

Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes - May 15, 2006

Present

Berenice Brooks
Alene Evans,
Henry Martin, chair

Jeffrey Russ
Irvin Stowell
Select Board

Participating Members

David Dezendorf, TES Board; Anita Bean, Town Clerk
Michalina Wasung, Town Treasurer; Megan Richardson
Del Tax Collect and Kurt Bostrom, Road Foreman

At 7:00 PM the chair ***called the Meeting to Order*** and recognized ***Participating Members:***

David Dezendorf, Townshend Elementary School Board member reviewed his proposed computer sketch which asks that the Select Board to approve “striping the black top - area 7’ x 38” for a bus loading area located between the Parsonage driveway and the crosswalk to the School. Discussed how to get the bus off the Common Rd to allow students to load and depart, to allow vehicular traffic direct access along the Common Rd, may be limit parking time, legally one cannot park or block the view of a cross walk, may be strip the pavement both sides of cross walk for no parking. After complete discussion *Martin moved that the Select Board designate a 12’x38’ bus zone area, painted striped area 7’x38’, as outlined by Townshend Elementary School drawing, plus 2 no parking areas before and after crosswalk, seconded by Russ, carried by the Board.* Stowell abstained. Dezendorf left at 7:15 PM

1a. Town Clerk and Treasurer:

Town Clerk, Anita Bean, presented:

an updated list of unlicensed (delinquent dogs) animals that will accompany tonight’s signed Warrant; a draft of the March 2006 town meeting minutes for Board review and input;
reported on Common scheduled events: Little Valley Nursery School’s graduation, June 16th; a wedding July 27th ;
with the assistance of Kathleen Hege, the last 5 years of town records are finished and completed in the Town Record Book.

Having been appointed to the Town Hall Building Committee (members A. Lyman, M. Charles, A. Bean, M. Adrian, W. Meyer and K. Hoffman) tonight Bean, became the Committee’s spokesperson of their ideas:

- * Moving Miki’s office up front in Officer’s Room
- * Building two additional offices out back
- * Create handicapped parking in front of the building
- * Elevator out front
- * Getting the building up to code (addressing VLCT’s report)
- * Pouring a concrete floor in the basement.

She had asked her husband’s employer for a quote - \$11,000; thus creating one big room

She personally feels that nothing has been happening and stated we've got to start somewhere, but commented that she has only been here a short time. She inquired on how and when is the basement going to be cleaned out? Board responded that it has been looking for a handyman to do additional projects/jobs, acquiring a dumpster to dispose of or keep the stuff, after Stowell & Martin carve them out; they have started addressing VLCT's report and has asked other electricians for their comments to VLCT's wiring concerns; she was reminded that, over this past year, a great deal of money has been spent on remodeling the building: having the entire building & windows painted, repaired, installed new storm/screen windows, fixing the floors and is now in the process of having its slated roofs repaired.

To keep moving ahead the chair asked for the consensus of the Board to request, from the Town Hall Building Committee, a complete set of "cementing the basement floor" plans to include floor drains; any affect on septic system and furnaces (heating systems). After complete discussion *Martin moved to authorize the Town Hall Building Committee to secure detail floor plans for cementing the Town Hall basement to include drainage, ceiling height; these plans would be acceptable to obtain estimates, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Beans' response to Evans question on the purpose for the June 5th BCA hearing: was a VLCT attorney advised her that the BCA must make decisions on tax appeals, these decisions cannot be tabled indefinitely. May have RV appeals and appeal the Walter Boyd Oliver property, added Wasung. Bean left at 7:40 PM

Michalina Wasung, **Town Treasurer** reviewed items in her Memo:

- Capital equipment note: after brief review of the borrowing documents associated to purchase a new "small" truck. Other bank lending fees were: Citizen 4.55% and Banknorth 4.38%. *Martin moved to sign the Capital Equipment Note and associated documents with Chittenden Bank dated May 17, 2006 for \$20,000 at 4.2%, maturing May 16,2007, with no prepayment penalty, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.*
- VT Municipal Heavy Equipment borrowing: Town can do 2 separate notes for borrowing \$90,000; might have to consider another, separate short term note and an Equipment Article for \$40,000 (3 consecutive years)
- Process in preparing tax bills is under control and will be sent out tomorrow; there will be no errors and omission because these bills were calculated on property appraisals from the lodged 2005 Grand List. Wasung 7:45 pm left

Megan Richardson, **Delinquent Tax Collector** brought the legally prepared **Quit Claim Deed and Property Transfer Tax Return (PTR)** for Board signature. This Quit Claim Deed transfers E. Killian's non-redeemed tax sale property (01-15.001) off Windham Hill Rd to by Ayers. After discussion *Martin moved to sign the Quit Claim Deed (parcel 01-015.001) and Property Transfer Tax Return to Ayers, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.* Richardson will send Ayers the PTR to sign as buyer along with a copy of the completed Quit Claim Deed before recording, town clerk will be asked to notarize the document. (Richardson left at 7:50 PM)

Kurt Bostrom, Highway foreman's report:

- New truck is built (06) everyone told him to stay away from the 2007 models
- 400 feet of culverts were delivered (spoke about W. Joyce's end of his driveway, puddling)
- Magnesium liquid chloride has been delivered
- Rental of an over the guardrail Mower: contract to be faxed, approximate \$1,900 +/- per week, plus labor, first available reservation date 2nd week in August. Bostrom was asked to get more specific information such as: how does inclement weather in pact reserving, paying etc. the machine; is the over rail mower necessary, as this type of machine would not mow the high banks along the Simpson Brook Rd and others; who's responsible for what repair costs (major break downs them, minor repairs, replacing blades, fuel, etc will be the Town's)
- In general, most roads held up well considering this long stretch of rain; part of Plumb Hill Rd slid into a culvert; Martin asked what he knew about the backed up water at the Ellen Ware Rd entrance?
- Turner Associates, contracted by WRC to perform culvert inventory, will start Wednesday. Less than ! of the culverts have been staked.
- Working on paving bid, appears oil prices going down. Bostrom left at 8:05 PM

1c. Board of Health: no report at this time

*The chair moved to approve the **Minutes of May 1st & 8th** , seconded by Stowell, correction and comments - walls **are** bearing; ceiling height **not high enough**; fire truck **can** get in, the Board *unanimously approved the minutes, as corrected.**

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

SM06 — \$11,679.51

TR — state hwy reports (Feb & March)

SMPR06 - \$2,106.37

Road Com Ords wk/ending

Payment on Reynolds & Sons statement was delayed until further information can be obtained or receipt of an invoice.

unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

Members discussed correspondence from Southwestern New Hampshire (Keene) Mutual Aid, which formally outlines how the Town is assessed as a member of the fire mutual aid system.

4. Old Business

Fountain—Russ reported not much change still waiting for a pipe; basin not painted; may be handyman could handle fountain maintenance

Handyman—Definitely needed to enhance the Town Hall building cleaning & maintenance like changing light bulbs, to have office personnel prepare a list for the handyman work/jobs, to work every day or once a week was discussed. A. Evans reported that R. Evans might be

interested for the summer, as she inquired on the hourly wage as \$11.17. *Martin moved to hire Ross Evans, part time, per diem, \$11.17 per hour, thru summer, request check in once a week for his duties, seconded by Russ, carried by the Board.* A. Evans abstained.

Inform D. Davis — not to store lawn mower gasoline in Town Hall Basement.

APPOINTMENTS —

Russ reported that Marcia DeWitt would accept appointment as Town Service Officer, at which time *the chair moved to appoint Marcia DeWitt 2006 Town Service Officer, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.* Paperwork of this appointment will be mailed back to the State.

- *Martin continued and moved to appoint the slate of 2006 Appointments, excepting those who declined resigned/left the area, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.* Open appointments to be made on the: recreation committee, WRC, town revolving loan, liaison with VSP.

Little League Field —Stowell expressed his concerns of vehicles continuing to drive to and all over the Little League field, off Oakwood Cemetery Rd. He suggests limiting access by placing large boulders in one approach and to relocate the gate closer to the Town road.

GCH Strategic Planner —Evans reported that GCH's Strategic Planner, Tristium Johnson, had stopped by around 6:00 ish, wanting to attend a Select Board meeting.

Valley Cares (VC) —Received correspondence on the Eviron. Commission's comments re: Valley Care's ACT 250 hearing

Martin commented that during the ACT 250 the Review Board asked where our Planning Commission (PC) stood on this project: in favor or against. As a result of the PC's first official meeting, chair Monette called for a vote on the project — **majority vote** must be obtained, as the PC has 7 members — 4 is a majority — which was not obtained: 3 voted in favor, 1 no (Lyman), 2 abstained (Charles & Garfield).

As one of Townshend's reps to VC, Martin was asked to attain an official, non-binding support as to where the Select Board stands on the project. Stowell reported that he was bothered that adequate fire protection was not addressed; Martin believes his concern will be addressed. Martin then received unanimous verbal support on the Valley Cares Project.

TES/GCH septic system — The Town received the Final approved "septic usage" Permit between Otis Health Care Center and Townshend Elementary School, Select's questioned who has legal oversight of this system, who grant's permission for additional use, etc. Martin reported that during VC's ACT 250 the issue of VC possibly hooking into the system was discussed. He definitely remembers that usage of this system is restricted to its present users.

WCSD Invoices —to be completed by June 5th as Davis will work with Evans.

Comments —Stowell added that select members should be able to find filed bids, quotes, etc; meeting minutes are to be ready for the public 5 days after the meeting. Evans left at 9:05 PM.

5. New Business

- Having one of VLCT's handout called "How to find Ancient Roads" Stowell will ask our local "ancient" historian Charles Marchant if he'd be interested in assisting Stowell in finding Townshend's ancient roads.
- *Martin moved to accept with regrets, Lawrence Kraft's written **resignation** as Library Trustee, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.*
- *Martin moved to accept with regret Lister, Robert Wright's written **resignation**, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by the Board.*
Their Clerk was instructed to post, advertise these two positions (Library Trustees have already posted their vacancy)
- *Martin moved to sign off — Certificate of No Appeals or Pending Suit 2005 Grand List (which the Listers have already conformed), seconded by Evans, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.)*
- *Martin moved to sign the 1st Constable's 2006 Warrant —delinquent animals, seconded by Russ, carried and signed by the Board. Stowell abstained*
- Russ asked for ideas for the 5th grade class to fulfill Town Service Day. After brainstorming on ideas - maybe the students could sweep the sidewalks.

6. Other Business

- election promotional from Terrance Martin, Sheriff;
- Gathering Place thanking for the Town's monetary support
- Post public notice — Storm water Discharges associated with Construction Activity
- Richard Thomas' unemployment claim

7. Executive Session - none at this time

8. Time of Next Meeting - June 5, 2006

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, Clerk for the Select Board