

approved: 07/24/18

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2018

Present: Kathy Hege; Crystal Mansfield; Will Bissonnette; Robert Wright; Steve Frisk;

In Attendance: Joseph Daigneault; Richard Melanson, (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. **Call To Order:** Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** Frisk made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of June 26, 2018**, seconded by Wright and carried by those present.
3. **Additions and Deletions:** A letter from Jesse-Lynn Gentlewolf was added to Correspondence and an update of a court proceeding was added to Old Business.
4. **Warrants:** Wright made motions to approve the Warrants, all seconded by Frisk:
 - 071001 Payroll \$10,839.78, carried by those present.
 - 071002 Taxes 4,062.19, carried by those present.
 - 071003 General 3,640.00, carried by those present.
 - 071004 Highway 1,205.80, carried by those present.
 - 071005 Equipment 1,057.72, carried by those present.
 - 071006 General 4,026.54, carried by those present.
 - 071007 Highway 1,730.86, carried by those present.
 - 071008 General 3,874.47, carried by those present, with one abstention.
 - 071009 Equipment 120,000.00, carried by those present. (This transfer to reserve acct.)
 - 071010 General 197.51, carried by those present.

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

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

Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that the General Fund Sweep account held a balance of \$556,517.94 and that the Checking account held \$ 29,603.42.

Treasurer's Warrant: Frisk made a motion: **To instruct the Treasurer to receive from the Townshend Public Library \$6,587.19 to reimburse the General Fund account**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.

6. Correspondence: Hege acknowledged receipt of a letter from Jesse-Lynn Gentlewolf requesting Town documents pertaining to the seizure of six dogs from her premises by the Windham County Humane Society in February 2014. Hunt was instructed to respond to Ms. Gentlewolf with such documents as the Town may have.

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

8. Old Business: Stone Arch Bridge Repairs: Following brief discussion, Mansfield made a motion: **To instruct Hunt to ascertain the authority of the Select Board to engage in traffic bridge repairs not requested by VAOT and not proposed by an engineer associated with VAOT,** seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

Bissonnette then made a motion: **To have Hunt inform the Townshend Historical Society that the Select Board authorizes the Townshend Historical Society to research the availability of grants and other funding sources for the repair of Townshend's historic stone arch bridges,** seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

Budget Status Report: Not at this time.

Court Update: Hege informed Board members that a Hearing took place on Monday, July 9, 2018, in Brattleboro in the matter of Kiernan v. The Town of Townshend. Hege and Hunt attended the Small Claims Court Hearing and the matter was taken under advisement by the presiding judge. A ruling should be passed down, shortly.

9. Executive Session: Bissonnette made a motion: **For the Select Board to enter into Executive Session with Hunt at 6:25 p.m., under 1 V.S.A. 317(c)(4) to discuss communications from the Town attorney,** seconded by Mansfield and carried by those present.

The Select Board returned from Executive Session at 6:37 p.m., and, as a result, Bissonnette made a motion: **To have the chair gather the information necessary and proceed toward the sale of the Town-owned Johnson property,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

Hunt informed the Board, for the record, that he had met with Sheriff Clark at the Johnson premises earlier in the day and that Sheriff Clark had posted the final eviction notice from the Court. Hunt changed the locks to the premises and, with the posting of No Trespassing signs on the property, the Town had finally taken legal possession.

The Listers will be asked to re-appraise the property and documents will be gathered to tally the cost of the Town's purchase. When the final cost to the Town is known, arrangements will be made to sell the property at a fixed price by lottery selection.

10. New Business: FY2018-19 Tax Rates: Following discussion, Bissonnette made a motion: **To set the FY2018-19 Municipal Tax Rate at \$ 0.5437, making the Homestead combined Municipal and Educational Tax Rate, \$2.3509 and the Non-Residential combined Municipal and Educational Tax Rate, \$2.0003,** seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

Officer Appointments: None at this time.

11. Other Business: None at this time.

13. Meeting Schedules: **Special Town Meeting: July 19, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.**
 Regular Meeting: July 24, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment: Mansfield made a motion: **To adjourn at 6:58 p.m.,** carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt