

approved: 03/18/13

**Townshend Select Board  
Minutes  
March 4, 2013**

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

**In Attendance:** Joe Daigneault; Kim Ellison; Kurt Bostrom; Becca Schaefer; Rich Melanson (BCTV); Craig Hunt

**1. Call to Order:** Harris called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Dezendorf made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of February 18, 2013, as corrected,** seconded by Martin and carried by those present.

**3. Additions and Deletions:** Discussion of a draft letter to State representatives regarding Agency of Transportation budget cuts was added by Dezendorf and Timber Cutting update was added by Greenwood.

**4. Warrants:** Martin made and Dezendorf seconded the following motions to approve the Warrants:

**WARRANT 0304-5 Payroll Tax \$3,614.07,** carried by those present.

**WARRANT 0304-4 Payroll \$9,963.32,** carried by those present with Russ abstaining.

**WARRANT 0304-3 Equipment Fund \$2,889.96,** carried by those present.

**WARRANT 0304-2 Highway Fund \$4,067.69,** carried by those present.

**WARRANT 0304-1 General Fund \$10,952.17,** carried by those present with Russ abstaining.

**5. Reports: Highway Department:** Dezendorf referenced a letter from the Vermont Agency of Transportation requesting information about the discontinuance of Bush's Way, Favreau's Corner Road and a part of the Acton Road. Bostrom will contact the V.A.O.T. with the information.

Dezendorf reported on a meeting with John Daly of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation about hazardous chemical spill prevention and clean-up measures. Anything more than two gallons spilled will require notifying the V.D.E.C. Daly also looked at workplace

safety in the Town Garage and made a few recommendations for improvements.

Greenwood asked whether he John Daly was asked to come down or if this was a routine inspection, and Dezendorf said that he had been invited.

Dezendorf then presented Board members with a draft letter opposing legislative support of cuts in the 2014 V.A.O.T. budget. Following brief discussion Dezendorf said that he would make some revisions to the draft.

Bostrom reported on receiving the new Ford F550 (T-2) today and said that everything on it looks good. Dezendorf requested that all of the truck's papers, except for the manuals, be kept in the finance office.

Bostrom relayed that the Windham Regional Commission has requested that Townshend host a Road Foreman's workshop later this month.

Bostrom will be meeting with a Fairpoint field representative to coordinate for communication lines on East Hill Road being kept live during repair work on the roadbed.

Bostrom reported that road sweeping is being scheduled for May this year and that bridge structures plans have been submitted to the V.A.O.T.

Discussion focused on the fate of the 2006 F350, which T-2 is replacing and Dezendorf made a motion: **To approve the sale of T-7 by auction through the Townshend Auction Gallery, as long the radios and the Townshend name on the doors were removed**, seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present with Martin abstaining.

**Law Enforcement Report:** None at this time.

**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 the balance of the boiler installation payment was still pending and Russ remarked that recent issues in Town Hall with the new heating system were minor and to have been expected.

Daigneault reported that 3rd Quarter tax payments were continuing to be received.

**Emergency Management Director's Report:** None at this time.

**6. Correspondence:** Dezendorf made a motion: **To approve the over-weight the truck permit application submitted by Lynde Well Drilling**, seconded by Greenwood. Discussion ensued about Town liabilities, given that Class 3 roads are no longer posted and some bridges now need and will soon be under repair. Dezendorf then withdrew his motion with

Greenwood's consent, promising that this matter will be decided when more information becomes available.

Dezendorf then made a motion: **To approve the application for a tobacco sales license from Lawrence's Smoke Shop**, seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present, with Martin abstaining.

Dezendorf then made a motion: **To approve the application for a liquor sales license from Lawrence's Smoke Shop**, seconded by Greenwood and carried by those present, with Martin abstaining.

**7. Members of the Public:** None at this time.

**8. Old Business: Valley Cares Agreement:** Harris summarized her conversation with the Town attorney who believes that the proposal from Valley Cares for closing on a Vermont Community Development Grant is a standard contract. Harris asked Board members if a meeting with the attorney would be beneficial. Martin replied that this contract, which the Select Board has been discussing since mid-January, is not acceptable to him, as written, and needs to be changed to incorporate financial and other legal liability protections for the Town of Townshend. Harris agreed to talk with the attorney about specifying those protections.

**Ancient Roads:** Pursuant to 19 V.S.A. 708-11, Board members signed the Discontinuance of a Portion of Riverdale Road and instructed Hunt to notify the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks and notify the abutters.

Pursuant to 19 V.S.A. 708-11, Board members signed the Discontinuance of a Portion of School House Road and instructed Hunt to notify the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks and notify the abutters.

**Town Hall Fire Doors:** Nothing at this time.

**Municipal Timber Cutting:** Hunt relayed to the Board that Notices had been posted requesting proposals to heavily cut the Town-owned acreage at the intersection of Route 35 and Grafton Road.

**Personnel Policy:** Nothing at this time.

**9. Members of the Public:** Becca Schaefer, of Valley Cares, appeared and asked if she might answer any questions regarding the contract proposal submitted to the Select Board. Harris explained that the contract was still being reviewed by the Town's attorney.

**10. New Business:** None at this time.

**11. Other Business:** None at this time.

**12. Executive Session:** Harris made a motion: **To enter Executive Session at 7:12 P.M. to discuss personnel matters,** seconded by Dezendorf and carried by those present.

At 7:25 P.M. the Select Board returned from Executive Session and, as a result, no action was taken.

**13. Meeting Schedules:**

**Town Meeting:** March 5th at 9:00 A.M

**Regular Meeting:** March 18th at 6:00 P.M.

**14. Adjournment:** Dezendorf made a motion: **To adjourn at 7:30 P.M.,** carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt, assistant