

approved: 03/15/18

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2018

Present: Kathy Hege; Will Bissonnette; Robert Wright; Irvin Stowell; Steve Frisk;

In Attendance: Joseph Daigneault; Robert DeSiervo; E.M. Richards, (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. **Call To Order:** Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:10 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Minutes:** Bissonnette made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of February 13, 2018**, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

Bissonnette made a motion: **To approve the Special Minutes of February 15, 2018**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present, with one abstention.

Bissonnette made a motion: **To approve the Special M/utes of February 26, /018**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

3. **Additions and Deletions:** Added to Correspondence was a letter from Kathy Greve.

4. **Reports: Highway Report:** None at this time.

Town Clerk's Report: None at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that the General Fund Sweep account held a balance of \$ 1,385,181.59 and that the Checking account held \$ 26,629.91.

5. **Warrants:** Wright made motions to approve the Warrants all seconded by Frisk:

022701 Payroll \$ 10,487.80, carried by those present with one opposed.

022702 Taxes 4,388.09, carried by those present.

022703 General 10,029.08, carried by those present.

022704 General 35.75, motion failed to carry.

022705 General 117.01, motion failed to carry, with one abstention.

022706 General 591.92, carried by those present.

022707 Highway 8,417.99, amended by Bissonnette to \$8,409.09 and carried by those present.

022708 Equipment 2,639.19, motion failed to carry.

6. **Members of the Public:** Bob DeSiervo, Townshend Tree Warden, was welcomed and since Hege had read the Report published in the Annual Town Report at the last meeting, explained that he was critical of the Select Board for allowing the Town to be put at risk by lax management of the Highway foreman. Hazardous trees, DeSiervo

said, should be taken down as soon as possible after they have been identified. Board members agreed that better supervision is required.

With DeSiervo, the Select Board then discussed the issues of short notice and the misposting of signs forecasting the imminent closure of West Hill Road for bridge repairs. Hege then read a letter of concern from Pam Colbert, who, like DeSiervo, lives off of West Hill Road. Board members and Hunt apologized for not knowing about Highway Department decisions in a more-timely fashion.

7. Correspondence: Hege read a letter from Kathy Greve explaining committee participants in the vetting of Social Service requests.

8. Other Business: Hege provided Board members with research results of a question brought up at the Pre-Town Meeting regarding whether the Board could combine the Treasurer's and Tax Collector's positions. The positions, until 2008 were not separate; for 2009, the Select Board was instructed to appoint a tax collector; and, in 2010, it became an elected officer position. In 2014, however, the State Legislature abolished the position as an elected one, leaving it up to the Select Board to appoint, or delegate the authority to appoint someone.

9. Old Business: Stowell wanted to state, for the record, his concerns about ditch maintenance on Route 35, especially near the former McIntosh house.

10. New Business: Liquor Licenses: Hege made a motion: To approve the 2nd Class Liquor License application from Vermont Staple Goods, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.

11. Executive Session: None at this time.

12. Meeting Schedule: Town Meeting: March 6, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

13. Adjournment: Stowell made a motion: **To adjourn at 7:25 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt