

## Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes - February 19, 2007

Present:

Berenice Brooks  
Alene Evans  
Henry Martin

Jeffrey Russ  
Irvin Stowell,  
Selectboard

Participating members:

Fredrick Hege

**Martin called the Meeting to Order at 7:05 PM** and proceeded along the agenda:

*1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:* no correspondence

*1b. Highway foreman:* not present; minimal discussion ensued regarding time frame in submitting the Class 2 Highway Grant Application.

**Martin moved to approve the Minutes of January 29, 2007 , seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.**

**Martin moved to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2007 , seconded by Brooks,** minor correction “ of the L&G district” not State;**minutes corrected and carried by the Board.**Russ abstained

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

SM06-07 - 14 \$7658.20

SMPR06-07-15 \$1821.72

Road Com Ords - vac&sick time and wk ending 2/10, 1/27

- Incomplete - Equip wkending 1/20/07 & 2/17

Members questioned why were they receiving Highway Orders long after the orders were prepared by the road foreman and why were they signing/approving incomplete sets of Highway Orders?

Stowell responded to Martin’s question that the number of bucket loads to remove delivered sand would be the only way to verify the amount delivered; if you can see the pile of loaded sand in the truck’s dump body than it could probably be overweight.

#### 4. Old Business

**Dominic Cloud, VLCT MAP -** Evans spoke of her conversation with Cloud (who had called to cancel a workshop she was attending). She asked his thoughts on the board creating some type of a citizen committee to work with town officers because she didn’t want this citizen board to interfere with his up and coming work. Evans believes that many towns’ people think that the Selectboard has power over elected officials. Cloud’s response was that towns benefit when more townspeople become aware and involved in the functioning of their town.

Members expressed their frustrations over the: lack of communication. The longer there is no communication the thicker the walls become between and among town officers. The appearance of

underlying turbulence; people are not working together; no one is seeking to be a selectperson; most people don't listen, nor do they read our reports/minutes or attend our meetings; to consider hiring an arbitrator to settle disputes or adopting the town manager form of governing and what elected officers can and cannot do. Martin hoped that all of these issues would be addressed when Cloud starts his work.

**Certification of Mileage** — Was signed and mailed with appropriate documentation eliminating TH #12 (Knapp Rd).

**Old Acton Rd** —Stowell reviewed the Town's documents, which changed that portion of the "Old Acton Rd" from the Windham Hill Rd to Tannery Brook, as a trail. This entire road continues beyond the Tannery Brook on to the Back Windham Rd. This road will be included in the ancient road research.

**Parking on sidewalk** —Discussion and ramifications on the Memo given to everyone asking that all day parking on the sidewalk in front of the Town Hall, cease.

## 5. *New Business*

- Two Letters of Interest were received from Cory Sleeper and Brad Horn. Copies were provided to the Planning Commission so they can make a recommendation to the Selectboard.
  - The Planning Commission invited the Selectboard to their Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:15 pm to hear updates from John Bennett, WRC, on typing water in flood zones.
- Their clerk was instructed to update the US Census names — chair of Selectboard & Planning Commission.
- The Town received Verizon's Pole Placement along Back Windham Rd near Gale Rd, which Stowell reported on at the last meeting. After minimal discussion *Stowell moved to sign Verizon's pole petition, which included notifying the road foreman before the cutting of trees, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried and signed by the Board* Document given to Town Clerk for recording.
- OHCC's updated the Town with copies of documentation to amend their ACT 250 Permit re: changing the upper parking lot lights to the style on the Grafton Rd parking lot, noting that this amendment may not be necessary for this change. Their clerk was asked to inform OHCC, Jim Crozier, that the Town had no oppositions to this change.
- The Board had no objections to Stanley Holt, chair of the GCH Fair Day, request for use of the Common July 27 — August<sup>th</sup>5
- Correspondence from David Allen and his service to provide Old highway Maps will be kept handy for possible consideration, in plotting "ancient roads".
- Lynde Well Drilling, Inc. Overweight Permit (accompanied with their Certificate of Insurance) was conformed and signed by Stowell.

- No objections for United Way to present a survey at Town Meeting.
- Preparation for pre-town meeting:
  - request additional monies (infrastructure/law enforcement)
  - who will speak to what;
  - amounts of money to be appropriated then taxed;
  - each article was reviewed and addressed briefly. Brooks left at 9:05 PM

*6. Other Business*

- Library's proposed 07-08 budget
- Bernard Sanders promotional letter
- Certificate of Liability Insurance: Valley Crane Service Inc & Renaud Bros.
- R. Bean collected unemployment
- Vt Coalition of Municipalities — policy position on Education Finance & Property Tax Reform

*7. Executive Session* — none at this time

*8. Time of Next Meeting* - pre Town Meeting Info 2/27; regular meeting March 5<sup>th</sup>

***At 9:15 PM Russ moved to Adjourn, seconded by Stowell, carried by the Board.***

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard