

**Townshend Select Board
Minutes
October 15, 2012**

Present: Select Board: Hedy Harris; David Dezendorf; Kit Martin; Jeff Russ; Chad Greenwood

In Attendance: Kim Ellison; Joe Daigneault; Bob DiSiervo; Cynthia Davis; Richard Melanson (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. Call to Order: Harris called the Meeting to Order at 6:02 P.M.

2. Approval of Minutes: Dezendorf made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of October 1st, as corrected,** seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

3. Additions and Deletions: An award from BCTV was added under New Business and a contract proposal from RESCUE was added under Other Business.

4. Warrants: Martin made motions to approve the following Warrants:

WARRANT 1015-4 Highway Fund \$35,781.62, seconded by Russ and carried by those present with one abstention.

WARRANT 1015-5 Equipment Fund \$14,965.59, seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present.

WARRANT 1015-3 General Fund \$11,026.63, seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

WARRANT 1015-6 General Fund (Tax Refunds) \$1,060.10, seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present with one abstention.

WARRANT 1015-1 Payroll \$9,331.11, seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

WARRANT 1015-2 Payroll Tax \$3,157.10, seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

5. Reports: Highway Department Report: In Bostrom's absence, Dezendorf reported that the Highway crew was continuing to attend problems with trucks in preparation for Winter, and that the last two beaver deceivers, for preventing beavers from blocking culverts, was to be deployed. He also reported that progress was being made

on drafting a budget proposal for FY 2013-14 that included culvert and sign replacement.

Regarding the Better Back Roads program, Dezendorf reported that sections of State Forest and West Hill Roads were being looked at. Culverts needing replacement on Grafton Road and East Hill Roads were being prioritized.

He reported that the rear end saddles on T-8 were being replaced and that T-9 was being sent in for service due to a continuing fuel filler leak.

Lengthy discussion ensued about replacing T-7 and how much to seek from the Vermont Equipment Loan Fund. Estimates for a fully-equipped Ford F-550 approximated \$77,000, and the Board instructed Ellison to submit a loan application prior to the October 15th deadline in the amount of \$30,000.

Dezendorf reported that the water at the Town Garage was being tested for contaminants due to odor and that sediment in the filter suggested that the well pump might need to be raised.

Law Enforcement Report: Nothing at this time.

Bookkeeper's / Treasurer's Report: Ellison reported that tax receipts from the first quarter remained about 5.0% outstanding and that the checking account balance was approximately \$443,000.

Daigneault said that he would prepare a list of delinquencies for Board members to review prior to the next meeting.

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

Emergency Management Director's Report: Dezendorf reported that Grace Cottage Hospital's Poker Walk was attended by the Windham County Sheriff's Department and CERT, and that all went well.

6. Members of the Public: Bob DiSiervo was welcomed and thanked Dezendorf for Emergency Management's traffic calming efforts at the Pumpkin Festival. DeSirvo then briefly discussed the Town Hall fire door project with the Board and expressed hope that proposals would be received by November 5th.

7. Correspondence: The Board discussed a contract proposal from the Windham County Humane Society for animal holding and care and asked Hunt to have Townshend Animal Control Officers review it.

8. Old Business: East Hill Road Project Update: Dezendorf reported that plans developed by Stevens and Associates had been tentatively approved by V-Trans. Questions still remained about the quantity of gravel needed and the trees to be removed.

TRANSCO Evaluation: Martin relayed his understanding of the reason for the error in the TRANSCO appraisal, subsequent to discussion with Listers office chairman Bills, and made a motion: **To approve the Errors and Omissions correction of the TRANSCO appraisal from \$14,733,071 to \$14,634,371,** seconded by Dezendorf and carried by those present.

Cemetery Rights of Way: Dezendorf reported that work was completed last week by Dale Clark at the Holland-Bixby-Brigham cemetery, but that the road which provided access for hazard mitigation was not going to serve as a permanent access for cemetery maintenance. Other arrangements would have to be made.

Dam Road Trees: Dezendorf said that he would prepare an end agreement for the Royces to review, which, subsequent to the planting of the trees agreed upon, would bring closure to Townshend's responsibilities in this matter.

Municipal Timber: Nothing at this time.

Fuel Metering System: Nothing at this time.

Fire Department Heating System: Dezendorf reported that the consensus of the fire department personnel was that the cost of switching the heating system from steam to hot water was excessive, despite the fact that steam was causing the boiler to erode prematurely. A water filtration system was to be considered.

Ancient Roads: Nothing at this time.

9. New Business: VTrans Agreement: Dezendorf made a motion: **For the Select Board to sign a maintenance agreement with VTrans, (#BRFBST015-1), covering work already completed at the junction of East Hill Road and Route 30,** seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present.

RESCUE: Following discussion, Martin made a motion: **For the Town of Townshend to enter into a contract with RESCUE, Inc., for the fiscal year 2013-14 in the amount of \$32,914.00,** seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

Compactor: Lengthy discussion followed a report from Dezendorf that the Town Compactor was nearing the end of its service life.

10. Other Business: Russ reported that he had received complaints about target practice at the Town gravel pit. Information was being relayed to the Windham County Sheriff and the Town's constables.

Harris reported that she and Russ had attended the annual BCTV dinner and that Townshend was made the recipient of a 2012 Community Partner Award. The trophy accompanying the award will be put on display in the Town Clerk's office.

11. Executive Session: None at this time.

12. Meeting Schedules:

Budget Workshop: October 23, 2012 @ 5:30 P.M.

Regular Meeting: November 5, 2012 at 6:00 P.M.

13. Adjournment: Dezenorf made a motion: **To adjourn at 7:55 P.M.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig K. Hunt, assistant