

Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes — January 3, 2006

Present:

Henry Martin, chair
Berenice Brooks,
Alene Evans,

Jeffrey Russ
Irvin Stowell
Select Board

Participating Members:

William Uptegrove, West River Watershed
Alliance
Fredrick Hege, Rescue, WEB
Andy Rosen, Brattleboro Reformer reporter

At 7:03 pm the chair **called the meeting to order**, recognizing **Participating Members:**

West River Watershed Alliance provided copies of the results of their water testing. The Board having no questions for representative, William Uptegrove he presented WR Watershed Alliance's request for a Town Meeting "article" of funds - \$260, based on 90% of \$.25 per capita. This money added to their grants will allow them to become more effective and have more freedom. Uptegrove left at 7:15

Fredrick Hege:

- carried a message from the Townshend District School Board that they were prepared to separately warn their articles, should it be necessary.
- **Rescue** asked that the fire departments change their "run cards" to Rescue first responder, Jamaica 2nd technical rescue extraction.

Rescue has changed response procedures: if District 2 was dispatched for a long run or when responding to Stratton Mtn. Should the injured be transported to Bennington the Rescue team will return to Brattleboro and another team will be dispatched to District 2, finishing out the shift.

Rescue wants to expand coverage by approaching Athens, Grafton to make sure the area is not underserved and the Rescue unit, damaged while responding to assist Louisiana after hurricane Katrina, will be returned from Houston, repaired.

- **Web site:** would like to expand the WEB site to allow for better communications between boards, etc. (inviting Town Clerk, Bean). The site has been averaging 3 taps, coming from all over the country. Evans was unsure as to answer e-mails as she didn't realize they were coming from Hege; tomorrow he will, again, work with Bean and next week with Davis, transferring minutes.

On a personal manner, he was a bit annoyed with the Reformer's article about the Listers' vacancy. As he has been attending these meetings, he was unaware that the Board had been notified of this vacancy or instructed the search. At which time, Rosen dropped in, apologized for not first confirming this information with the Select Board.

Stowell was given Denise Meyer's resignation after the BCA Board of Abatement, December 28th, for presentation to a full board.

1b. Road Foreman: Kurt Bostrom appeared at 7:30 PM asking "what's up"; discussed the difficulties in getting bills, such as Lane Construction Corp, for payment. (inviting the Town Clerk and Treasurer to attend their January 16th meeting). The road crew will be cleaning up around town, especially in front of the Heins Home. Bostrom left at 7:40 pm.

1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer: no report

1c. Board of Health: no report.

Brooks moved to approve the **Minutes of December 19th and 28th**, seconded by Stowell, carried by the Board. As clarification Brooks asking the Sheriff Dept. about Jesse Lynn Gentlewolf was stricken. Martin abstained

3. Old Business:

Windham County Sheriff's Dept. —Brooks wrote a note to Nancy at the Dept, requesting a meeting to discuss the Dept's reporting of Townshend incidents.

Martin will speak to Sheriff Prue as a follow up to just receiving her signed contract of the Department providing deputy coverage with the Town of Townshend.

Members discussed the amount of ticket monies received by the Town.

CVPS — East Hill easement Stowell spoke of their on site meeting, including Hedge. Some of the trees, noted for removal, are dead; other trees to be cut down are supposed to be painted. He asked other Board members to visit the proposed easement.

Town Hall heating —Russ was reminded to investigate the present heat zones and to provide an automatic thermostat.

Social Services Report —This Committee will be ask to attend the Board's January 10th, budget workshop to discuss this year's contributions.

Valley Cares —The Board has been asked to approve and accept various conditions for Town cooperation, to comply with grants received by Valley Care. Clerk Davis, will make copies for discussion with Robert Crego at their January 16th meeting.

4. New Business:

The chair had received correspondence from the State of Vermont Public Safety Vermont State Police requesting an appointment of a community member to serve on a Community Advisory Board.

Davis was instructed to invite Sgt. Richmond Hopkins to their January 16th meeting.

- After receiving Denise Meyer's resignation from the Board of Listers, *the chair moved to accept, with regret, Denise Meyer's resignation as Lister, seconded by Brooks, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Davis was asked to post this vacancy, requesting a letter of interest to be received by January 13th and to post seeking a citizen to consider serving on the Community Advisory Board.

- Stowell would like to confirm Townshend's road mileage before the Board signs the State's Certification of Mileage.

- Land Committee requests a joint meeting — January 9th (reminder Select budget workshop January 10th)

- State of Vermont Department of Taxes reported that Townshend's coefficient was at 25.74%. The Board took no action but Evans volunteered to follow up with the Dept of Taxes on what this means to the Town.

5. Pay Bills and Sign Orders:

The Town had yet received any new bills for payment.

The Board approved payment to Megan Richardson, Del. Tax Collector of penalties (\$3,032.25) from collection of December delinquent taxes.

Stowell reviewed the Town's personnel policy confirming the end of the year payment of highway department's unused vacation and sick time. This prompted discussion - Road Commissioner Orders were signed.

6. Other Business:

St of VT ANR Permits: - Steven Lott/Townshend Furniture
- Anna May Ray

7. Executive Session — none at this time

8. Time of Next Meeting — **January 16, 2006**

At 8:45 PM Brooks moved to **Adjourn**, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board

