

Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes — June 4, 2007

Present:

R. Michael Donahue
Alene Evans
Henry Martin, chair

Carole Melis
Jeffrey Russ,
Selectboard

Participating:

Robert Crego, Valley Cares; Kurt Bostrom, road foreman and Fredrick Hege

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

Kurt Bostrom, *highway foreman*, reported

- After calling many Vermont and New Hampshire companies, he made arrangements with Bazin Bros. at \$100 hour to sweep our streets as soon as it stops raining.
- The road crew is close to finishing the repairs of flood-damaged roads with cold patch. Soon he will be meeting with a FEMA representative to review our paperwork. Bostrom has learned that FEMA advances towns money to offset any expense in borrowing. He was instructed to work with the Town Treasurer to complete our paperwork and to keep the chair informed of this meeting. He received copies of FEMA's equipment rates. He will ask FEMA to inspect the East Hill Bridge underpinnings, after three construction companies did not want the responsibility of repairing it.
- Roadside mowing — last year it was successful with the renting of a machine but Daigneault does not want to do it. Bostrom will see how and when other towns anticipate doing their roadside mowing. Martin invited Bostrom to ride the roads with the Board, sometime this summer.
- Pit — striping the area, removing trees and topsoil has begun.
- The Board dealt with CVPS' rights-of-way application to cross Grafton Rd in two places in order to supply underground electrical service to the Valley Cares project. *Martin moved, after recommendations from the road foreman to approve CVPS' right-of-way access, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.* Bostrom left at 7:20 PM

1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:

The Town Treasurer's Memo was reviewed.

Martin and Melis repeated the Town Treasurer's explanation for not paying the school on Friday, June 1st because the Town would loose \$120+ in interest. They believe the school was paid on Monday, June 4th.

- MEMO from Dept of Taxes to Treasurer explaining Current Use Hold Harmless met with many questions.

Robert Crego, for Valley Cares had prepared the necessary forms to activate the Town's VT Community Development Grant. *Martin moved to sign form #3 for West River Valley Senior Housing - Assisted Living and West River Senior Housing — Independent Living Facility, seconded by Donahue, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.*

Martin moved to sign the 2 requisitions for funds for West River Valley Senior Housing — Assisted Living (\$36,468) and Independent Living Facility (\$100,000) as outlined by Crego, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

Crego called attention to the State's letter, dated May 30th, in which they will be coming to monitor the site on June 21, 2007 — Martin indicated that he would

accompany the Town Treasurer at this meeting. Evans may also Crego left at 7:33 PM with all signed documents.

*Martin moved to approve the **Minutes - May 21, 2007**, seconded by Donahue with one change —will contact Attorney Fisher for legal advice. Melis moved to approve the corrected minutes, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.*

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

SM06-07 - #23	\$13,649.55	
SMPR06-07 — 22	\$ 4,231.83	vacation and week ending 6/4/07

unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

4. Old Business

D. Cloud, VLCT, Municipal Assistance Center —The Board has warned a public meeting with Cloud on Thursday, 6:00 PM

Law Enforcement —Evans called VSP with the Town’s proposal to their contract for the fiscal year at \$12,000. Martin has yet to receive a response from Sheriff Martin after leaving messages.

Sovernet —Melis reviewed Sovernet's invoice for payment of services rendered.

Middle School Dance —Martin reported on his conversation with Middle School Principal, Steven John, about the incidents and damage that occurred in the Town Hall, while the students were decorating for their dance, the dance was moved to the Gym. L&GUHS will be billed for all repair costs.

Flood Hazard Bylaws —Elizabeth Garfield contacted Windham Regional Commission (WRC) to provide the Board with copies of Townshend’s updated Flood Hazard Bylaws for consideration.

Historical Town Hall —Melis reported that Garfield had setup a meeting with 2 representatives from the Vermont Historical Society to discuss available grants and what renovations are acceptable to a historical building. Martin indicated that the State Fire Marshall was supposed to have attended to present a fire alarm system for the Town Hall.

- o Martin explained that the State/Town would have to obtain permission from abutting property owners to straighten/relocate Rte 30.
- o He was given the name of a new VTrans contact person to talk about sidewalk grants.

Town Barn septic —Janos property owner Pedro has been invited to present his proposal of connecting the Town Barn septic into their existing system. Many agreed that more land is needed, plus more work and planning must occur before presenting anything

to the voters. Russ interjected the Town still doesn't have a new fire station, how is the Town going to grow by not using Taft Meadows?

Ancient Roads —Members attended WRC's Ancient Roads meeting, where they learned that the Town must find, plot and recognize all old roads by February 2009. Melis provided copies of Statute 19 sections 302 & 305 for later review. The Board's consensus was to purchase, for \$400, the compiled maps showing all roads and to invite Irvin Stowell, Ancient Rd committee to the next meeting for updates on his process in locating old roads and to discuss the format of this committee. The Board accepted Evans suggestion to invite a Kindle Farm instructor who does GPS location with his students.

Removal of dying trees —Their clerk was instructed to inform neighboring property owners of the condition of their tree, one has died, and presently could injure passerby's.

Reminders —June 7th meeting with Cloud; L&G information June 9th; L&G bond vote June 26th and Lister's reappraisal informational meeting, June 11th. The Board reviewed the 2007 Reappraisal booklet.

Street Lights —Melis has yet to receive CVPS number of streetlights. Members questioned what the boundaries are in maintaining or eliminating some of them.

5. New Business

- *Evans moved to instruct the Chair to sign Rescue's Letter of Operational Conduct for the next fiscal year, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board. This represents a per capita increase of \$2.00.*
- No Board action taken on Attorney Fisher's May 29th letter to Jesse Lynn Gentlewolf.
- A copy of the Town of Jamaica's Resolution to Repeal Vermont Statewide Property Tax was considered. Everyone agreed that everyone is frustrated with this present taxing process but no one has presented an alternative solution. The Board agreed to pass over it.
- The Board welcomed Martin's announcement of an offer from a public citizen to repair the Town Hall porch & railings and the balcony. Wade Masure of VLCT will be contacted on how to proceed with constructional and safety repairs/improvements.

6. Other Business — no board action taken

- Attorney Fisher's 2nd title opinion invoice \$207.50 paid in full by Valley Cares
- Windham County Sheriff Dept. schedule of duties, fines, etc.

St of VT: - Nancy Evans — project review sheet only
 - Sharon Kearley WW-2-2567

7. Executive Session — none at this time

8. Time of Next Meeting - June 18th at **5:30 PM**

*Russ moved to **Adjourn at 10:00 pm**, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard

**Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes — June 7, 2007 with
Dominic Cloud of VLCT, Municipal Assistance Center**

Present:

R. Michael Donahue
Alene Evans
Henry Martin, chair

Carole Melis
Jeffrey Russ,
Selectboard

Participating:

Dominic Cloud, VLCT, Municipal Assistance Center
and Fredrick Hege

The chair called this **meeting to order** at 6:00 PM. Everyone introduced themselves giving Cloud a brief description of who they are and their thoughts on what direction the Town should proceed in.

At 6:15 PM Martin moved into Executive Session upon Cloud’s recommendation to discuss the results of his interview with Town employees and Officials, inviting Hege and Davis, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board.

At 7:40 PM Melis moved out of Executive Session, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.

No action resulted from Executive Session.

Mr. Cloud left each member a packet containing information and statutes associated with Municipal Government for their review.

*At 7:45 PM Russ moved to **adjourn**, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard