

## Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes - December 18, 2006

Present:

Berenice Brooks     Jeffrey Russ  
Alene Evans (absent) Irvin Stowell,  
Vacationing Henry Martin     Select Board

Participating Members:

Carolyn Laning & Kimberly Liebow, auditors  
Kurt Bostrom, road foreman & Fredrick Hege

*Vice Chairman, Stowell, called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 PM and recognized Participating Members:*

As a follow up to their last meeting with the Select Board, **Carolyn Laning, Auditor**, reported on her meeting with Town Treasurer, Michalina Wasung to resolve the outstanding 2005 Town Clerk salaries of \$1100.50. Laning was able to find the appropriate documents and determine that, after the voted March 2005 salary increase, — Davis' salary was prorated, owing \$632.25 and the newly elected Town Clerk, Anita Bean, \$468.25. Laning & Liebow left at 7:10 PM

Board members wanted to put this issue behind them so *Stowell moved to add to tonight's payroll order — Davis \$632.25 and Bean \$468.25, seconded by Brooks, carried by those present*

### **1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:**

Town Treasurer provided:

- financial figures after closing 6/30/06 budget yr;
- computer report of Social Service payments;
- copies of her prepared list of travel trailers for the Listers to consider as Errors and Omissions
- monthly Highway Reports from April thru August to be signed by the Select Board and to be sent to the State Highway Department.

Stowell suggested that the Board take under consideration, during the budget process, her Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> Memo (financing the Equipment Fund and purchase of new equipment)

**1b. Highway foreman, Kurt Bostrom** was told the new truck was ready last Friday to be shipped.

- Stowell had been asked why when the temperature was 40 degrees the trucks were running around loaded with sand? Townshend Acres' Roads were fine as Stowell was working up there. Bostrom agreed with the condition of the Townshend Acres Roads; he had each man ride their back roads - Simpson Brook was a bottle - very icy. Brooks wondered, why is Stowell always being called with complaints?
- Budget consideration:
  - o Paving more than 2/3rds of a mile. He believes that the repairs to Windham Hill Road will be from an engineer study and plan. He understands that any highway construction will cost money and increase taxes.
  - o To reserve the \$15,000 crushed gravel

- o Discussed the condition of the teeth on the yolk rake; Stowell interjected that the road crew rakes the gravel into the ditches, allowing the fines to go down stream
- o the State's new price list on charging use of equipment differs substantially from our rates — Grader at \$65 per hour. He believes that equipment replacement should be on a cycle, not working it to death, receiving minimal cash trade in.
- o As a result of the Town's inventoried culverts - many need work; some are a combination of plastic and metal, which don't match up. Bostrom left at 7:40 PM.

**1c. Board of Health:** none at this time

*Stowell moved to approve the **Minutes of December 4, 2006**, seconded by Brooks, carried with changes (change Donald to Dominic Cloud, VLCT), unanimously carried by those present.*

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

SM06-07 — 11 11,346.82 add'l payment Articles (old cemetery 375 and WR Watershed 130.)  
Payment balance to Eq Fund \$2,852.52 and Common Fund reimburse  
Gen Fund 6,241.23  
SMPR06-07-12 1,900.68 + 1,100.50 for outstanding TC's Jan/Feb and 1<sup>st</sup> week in March 2005 salary

Road Com Order wk/ending 12/16

*unanimously carried and signed by those present.*

#### **4. Old Business**

**Windham Solid Waste Mgmt District (WSWMD)** — Stowell recapped WSWMD's Public Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> Info Meeting & Supervisor meeting. All assessment increases were minimal because the town of Westminster joined the District.

**West River Housing & Assisted Living Limited Partnerships** - Correspondence - transmitting original Mortgages & Security Agreements (filed with Town Clerk)

**H. Harris v. M. Charles v. Townshend, Harris & Malcolm** - Fisher & Fisher notified the Town of the trial hearing, Thursday Jan 18, 2007. Atty. Robert Fisher believes the Select Board does not have to appear.

**Revolt & Repeal** — Russ still believes the Town should follow up/join this initiative.

#### **5. New Business**

- Steven Brown, Chief Financial Officer of Otis Heath Care Center letter dated December 6, 2007 requesting to warn an article for consideration to reinstate the

Heins Home, elderly housing, be exempt from taxes was discussed - may be to consider a yearly exemption.

- State of Vermont
  - o Public Service Board copied Peter Klein's (Gibbs Lane WT) application for interconnected net-metered power systems (photo cells and wind turbine). After review Stowell will contact a PC commissioner to see if they were aware of this activity and in the constructing of a 90' high wind turbine.
  - o Tax Dept's notification dated Dec 13<sup>th</sup> - Certified Equalization Education Property Tax — Coefficient is 29.68%; Common Level of Appraisal 61.42% all numbers effective 1/1/07.

## **6. Other Business**

St of VT: WW permit 2-2461 granted to Patricia Hastings subdivision, along with a copy of Hastings Project Review Sheet. Dolores Kuhn of the Environmental Commission informed Davis that Michael Marquis' plan shows an easement allowing the construction of a replacement septic system from the remaining smaller lot.

- CT RiverTransit — social service request
- Geo. Aiken Resource — Town Report narrative

**7. Executive Session** — none at this time

**8. Time of Next Meeting** —January 2nd

*Brooks moved to **Adjourn 8:15 PM**, seconded by Stowell, unanimously carried by those present.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board