**1b. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:** TR — financial year end account statements & revenue

**1d. Board of Health:** no report

*Martin moved to approve the **Minutes - Jan 16<sup>th</sup>** — ~~23~~, seconded by Brooks. Stowell requested clarification - page 3 bottom, Hege submitted a draft MEMO for Board approval — approved unanimously by the Board.*

### **3. Old Business**

**Windham County Sheriff Dept** —Brooks will be attending Sheriff Prue's invitation Wednesday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> to learn of the Dept. new computer software; the Town needs to communicate that it does not want deputy patrolling and the Town will not pay for it. The Town did ask for their services on Halloween and to assist in the removal of unattended animals at Diane Jesse Lynn Gentlewolf's residence.

The Board agreed to proceed in the acquisition of law enforcement after Town Meeting.

**Certification of Mileage** —Stowell agreed with the State's mileage lengths on Townshend's Class 3 and 4 roads, so the Board signed the document for its transmittal back to the VTrans.

**CVPS — East Hill project** The Board reviewed David Austin, CVPS's corrected pole placement up East Hill Road to the Duke residence and easement deed. *Stowell moved to sign the Duke Extension Petition on East Hill Road and the guy wire easement for \$1.00, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.*

**FEMA** —Meetings on Flood Insurance were held on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Cell Tower** —Russ reported having no luck in finding an official to respond to his calls.

**Taft Meadows** —Since J. Evans' presentation with no particulars regarding his concept, the chair asked what was the Board's next move, where do we go from here - a Bond vote

**L&G Drill Team practice** —Martin interrupted a group practicing their rifle twirling upstairs in the Town Hall. It appeared to him that they were not using the mats to catch the uncaught rifles. He also spoke to a very uncooperative instructor. Davis, who had given them permission to have winter practice, in the fall of 2004, answered the Board's questions. She was give permission to speak to their instructor before the Board takes action.

**Common Parking** —Martin indicated that he would speak with Emily Long, chair of the L&G Board on the increased off campus parking during school hours.

#### **4. New Business**

- *Martin moved to accept Marjorie Holt, rep of the Townshend Historical Society's offer to restore the Acton Town Charter, old map and ledger establishing the L&G Seminary, seconded by Russ. Stowell wants to make that any records being restored are public, not under someone else's ownership.*
- Wright Construction from ??? wrote a letter of interest in the construction of the new Town Garage.
- *With regret, Martin moved to accept Stanley Holt's resignation as assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.*
- Hege presented Rescue Inc charts: number of transports for the year and transfers between hospitals.

*At 9:10 PM A. Evans moved into Executive Session under Title 1, Section 313 to discuss contractual matters, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.*

*At 9:25 PM Martin moved out of Executive Session, seconded by Brooks, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Ann Bernhardt of B&B Appraisers had requested a meeting with Martin and Allie to apprise them of two issues:

- The State downloaded incorrect software to calculate the appraisal of Town properties. Many frustrated hours were wasted before the State sent someone down to investigate the problem. B&B is willing to work with the Town in writing the State for an appropriate reimbursement for time spent to correct previous work.
- Not having enough listers present to work / assist in preparing Townshend's re evaluation: Meyer is on vacation, Lott absent without explanation; Lucier limited in experience but present; the need for a competent data input person.  
Bernhardt believed that the Select Board had approved to B&B for recruits from their own staff to perform lister duties in order to meet their contractual agreement.

The chair received Board support to continue, "hiring" B&B but will ask that they provide weekly documentation of hours and work performed and expenses.

Martin consulted the town attorney regarding the Select Board's legal responsibility in the matters presented by B&B. The Board asked their clerk to invite all Listers, in writing, to their Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Jesse-Lynn V. Gentlewolf's January letter re: Windham County Sheriff Department's Town's contract 2005 had been read, along with a response written with legal guidance.
- On Jan 26<sup>th</sup> Cora Trowbridge from the Brattleboro Community TV visited with Martin. She welcomed posting town meetings on the BCTV and was invited to a reception with their new director to exchange ideas.
- Paul Bousquet of West Townshend dropped off a booklet "Nuclear Emergency Preparedness" for Board perusal.
- Townshend Pizza's fkn the Corner Store flower boxes, their lack of clearing off the sidewalk and corner in front of the business met with discussion. Also discussed were cars parked overnight on the Rte 30. Their removal will be addressed as Stowell volunteered to get their license plate numbers.

*Martin moved to **Pay Bills and Sign the following Orders**, seconded by Evans*

SM06 — \$13,970.43 plus N. Holden \$4,000 State report of Oct, Nov were submitted by the Treasurer  
SMPR06 - \$2,808.03 Road Com Ords wk/ending

*unanimously carried and signed by the Board.*

Davis reported that she did not have Arnold Cole's time sheet for tonight's payment. Martin replied that time sheets and documentation is needed before any payment.

Board members agreed with Stowell's frustration of the Town Treasurer continued disregard in cooperation and in preparation of the necessary financial papers and reports, specifically the reporting of October & November 2005 highway expenses to the VTrans.

The Board will discuss with the Listers the reporting of their time.

**6. Other Business**

- St of VT:
- WW & Potable Water permit, Camperama subdivided
  - Stratton Corp. Tamarack Height's ACT 250

VLCT's report of unemployment compensation being collected by Richard Thomas

Lane Construction's late payment letter but Bostrom just got & paid the bill

Fisher & Fisher's transmittal letter of their refund dated January 20<sup>th</sup>; Wasung wrote upon it that this money was posted as a 05 receivable.

**8. Time of Next Meeting —Feb 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Brooks moved to **Adjourn at 9:45 PM**, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board.