

Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes - April 16, 2007 Postponed to Tuesday, April 17, 2007 due to highway washouts

Present

Alene Evans, vice chair Carole Melis
R. Michael Donahue Jeffrey Russ

Participating members:

Elizabeth Garfield & Corydon Sleeper,
Planning Commissioners, Jennifer Joyce
and Fredrick Hege

Vice chair, Evans, called the ***Meeting to Order*** at 7:00 PM and recognized ***Participating Members:***

Elizabeth Garfield and Corydon “Cory” Sleeper, Planning Commissioners (PC) presented information on stream classifications and definitions focusing on B1, B2 and B3. Garfield answered all questions, and offered the Selectboard the opportunity to add their comments to the PC, undated, letter to ANR. After discussion the Selectboard took no action, because more information was needed before accepting the PC's decision to classify all streams as B3.

Mrs. Garfield brought the Selectboard up-to-date on the work the PC has done to consider the possibilities of renovating the Town Hall. Melis volunteered to be the Board's liaison to work with Garfield in this cooperative venture and to keep the line of communication open. Garfield and Sleeper left at 7:20 PM

The ***Highway foreman*** reported that the Simpson Brook Road remained the last road to be made passable after the April 15th, 2007 flood. John Alexander, VTrans District 2, was coming tomorrow morning at 7:00 AM to review our road damage. He reported our damages to the Vermont Emergency Management and was told that FEMA would be here Friday. Bostrom left at 7:25 PM

After reading the offerings from the George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. *Melis moved to allow Jennifer Joyce to contact the George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. to see what financial support they can offer the Town following this storm, seconded by Donahue, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Evans reported that Vermont State Trooper, Rick Hopkins meeting has been rescheduled to May 7th.

Jennifer Joyce's request for the L&G Alumni Association to have their parade, around the Common, June 16th at 7:00 PM was *moved approved by Melis, seconded by Donahue, unanimously carried by the Board.*

1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:

Evans reported on her conversation with Michalina Wasung, Town Treasurer ,regarding the Board's last memo. Wasung understood that the Town would apply for a

\$100,000 State Municipal Loan this fall. When she finds the time she will provide financial details on reserves. She did not continue the crushing gravel \$15,000 reserve to 2007-08 because the highway had a deficit.

Evans explained that the Town Treasurer has only provided financial statements up to December 2006 noting that she had not edited Decembers. Auditor, Jennifer Joyce will write a request to the Treasurer asking her to provide up-to-date financial statements.

*Evans moved to approve **Minutes of April 2, 2007**, seconded Russ, Melis presented copies of Robert Rules sample minutes for consideration. She asked the Board to consider not publishing the draft Minutes only the final approved ones. She followed with corrections to these minutes. Evans suggested continuing this discussion under Old Business at the Board's next meeting. After making the corrections *Melis moved to approve the corrected minutes, seconded by Donahue, carried by the Board.**

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

SM06-07 — 20	\$19,227.50 plus B&B Assoc. \$4564.00; WE Beattie (Mosely) \$700.07
SMPR06-07 — 19	\$ 1,466.40 Road Com Ords wk/ending 4/07

unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

4. Old Business

Telephone rates —After obtaining various telephone rates for the Town Hall and Town Barn phones, Melis recommended that the Board to accept Sovernet's three year offer, monthly charges to be \$165.78, estimated savings of \$2,240+/- . After discussion, *Evans moved to authorize Melis to pursue switching the Town's present phone service to Sovernet, seconded by Donahue, unanimously carried by the Board.*

VLCT D. Cloud's interview —Members thought the process was worthwhile and should result in productive comments. Evans believes he'll be calling the Listers and Auditors and his written report will be available by May 11th.

State Highway budget —Russ, Bostrom & Stowell completed our Annual Financial Plan report to VTrans establishing our 2007-08 Highway budget. After review *Evans moved to accept and sign this report, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.* Russ left at 8:15 PM.

CLA —The State informed Evans that it was standard procedure for the Listers' to request the State to re-calculate our new CLA (Common Level of Appraisal).

Outstanding NEMRC invoices —Evans briefly explained why the Town has received a second notice to pay outstanding invoices from New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) It started last year when the Town was charged for the installation of software

into Michalina Wasung's personal laptop and her purchasing of a new printer. The Board agreed to have Melis draft Wasung a letter (which will be e-mailed to Evans & Donahue; Evans will sign) with explanations of the Board's action and inviting her to attend a meeting.

Certificates of Insurance —Evans volunteered to call MEC (Michael Cutts) for a copy of his Certificate of Insurance, as the Town Treasurer has had to postpone our Workers Comp audit due to lack of these certificates or completed Hold Harmless forms.

Sidewalk snow removal —The Board took under advisement Carleton Smith's April 13th letter explaining the damages done to her picket fence by the Town's snow blower.

Action was tabled on filling the vacant snow blower operator position.

Valley Cares' —

- The Town was copied R. Crego, of Valley Cares letter requesting that Atty. Fisher perform a title opinion on their properties.
- Both Evans and Melis had received phone inquiries on the pending danger of the crane hanging over the Grafton Road. It could be violation of VOSHA regulations. Evans added that both law enforcement agencies told her there was nothing illegal with its location.

Listers' Permit —Melis believes that the Board should follow up with the Listers' idea to formulate some kind of building permit, that would keep them informed and up-to-date with property construction & renovations. She will invite the Listers' to the Board's May 7th meeting at 7:15 PM to start the discussion on this project.

FEMA's May 28th correspondence — Instructed the Town to review and comment on the July 29, 2004 preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Windham County. Davis will follow up on the receipt and location of these documents.

5. New Business

Marlboro Morris Ale Assoc. will not be dancing in Townshend on Memorial Day weekend.

VTrans Traffic Operations — Program Development Division's April 10th letter informing the Town of its improper posting of one hour parking in front of the Dutton Gym was reviewed. After discussion, *Melis moved to call the State Traffic Operations to have this area legally posted for one-hour parking, seconded by Donahue, carried by the Board.*

Evans will ask F. Bailey, Town maintenance person, to remove these signs.

No board action on correspondence:

Amend to Amendment Gen. Permit 3-9010 (storm water discharging)

VT Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired — town funding application process

Hege presented copies of the internal word search, used on our Web site, which shows specifically that on line visitors are seeking information about services and businesses.

He also announced that the Townshend School Board would be warning a special town meeting for May 30th to discuss the installation of water purification equipment. This reminded Davis that Melis was going to inquire as how or when to apply this year's educational income sensitive pre bate to taxpayers tax bills. After minimal discussion, Melis will draft an article specific to applying this year's pre bate for inclusion in this special Town Meeting e-mail it to Donahue & Evans. Townshend School Board will be informed of the inclusion of this additional article in their Warning and to remind the Selectpersons that they need to sign it.

6. Other Business no action taken

- St of VT:
- Gordon & Sharon Bush subdivide property and Permit WW-2-2577 pin# ns 07-0134
 - Scott DeFelice annex lot 3 into lot 5
 - Certificate of Ins from Carleton Trucking and Larry Brown Excavating
 - VLCT news; Grace Cottage Hospital 2006 Annual Report (booklet)
 - Thank you letters from HCRS of Southeastern Vermont and Brattleboro Area Hospice for Social Service money

7. Executive Session — none at this time

8. Time of Next Meeting —May 7, 2007

*Melis moved to **Recess** this meeting in order to join and sign the Special Town Meeting May 30, 2007 Warning, seconded by Evans, carried by the Board.*

Respectfully,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard

Joint Meeting with Townshend Elementary School and Selectboard
7:00 PM on April 23, 2007 at the Townshend Elementary School
to review and sign for Special Town and Town School District Meeting

Selectpersons present: R. Michael Donahue, Alene Evans (arrived later), Carole Melis and Jeffrey Russ when Kathleen Hege, chair of the Townshend School Board called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and read the entire Warning which included the Town's Article that had been prepared by Melis and reviewed by Donahue and Evans:

(ARTICLE 2) Shall the Town of Townshend apply the Property Tax "Prebates" in full to the earliest installments of taxes due, to the extent that these payments are funded by the State?

After review and discussion David Dezendorf, Townshend School Board Members moved to approve and sign the Warning for Special Town and Town School District Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2007 at 7:30 PM at the Townshend Elementary School. Unanimously carried and signed it.

At 7:10 PM the Selectboard's April 16, 2007 meeting was adjourned.