

**Townshend Select Board
Minutes
August 15, 2011**

Present:

Select Board: Hedy Harris; Jeff Russ; Ryan Hockertlotz
In Attendance: Joe Daigneault; David Dezendorf; Tom Lyman; Art Monette; Bob DeSiervo; Susanna Palmer; Susan Eastwood; Craig Hunt

1. **Call to Order:** Harris called the Meeting to Order at 6:03 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Harris made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of August 1, 2011,** seconded by Russ, and carried by those present.

3. **Additions and Deletions:** None at this time.

4. **Warrants:** Hockertlotz made a motion: **To approve the Warrants of August 15, 2011,** seconded by Harris, and carried by those present.

General Fund	\$	9,576.87
Highway Department	\$	9,099.74
Payroll	\$	10,828.90

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

Bookkeeper's / Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that there was \$442,783.61 in the checking account and that first quarter tax payments were being received.

Highway Foreman's Report: None at this time.

Townshend Fire Department Report: Russ reported that Turner and Renaud had removed the pine trees beside the fire station, and that Brunelle should be beginning repairs within the next few weeks.

Law Enforcement Report: None at this time.

Emergency Management Director's Report: Dezendorf presented two hand-held radios to the Select Board for communications with the Highway Department. These are for use temporarily until the ones on order arrive. He also reported working to finish the grant application for reimbursement for the new pagers delivered to the Fire Department, and working upon on a general equipment grant for the Fire Department.

6. Correspondence: Harris read an invitation from VLCT to participate October 6th in VLCT Town Fair at Killington Resort.

7. Old Business:

Waste Management: Hockertlotz spoke of the Waste Management Study Committee's intent to schedule a Public Hearing to solicit opinions on Waste Management issues, and updated the Board on work that the Committee is engaged in.

Highway Garage Repairs: No report at this time.

Dog Control Ordinance: No action at this time.

Sidewalk Replacement: It was noted that D.M.I. had completed replacement of the sidewalk in front of the Pizza House across from the Common, and had completed the sidewalk replacement at the Route 35 entrance to Leland & Gray.

8. New Business: Nothing at this time.

9. Members of the Public:

Town Hall: Tom Lyman, Art Monette and Bob DeSiervo, of the Town Hall Renovation Committee, were welcomed by the Board, and Lyman reported that Townshend did not receive the Windham Regional Commission grant for replacement of the furnaces in the Town Hall, as hoped for.

Discussion ensued regarding Countryside's installation of a fire alarm system in the Town Hall - scheduled to begin in mid-September - and the desirability of installing a security system at the same time. While video surveillance would be prohibitively expensive, a series of motion detectors with intrusion alarms could be installed for an estimated \$750.00. The Board took no action at this time, but requested that the Committee ascertain whether there would be additional monitoring costs by Countryside for the security system.

Lyman then spoke about the need for a fire door in the Town Hall stairway to prevent the potential spread of a

fire, and requested that the Board authorize the Committee to contact architect Mark Weisner to draft some plans. Previously considered by the Board was to be such a door located at the top of the stairway, but the Committee felt that it would be better located in the main hallway, downstairs, incorporated with a new front entrance door and airlock. By general consent, the Board authorized the Committee to have Weisner proceed with drafting plans.

Listers: Susanna Palmer, of the Listers Office, and Susan Eastwood, (resigned from the Listers Office August 1, 2011), spoke to Board members at length about on-going problems of trust and staffing in the Listers office. Palmer and Eastwood expressed their appreciations for the efforts of Select Board members and others at intervention, and of the Select Board's hiring a professional mediator to provide counsel, but wished to apprise the Board that resolutions have not been yet achieved.

10. Executive Session: Hockertlotz made a motion: **To enter Executive Session to discuss personnel and contractual matters at 7:55 p.m.**, carried by those present.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:24 p.m., and, as a result, Russ made a motion: **To request that RESCUE Inc., include an itemized, "run sheet," for Townshend detailing its activities during each billing period**, seconded by Harris, and carried by those present with one abstention.

11. Meeting Schedules:

Regular Select Board Meeting: Due to the Labor Day Holiday on the Monday, September 5th, the Board will next meet on Tuesday, September 6th at 6:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment: Russ made a motion: **To adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt, assistant