

Townshend Select Board Minutes

March 7, 2011

Present:

Select Board: Hedy Harris; Bruce Bills; Jeff Russ; Steve Ovenden; Ryan Hockertlotz

In Attendance: Kim Ellison; Joe Daigneault; Kurt Bostrom; David Dezendorf; Sheriff Keith Clark; Ashley Meyer; Craig Hunt

1. Call to Order: Harris called the meeting to Order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Re-Organization of the Select Board: Hockertlotz nominated Harris to chair the Select Board, carried by those present. Bills nominated Ovenden to be Vice-Chair of the Select Board, carried by those present. Harris nominated Bills to be Clerk of the Select Board, carried by those present.

3. Approval of Minutes: Hockertlotz made a motion: **To approve the Special Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2011**, seconded by Harris, and carried by those present. Harris then made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of February 21, 2011, as corrected**, seconded by Ovenden, and carried by those present.

4. Additions and Deletions: Correspondence from the Vermont Community Foundation was added by Harris.

5. Warrants: Ovenden made a motion: **To approve the Warrants of March 7, 2011**, seconded by Hockertlotz, and carried by those present.

General Fund	\$ 7,311.54
Highway Department	\$ 18,901.00
(includes \$9,180.00 for sand; \$5,829.60 for salt)	
Payroll	\$ 13,713.25

6. Town Clerk's Report: The Board reviewed the Town Clerk's cash-journal reports from the prior weeks.

Bookkeeper's / Treasurer's Report: Ellison presented a General Ledger accounting of FY 2010-11 spending to date,

and reported that the first quarter tax payments were more than 96% received: the second quarter, about 95½%: and the third was 89%.

Ovenden asked Ellison and Bostrom about providing a line-item accounting of regular Highway Department parts, such as plow blades and tire chains, so that the Select Board might be better informed when considering a proposed budget. Ellison explained that the, "Town Use," account used in years past contained these costs in a lump-sum estimate, and Bostrom said that though the costs could be averaged over many years, it's impossible to forecast what will be needed in any given year.

Ellison reported that sand and salt use by the Highway Department was running comparably to last year.

Highway Foreman's Report: Bostrom reported that the rain and ice storm on March 6th had brought some trees down in the higher elevations and that there were some minor flooding in spots. He updated the Board regarding on-going service to all of the vehicles - T-9 being taken back to DeLurrey's for further tune-ups; the grader having lower shaft bearings replaced; the backhoe in for radiator repairs; the compactor having a cracked starter housing, and the sander chain in T-7 being replaced.

Hockertlotz asked about the costs of taking the Ford to Rutland for servicing rather than Brattleboro, and Bostrom explained that Stewart's in Rutland was better prepared to provide needed services.

Ovenden asked about the possibility of replacing T-4 this year, and Bostrom said that he had specifications for a new vehicle already drawn up and would call for price quotes with which to advise the Board.

Bostrom also said that a bridge work list had been made to submit for grant funds, identifying #42 on West Hill Road, #27 on East Hill Road, and #35 on Simpson Brook Road as the priorities.

Townshend Fire Department Report: None at this time.

Law Enforcement Report: Sheriff Clark reported that Deputy Inman, who had been patrolling Townshend for forty hours a week since mid-December, was no longer working for the Sheriff's Department. Clark said that the grant under which this service to Townshend continued, and that he was seeking a deputy to replace Inman as soon as possible.

Emergency Management Director's Report: Dezendorf reported to the Board that the Fire Department was still

having some problems with 911 addresses, but indicated that new maps for the Department was what was needed. He also reported that he and Tim Bell were looking at possible locations to install repeaters to eliminate dead-zones in radio coverage.

7. Members of the Public: Ashley Meyer of Leland & Gray High School presented the Board with a request for a coin drop to be conducted on March 13th, on Route 30. Russ then made a motion: **To permit Leland & Gray to conduct a fundraiser for Project Graduation on March 13, 2011, on Route 30 in the Village,** seconded by Harris, and carried by those present.

8. Correspondence: The Board reviewed and signed Vermont Form 4155 certifying that no appeal or suit was pending upon the lodged declaration of Townshend's Grand List.

The Board reviewed and signed liquor and tobacco sales license applications submitted by Little MuMu, LLC.

The Board reviewed, and Harris signed, the Agency of Natural Resources Permit Renewal form for Townshend's municipal waste water system.

The Board reviewed a letter from the Vermont Community Foundation containing a check in the amount of \$3,300.00, to, "support moving the rigging of the historic painted curtains." With appreciation to Tiz Garfield for securing this grant, Harris made a motion: **To accept the funds from the Vermont Community Foundation,** seconded by Hockertlotz, and carried by those present.

9. Old Business: None at this time.

10. New Business: Harris made a motion: **To select the Brattleboro Reformer as the newspaper of record,** seconded by Bills, and carried by those present.

Harris made a motion: **To appoint Heidi Russ as the Town Service Officer,** seconded by Ovenden, and carried by those present. Harris then signed the appointment form for return to the Vermont Department for Children and Families.

Ovenden made a motion: **To appoint Ryan Hockertlotz to the position of RESCUE liaison,** seconded by Bills, and carried by those present.

The Board discussed other possible appointments, including the formation of a committee to study the options and costs for repair or replacement of the Townshend Fire Station.

Ovenden then presented Board members with a draft Goods and Services Purchase Policy for consideration at a later date.

11. Executive Session: Harris made a motion: **To enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 9:36 p.m.**, seconded by Ovenden, and carried by those present. Harris made a motion: **To return from Executive Session at 9:40 p.m.**, seconded by Bills, and carried by those present. As a result of Executive Session, no action was taken.

12. Meeting Schedules:

Town Plan Public Hearing: March 21, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

ICS Training Session: March 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting: March 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment: Harris made a motion: **To adjourn at 9:42 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt
administrative assistant