

Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes - April 17, 2006

Present

Berenice Brooks Jeffrey Russ
 Alene Evans, Irvin Stowell, vice chair
Henry Martin, absent Select Board

Participating Members

Anita Bean, Town Clerk; Nancy Papodopondlos
 Walter Meyer, Lister; Kurt Bostrom, Road Foreman

The vice chair ***called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 PM*** and recognized *Participating Members*:

Anita Bean, ***Town Clerk***, and the Board reviewed the Town Hall “hazard identification survey” prepared by Wade Mansure, VLCT, Sr. Loss Control Consultant and discussed action plans with the easiest solutions to remedies for involved long-term hazards; Evans suggested getting Mr. Onyon’s thoughts regarding electrical needs.

The Common will be in use on July 6th, reported Bean. Bean left at 7:10 PM

Later in the meeting Stowell volunteered to review the condition and artifacts stored in the Town Hall basement; discussed hiring a handyman; having a work bee; considering auctioning off the “old stuff”.

1a. Liquor Control Board —

Nancy Papadopoulos, owner & operator of Townshend Pizza spoke to her application for Outside Consumption.

She examined the space/porch in which she will serve food to her customers by acquiring smaller flowerpots, moving them closer together as to not interfere with the sidewalk. Evans only concern was “litter” flying about the villages. After complete discussion *Brooks moved to approve Townshend Pizza’s Outside Consumption application (to be signed and submitted to the State by the Town Clerk) seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Vice Chair, Stowell read aloud three Outside Consumption Applications from Tannery Brook Hospitality Corp. (Windham Hill Inn), why three different locations and sizes he moved to table any action, and asked the Clerk to invite them to the Board’s next meeting.

1b. Town Treasurer: Note written inquiring on progress in sending out 6 month Municipal Tax Bill.

1c. Highway foreman’s report:

- cost to purchase new one ton, not including body or plow. He was directed to “nail” down a purchase price for Board consideration.
- After sweeping Jamaica’s roads, Richard Pratt will be in Town (Grafton Rd to Hospital, Common, Depot, Wordon, Round Hill Rd and Water Street). He will ask if the State is going to remove Rte 30 (Village) sand.
- What’s causing the sinkhole in front of the Grade School?
- Brooks requested that the culvert in front of the Fire Station screen be cleaned.

- WRC wants our to mark culverts, they will be plotted, inventoried as to condition, access, etc. Bostrom relayed that WRC would like a Town appreciation letter (working with them).
- Pent Rd / Red Wing / R. Able (extension off State Forest Rd ending at the residence) to avoid confusion *Stowell moved to name the State Forest Rd extension into the camp ground to R Able Lane, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.* Application will be made to modify 911 to name R Able Lane.
- Better Back Roads — 2005 Grant (Plumb Rd clay bank stabilization) Bostrom met with Northwestern Improvements to hear their stabilization ideas on stabilization. He completely understands that they control the monies as they will be getting additional rights-of-way from adjacent landowners, signing off on these repairs.
- Fixed a Grafton Rd culvert located at the intersection with Greenwood Dr.
- Before fuel prices escalate any higher, Stowell asked that Bostrom contact paving companies for their 2006 blacktopping bid. He continued discussing with Bostrom how to repair/reshape "Rte 35 / Athens Rd". Bostrom left at 7:45 PM

The vice chair acknowledged receipt of Walter Meyer's, Lister letter and discussed where was the money coming from to fulfill his recommendation that the Town hire James Boyle of B&B Appraisals to complete the Townshend's 2006 Grand List (\$45/hr (25 — 40 est. hrs) and \$20/hr data entry (less than 150 hrs)); all agreeing this expenditure would reflect in the Lister's salary/data person. No one has had any correspondence from lister Robert Wright. Meyer left at 8:00 PM

1d. Board of Health: no report

*Stowell moved to approve the **Minutes of April 3, 2005**, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.*

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

SM06-08 — \$21,212.31

SMPR06-08 - \$1,366.36

Road Com Ords wk/ending 4/8 & 15

unanimously carried by the Board.

4. Old Business

Excess Weight Permits —Stowell presented all completed previously Permits for mailing. He signed AS Clark & Sons permit.

Discontinued Knapp Rd — Stowell had reviewed the completed formal discontinuance order of Knapp Rd Town Highway #12 and asked that the site visit time of 6:00 pm be added; members proceeded to sign the discontinuance order for recording.

Fountain — Russ updated the status on the Fountain:

- new in ground water connection will be installed — as the “ditch” has been dug; the silk from the bottom of the holding tank should be removed before installing the pump;
- Cory Sleeper is waiting receipt of a steel piece to complete assembling the Fountain;
- W. Joyce stands ready to paint the basin;
- the Fountain is presently painted all white;
- to be installed before Memorial Day weekend?
- the response to why the road crew couldn't assist in the Fountain's upkeep, Stowell was told that highway maintenance is more important.

Listers' Advisor —Everyone felt that the meeting with Terri Gildersleve, Select Board members Evans, Russ, Stowell and Listers Lucier, Meyer & Royce was very beneficial. But members were very distressed at Lucier's reactionary letter of his comments to statements said at this meeting (copies of this meeting minutes will be available).

WCSD — Because of the present financial vows and status of the Windham County Sheriff Prue, the Board's consensus is to wait taking any action regarding the Dept's outstanding invoices — still remaining very concerned on Deputy Lake's remarks to Evans & Brooks of “hidden costs” not reflected on deputy's time. What's waiting a few more months, the Town has been trying unsuccessfully to resolve this for the past two years.

Town Hall Roof —Davis received permission from vice chair Stowell to send out bid requests to repair the Town Hall slated roofs. Bids to be returned by April 24th. She forgot to show the draft bid request at the Board's April 3rd meeting.

Janos Property - A Evans had heard that J Evans is not following through to purchase the Janos property; she still remains interested in purchasing only the house property. Realtor, Dale Thiel, had phoned the chair with this update.

Letter to Editor from L&G Color Guard —Members were upset to the tone of this letter some called Emily Long, chair of L&G Board of Directors and L&G's principal. The letter depicts the Town as mistreating these students and not willing to work with the school, in the contrary the Town has bent over backwards to get along and work with the School. The principal indicated to Evans that he would be responding to the Letter to the Editor.

Appointments —To be addressed April 17th, waiting M. DeWitt's return to discuss her appointment as Town Service Officer.

5. New Business

- Northern Benefit, Ltd. submitted their comparison with BC/BS in providing health insurance — no action taken
- The Select Board granted permission for L&G Alumni Assoc. to have a parade — June 19, 2006 at 5:00 PM.

- The Board asked that Stowell work with their clerk to get out the Highway's Spring bid — sand, culverts, paving, road side mowing.

6. Other Business - reviewed, no action taken

- St of VT:
- Valley Cares — adding Charles Marchant's property to their 2W08994 permit
 - CVPS distribution three-phase; project review
 - Richard Wilson's Rte 30/Plumb Rd subdivision
 - ANR lift Anna May Rae's lot 3 deferral
- NBF availed their Architectural services for Town Hall renovations.

7. Executive Session

8. Time of Next Meeting — May 1, 2006

*Brooks moved to **Adjourn at 9:15 pm**, seconded Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board

Townshend Select Board April 14, 2006 at 5:30 PM
with Board of Listers and Townshend's PVR advisor, Teri Gildersleve

Present Board of:

Select: Alene Evans, Jeffrey Russ & Irvin Stowell
Listers: Richard Lucier, Walter Meyer & Andrea Royce

Teri Gildersleve had been faxed questions, concerns, back up materials to meet with and assist the Select Board and Listers on how to proceed in getting out the "mini" 6 month Town tax.

Before this meeting, Gildersleve had spoken with Michalina Wasung, town treasurer asking her why she had not sought legal advise from her (PVR) on her concern in the process of collecting the 2006 (6 month) municipal tax, which will be affected by using Townshend's 2005 Grand List including personal property, after the Listers have addressed reconfigured 2005 properties. Gildersleve suggested, Meyer agreeing to, sending out "courtesy bills" to new owners. She stressed to everyone that this is only 1% of the municipal tax rate (30 cents). Select members' response to Wasung comment expressed to Gildersleve on having extra work and expense, was they believed that she understood there would be additional work in changing from a calendar to fiscal year, which is reflected in her salaried position.

Gildersleve addressed Lister's time line and procedures they must fulfill:

- the HS131's appear to be current Gildersleve will stay to remove previous flagged HS131 properties and offered the name of Tanya Perry, tax payer services in the Tax Department for additional guidance
- the difficulties in obtaining RV owner names & addresses — Gildersleve's response - inform the property owner that he will be taxed on those vehicles, not named, that are located within his campground.
- need to meet and update appraisals, which can be grieved, on Current Use applicants (current and new).
- discussed the electronic and paper process in completing the 411 which the State must receive on or before August 15th if not received, the State will withhold educational funds.

Dates/deadlines:

- April 1st to be thought as the "snap shot" on all properties as they appear.
- lodging the abstract Grand List - June 4th
- 14 days later, notification of Grievance Day (June 18th); no need to wait till grievance day as Listers can deal with grieving property owner's, when they come in. Gildersleve cautioned the Listers not to make any decision or discuss the reduction in appraised value with the property owner.
- Listers' written, Result of Grievances, decision must be sent in 7 days
- Grand List is then lodged with Town Clerk, no longer the property of the Listers'
- Property owner who disagrees with Listers written Result of Grievance decision has 14 days to request a hearing before the Board of Civil Authority (July 8th)

General Discussion on the following topics:

- how to get the 2006 Grand List completed — see if D. Meyer or R. Stratton-Goodband would come back to complete; consider James Boyle's suggestion to employ him & B&B (March 15th letter) by using budgeted Lister & data entry salaries.
- the availability of computer time to work on 2006, during the 2007 reappraisal process; passwords not being available, since rectified.
- Gildersleve stressed now's the time to concentrate and finish 2006; having no time to train (work with B&B); stop the 2007 reappraisal.
- while in Montpelier she will follow up with written statements/opinions on matters discussed and the need to get an opinion/direction on the time constraints in Article 21 - collection of delinquency tax.
- Select Board members expressed to the Listers their appreciation to perform and complete their work, understanding that their job must be overwhelming, especially being so short handed and as newly elected Listers, having to learn and understand so much. They were also reminded that by Statute, Listers can be fined for not fulfilling/completing their statutory duties.

Gildersleve mentioned that she had also touched base with B&B Appraisal earlier.

This joint meeting ended at 6:20 PM as Gildersleve proceeded to the Lister's computer to remove HS131 tags from the Town's 200XXX Grand List.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board.