

Recessed/Continuation of Nov. 19, 2007 Selectboard Meeting to November 26, 2007

Present:

Alene Evans
Joseph Juhasz
Henry Martin

Carole Melis
Jeffrey Russ,
Selectboard

Participating Members:

Kathleen Hege, chair TES and David Dezendorf – explain the Towns payment of \$30,000 Fredrick Hege, Rescue chair; - Jim Boyle & Howard Lott, Lister – PVR’s report & Heins Home Educational taxes

Vice Chair, Evans ***called to Order at 6:45 PM and recognized Participating Members:***

Townshend Elementary School Board chair, Kathleen Hege and David Dezendorf explained why the Town was being billed an additional \$30,812 in educational tax. This new figure comes after the State has reviewed our Grand List, which represented the new reappraisal values and recalculated our educational taxes.

Hege questioned the status on educational taxes assessed on the Heins Home; informed everyone that the State has finally separated L&G into a separate taxable entity. The new tax bill will have 3 amounts to be collected in taxes (Municipal, School District and Union). Once she understands this process she will tell the Board. The 2nd 2006-07 payment from taxes collected is due to the School by December 5th. After discussion *Martin moved to instruct the Town Treasurer to pay Townshend Elementary \$417,281.30, and to have the check ready at noon on December 4th in order for Hege to pick it up, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board.* Tonight’s pay order was increased by this amount.

Hege spoke of the difficulties their professional auditor in his request for additional statements held by the Town Treasurer, which still has yet to be received. Hege and Dezendorf left at 7:00 PM

RESCUE President, Fredrick Hege provided a brief synopsis of the events that have affected RESCUE Inc. and of the very successful consortium organized by the Town of Vernon to address “emergency responses” RESCUE. He briefly spoke about the costs and the non billable cost of responding to “non emergency 911” response calls. Martin added the public needs to be educated. Hege reported that RESCUE is in the process of creating ordinances that will allow Town’s, fire departments, etc. to collect their costs after responding to an emergency. Hege left at 7:30 PM

Jim Boyle, of B&B Associates addressed the non detrimental issues expressed in Dept of Taxes PVR letter. The State’s issue is that it needs to know that our work meets their standards. The 2 questioned areas (travel trailers and low commercial appraisal) will be answered with supporting documentation, at no charge to the Town. Boyle’s answered Martin’s question that Townshend will continue to be, a sending town. Boyle and Lucier 7:40 PM

Melis asked Boyle to return to the meeting (Lucier had left) as they questioned the taxing on Heins Homes' new appraisal for educational tax. He believed it was tax exempt, Evans asked that he read the 2006 Town Meeting Minutes.

Boyle's response to the Board was that he is unsure on the status, taxable or non taxable, on the West River Valley Housing complex. Boyle left at 7:40

Appointments:

Planning Commission: Berenice Brooks and Scott Chase submitted the only letters of interest received for appointment to the Planning Commission (PC). No other letters were received for appointment to the Windham Regional Comm or Town Auditor. After discussion *Martin moved to appoint Berenice Brooks and Scott Chase to the vacant terms on the Planning Commission, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board.*

The Chair announced that the Board had received another PC's resignation from Arthur "Tom" Lyman. Martin stated that this position cannot be advertised vacant until the Board accepts his resignation. After discussion *Evans moved to accept, with regret, Arthur "Tom" Lyman's resignation from the Planning Commission, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.* As time is of the essence, Davis will phone everyone of their appointment or accepted resignation.

*Martin moved to **Pay Bills and Sign the adjusted Pay Order**, seconded by Evans,
SM07-08 #11 \$448,093.30*

unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

4. Old Business:

Sidewalk – Russ will ask Francis Bailey, Town Hall maintenance man, if he would be interested in plowing the sidewalks.

Town Hall Grant – As appointed administrator of the Town Hall Grant, Evans received notice that the Town was not successful in getting the \$20,000 but could receive \$4,000 as sections of the Grant need to be rewritten. She explained to E. Garfield, composer of this grant, that maybe other Towns will be discouraged, won't re file and Townshend might have a better chance for more money.

Lending money to Valley Care – *Melis moved to have the chair sign the amended Second Amendment of Valley Cares grants, as prepared by Atty Robert Fisher, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried and signed by Martin.*

Grafton Rd mph signs – The Vermont State Police e-mailed the Board on the Town's needs for additional 35 mph speed limit signs on Rte 35 (Grafton Road) heading north. The road foreman will be asked to purchase more signs, if needed.

5. New Business:

Melis accepted Martin's request that she be the contact person, representing the Board regarding the concerns expressed after receiving a letter from Tim Fogg regarding his attempt to audit the Town's books.

Marjorie Holt had given the chair pictures showing the condition of the roof, which indicate the needs to have it replaced as soon as possible. She also included the Library's special article to raise \$12,500 to replace the roof.

Melis ask the Listers about the status of their computers.

A meeting will be held December 13, 2007 at 11:00 am to discussed Windham County's proposed Budget

6. Other Business:

- St of VT – WW permit WW-2-2880 for W. Brian Woodruff
Cert of Insurance – Jewell Resources Inc

7. Executive Session – none at this time

8. Next Meeting - December 3, 2007

*At 9:10 pm Evans moved to **Adjourn**, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board