

approved: 11/03/14

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2014

Present: Kathy Hege; Dale West; Carole Melis; Kyle LaPointe

In Attendance: Joe Daigneault; Kurt Bostrom; Ryan Hockertlotz; Charles Marchant; Peter Ginter; Thomas Chase; Richard Melanson; Craig Hunt

1. Call To Order: Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes: Melis made a motion: **To approve the Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2014**, seconded by West and carried by those present.

3. Additions and Deletions: Added to Old Business was FEMA, Stone Arch Bridge repair and Cemetery R.O.W. updates, and, under Warrants, Payroll Time Sheet requirements.

4. Gravel Crushing Bids: Hege unsealed and read two bids received for the approved \$36,000 expenditure:

David Chaves	6,545 cu yds @ \$5.50 per yard
Bazin Brothers	7,550 cu yds @ \$4.77 per yard

Melis then made a motion: **To award the 2024-15 gravel crushing bid to Bazin Brothers at \$4.77 per yard**, seconded by West and carried by those present.

5. Warrants: West moved to approve the following Warrants, all seconded by Melis:

10201 Payroll	\$ 8,727.36 , carried by those present.
10202 Payroll Tax	\$ 5,773.15 , carried by those present.
10203 General	\$ 1,107.14 , carried by those present.
10204 Highway	\$ 12,951.04 , carried by those present.
10205 Equipment	\$ 81,242.05 , carried by those present.
10606 General	\$ 843.66 , (tabled 10/06/14) carried by those present.
10207 General	\$ 13,428.67 , carried by those present.

Hege pointed out that some payroll timesheets were being received not only with photocopied authorizing signatures, but with photocopied recordings of hours worked. Following brief discussion, Melis made a motion: **To require that all payroll submissions bear original authenticating signatures, or be subject to denial**, seconded by LaPointe and carried by those present.

6. Members of the Public: Hege requested that the rules be suspended to meet with members of the public, carried by those present. Peter Ginter introduced himself and asked that the Select Board consider waiving the \$25.00 parking fine he received on October 15, 2014, for parking on Route 35 in the wrong direction. He explained that he was a substitute teacher at Leland & Gray, unaware that teachers had parking available to them at the school and that he had been parking by the dentist's office in the wrong direction since last winter, without complaint. Melis made a motion: **To waive the \$25.00 fine issued to Ginter**, seconded by LaPointe and carried by those present, with one member opposing. Hege then explained to Ginter that he should not park his car on Route 35 for more than two hours at a time, nor park on Common Road, but use the lots available to staff and students at Leland & Gray.

7. Reports: Highway: Bostrom reported that the beaver problem on Grafton Road had become both chronic and serious, requiring attention every few days. Following discussion, LaPointe made a motion: **To authorize Bostrom to contract with a trapper for remedy of the beaver problem**, seconded by Melis and carried by those present.

Bostrom then discussed with the Board wanting to inspect a used 16 yd rubbish compactor truck available for sale in New York and Melis made a motion: **To authorize Bostrom to go to Caledonia, New York with Daigneault to assess the used rubbish truck and, if worthwhile, purchase it for a sum not to exceed \$29,500.00**, seconded by LaPointe and carried by those present. Melis then made a motion: **To authorize Bostrom to arrange for delivery of the used rubbish truck to Townshend, if purchased, for a sum not to exceed \$1000.00**, seconded by LaPointe and carried by those present.

Bostrom requested that the Board allow A.S. Clark to clear the cliff face of trees in the gravel pit prior to gravel crushing, since it would be easier for them to do, while stumping the hillside with excavators, then for him with the backhoe. Following discussion, Melis made a motion: **To amend the contract with A.S. Clark authorizing clearance of the trees on the face of the gravel pit for a sum not to exceed \$1,000.00 additional**, seconded by LaPointe and carried by those present.

Law Enforcement Report: Hunt was asked to arrange for Sheriff Clark to meet with members of the Select Board to discuss contractual matters. Discussion with Hockertlotz included noting that revenues from civil fines were not meeting expectations and that contracted time had been spent on investigations that involved towns outside of Townshend.

Town Clerk's Report: The Select Board reviewed the Town Clerk's cash journal report from the prior weeks.

Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that the General Fund checking account held a balance of \$650,323.22 prior to the payment of Warrants just approved.

8. Members of the Public: Thomas Chase introduced himself and, in lengthy discussion with the Board, summarized his on-going struggle to have his tax bill corrected. Chase grieved his re-appraisal assessment of 2013 with the Listers, the Board

of Civil Authority and with the State Department of Taxation and believes that he is owed a credit because of the adjustments. Hege agreed that it appeared a credit was due, with interest, and said that the Select Board would request that the tax collector provide Chase with a letter explaining the calculations.

Charles Marchant asked the Board for an update on his request to have permanent right-of-ways to private cemeteries that the Cemetery Commission maintains deeded by the landowners. Melis said that she would work with Marchant on preparation of the documents.

Marchant then asked the Select Board to remedy an error in the land records regarding Oakwood Cemetery's association with the ballfield.

9. Correspondence: Nothing at this time.

10. Old Business: AT&T Cell Tower: Hunt reported that AT&T was in the process of submitting documentation to the Public Service Board, but had yet to receive copy of the submissions.

Stone Arch Bridge Repair Update: Nothing at this time.

FEMA Reimbursement: Nothing at this time.

11. New Business: VCDP Grant Closeout: Melis made a motion: **To ratify the closeout of the Vermont Community Development Program account with People's Bank**, seconded by West and carried by those present.

Gasoline Tank: Hunt was instructed to post for sale notices locally and advertise the surplus gasoline tank at the Highway Garage on Craigslist.

12. Other Business: None at this time.

13. Executive Session: None at this time.

14. Meeting Schedules: Budget Workshop: Oct. 30th @ 6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting: Nov. 3rd @ 6:00 p.m.
WSWMD District Meeting: Nov. 6th @ 6:30 p.m. Town Hall

15. Adjournment: LaPointe made a motion: **To adjourn at 8:07 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt