

**Townshend Select Board
Minutes
July 2, 2012**

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

In Attendance: Kim Ellison; Joe Daigneault; Kurt Bostrom; Ryan Hockertlotz; Holly Hockertlotz; Mr. Gorotiaga; Deputy Cooke; Brian Ciano; Tiz Garfield; Bob DeSiervo; Cynthia Davis; Irvin Stowell; Tom Lyman; Richard Melanson, (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. Call to Order: Harris called the Meeting to Order at 6:03 P.M.

2. Opening of Bids: Harris opened sealed envelopes containing bids for the Route 35 paving project:

Bazin Brothers	\$158,550.00
Springfield Paving	130,000.00
Lane Construction	129.955.00

The Dam Road paving project:

Bazin Brothers	\$ 19,982.00
Lane Construction	18,332.00

Martin made a motion: **To instruct the Road Commissioners and the Highway Foreman to review the bids for the two paving projects and award the contracts,** seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

For gravel crushing:

Bazin Brothers	\$	5.22 sq yd
Fitzpatrick		4.85
Chaves		6.00

Martin made a motion: **To instruct the Road Commissioners and the Highway Foreman to review the bids for gravel crushing and award a contract,** seconded by Dezendorf and carried by those present.

3. Approval of Minutes: Dezendorf made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of June 18, 2012, as corrected,** seconded by Russ, and carried by those present.

4. Additions and Deletions: None at this time.

5. Warrants: Dezendorf again reminded Bostrom that no overtime charges should be appearing on the Warrants.

Martin then stated that the Board should continue to withhold payment to Contech for a \$900.00 culvert return charge, and Dezendorf said that he had talked to a representative at Contech who said the charge was fully legitimate. Martin reiterated that the return charge was not pre-approved by the Highway Foreman or the Select Board, and, had anyone been informed of the cost in advance, the Town probably would have kept the culvert.

Bostrom agreed that he didn't know about return freight costs beforehand.

Dezendorf made a motion: To approve the Warrants for July 2, 2012, withholding payment on the \$900.00 return freight invoice from Contech, seconded by Martin and carried by those present.

General Fund	\$ 21,841.93
Highway Department	\$ 30,985.27
(includes \$28,452.20 equip. loan payments)	
Payroll	\$ 12,075.68

6. Reports: Highway Department Report: Lengthy discussion ensued about the East Hill Road project; how much FEMA would reimburse and whether FEMA required engineering to be put out to bid.

Bostrom reported meeting with an ANR representative about Deer Valley, East Hill and Ellen Ware Roads.

He then reported that the grader would be repaired and should be back within a week. Martin asked about the transmission costs and Bostrom explained that the rebuilt transmission with a one-year warranty would cost about \$27,000 and that labor and other parts would add another \$13,000.

Harris asked Bostrom if he had any idea why the transmission had failed and Bostrom said, no: that the grader isn't that old and shouldn't have these serious problems.

Martin thought it was hard to believe that transmission gears could weld themselves together without any indication of a problem and Bostrom explained that there was no way to know that the transmission oil cooler wasn't functioning.

Martin also expressed his dismay that this amount of money would be spent without prior knowledge of, or approval from the Select Board; that there was a policy that anything over \$15,000 had to be put out to bid, and Bostrom told him that he had spoken with Harris, beforehand.

Harris then admitted that communications could have been better all around and that the Select Board slipped on this one.

Bostrom then reported having come to an agreement with Charles on the purchase of used culvert on Simpson Brook Road for \$200 and Ellison wanted to express for the record that, to her, this deal to try to sell scrap to Charles at the highest possible price, after the contributions he has made to the Town, was an insult.

Discussion then turned to the road standards that the Town adopted in 1999 and Harris asked whether bringing our roads up to those standards would make the Town current with State and Federal regulations. Dezendorf said that some portions of these regulations are outdated and have been changed.

Martin said that he thought that the Board should adopt the most current standards, and Dezendorf said that the State is pushing new standards to meet Federal guidelines.

Law Enforcement Report: Deputy Cooke of the Windham County Sheriff's Department introduced himself to Board members and said that he will be working in Townshend in Deputy Fellows' absence. He reported meeting with the owner of a dog in West Townshend about which the Select Board had received complaints and would be following up to assure that agreements were kept. He also reported working with V-Trans on repair of the fencing at Scott Bridge.

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

Bookkeeper's / Treasurer's Report: Ellison reported that FEMA had agreed to forward approximately \$204,000 in reimbursements, but had given no word about Peaked Mountain and East Hill Roads, yet. Also, there is no update on the status of the appeal for full payment from FEMA for costs associated with the Dam Road culvert project.

A bill for leasing the backhoe had arrived, she said, much to everyone's surprise since it was purchased, and she would be investigating that.

Ellison also informed the Board that the Listers would be lodging the Grand List this week, and, by general consent, the Select Board scheduled a Special Meeting for July 9th at 6:00 P.M. to set the FY 2012-13 tax rates.

Emergency Management Report: Dezendorf had nothing to update the Board on at this time.

7. Members of the Public: No one at this time. Board members reminded members of the public that this was

the time allocated for them to speak about any matters of concern.

8. Correspondence: The June 2012 Scott Bridge Inspection Report was received by the Board.

9. Old Business: Town Hall Fire Doors: Garfield summarized some of the work that architect Wesner had done in the past, specifically regarding the planned location for expanding vault space and assured the Board that there was no worry about asbestos in the building. She recommended that the Select Board, sometime, schedule a workshop for discussions with Wesner about future plans.

As to the installation of fire doors in the hallway, Garfield said that Wesner was ready to draft the Request for Bid Proposals, but that automatic openers for full handicap access would probably double the project's price.

Martin asked if Wesner would assume the responsibility of working with the contractor to assure that the construction was correct, and Garfield said that he would work with the contractor to sort out the myriad details involved, but that the Select Board should appoint a local individual as a liaison for the project.

Following brief discussion, Martin made a motion: **To appoint Tom Lyman as the liaison between the Select Board and Wesner to oversee the Town Hall fire door project,** seconded by Dezendorf and carried by those present. Lyman agreed to accept the appointment.

Martin reiterated that he would like to see that local contractors are invited to bid.

Dezendorf made a motion: To have the Chair sign the State of Vermont construction permit application form and have the Treasurer remit a check to pay the fee for the application, seconded by Russ and carried by those present. Harris then signed the form.

Cemetery Rights of Way: Harris reported that progress with the draft ROW proposals was proceeding, slowly.

Sheriff's Contract: Harris reported that she and Russ had had a meeting with Sheriff Clark and that the contract for FY 2012-13 was signed.

Trail Riders Agreement: Harris also reported that she had signed the agreement with the Southern Vermont Trail Riders Association and that Certificates of Insurance had been received.

10. New Business: Town Hall Garland Stove: Harris opened two sealed bids for the Garland kitchen stove put up for auction by the Select Board. Craig Hunt made an offer

of \$150.00 and Robert DuGrenier offered \$200.00. Martin made a motion: **To sell the Garland stove in the Town Hall to Robert DuGrenier for \$200.00**, seconded by Russ and carried by those present.

Grafton Road Dump Site Property – Logging: Harris reviewed her discussions with Longview Forestry regarding its offer to log Town property at the Grafton turn. Longview is presently cutting at Kowalski's and presented Harris with a proposal that was discussed with Townshend Tree Warden, Steiner.

By general consent, the Board agreed to ask local loggers to inspect the property and register their interests.

11. Executive Session: None at this time.

12. Meeting Schedules:

Special Tax Rate Meeting: July 9th at 6:00 P.M.
Ancient Roads Site Visit: July 15th at 10:00 A.M.
Regular Meeting: July 16th at 6:00 P.M.

13. Adjournment: Russ made a motion: **To adjourn at 8:30 P.M.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig K. Hunt, assistant