

approved: 08/23/16

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2016

Present: Kathy Hege; Kit Martin; Robert Wright

In Attendance: Joe Daigneault; Mike Bills; Richard Lucier; Gene Kuch; Kurt Bostrom; Christina Angell; Richard Melanson, BCTV; Craig Hunt

1. Call To Order: Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes: Martin made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of July 12, 2016,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

3. Additions and Deletions: None at this time.

4. Errors and Omissions: The Board reviewed an Errors and Omissions request with the Listers. An incorrect multiplier, apparently due to a software error, was used to calculate a parcel value inappropriately. The error will result in a decrease of \$5,382.76 in municipal taxes and \$20,974.91 in education taxes collected this year, at the established tax rate.

Martin made a motion: **To approve the Listers request to reduce the evaluation upon parcel #040046-00 from \$1,569,100.00 to \$254,800.00,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

5: Reports: Highway Report: Bostrom reported that he had reviewed culvert inventories made through the years and, in answer to Martin's concern about not replacing those identified as in critical need, said that those which fail have come first. Discussion ensued, particular to accepting a small grant for having the Windham Regional Commission assist in completing a network inventory. Martin asked Bostrom to seek bids from engineers for doing a network inventory after Hege informed Bostrom that the State would be conducting an audit of prior grants on August 17th. The cost of accounting for these grants, she implied, could exceed the awarded amount of the some of the grants received.

Bostrom reported that a mailbox knocked down during plowing last winter was probably caused by snow hitting the rotten mailbox post.

The Board again reviewed an issue with discharge of a culvert on Oakwood Cemetery Road and expressed its belief that, aside from keeping that culvert free of debris and deepening the discharge area in the Town's right-of-way, the swale crossing private land was the responsibility of the property owner.

Martin then made a motion: **To enter Executive Session with Bostrom at 6:45 p.m., under 1 V.S.A. 313 a3, to evaluate an employee,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:05 p.m., and, as a result, no action was taken.

6. Members of the Public: Christina Angell was welcomed and informed the Board that she was very upset about the discharge of runoff from the culvert on Oakwood Cemetery Road, the

Town's lack of care for the stonework around that culvert and lack of maintenance for the swale which crosses her property. Following lengthy discussion with Angell and Bostrom, Martin made a motion: **To have the Highway Crew tend to the swale on Angell's property to protect the performance of the culvert**, seconded by Wright. The motion failed to carry for lack of a quorum and Hunt was instructed to add the issue to the Agenda for the next meeting.

7. Reports: Town Clerk's Report: The Select Board reviewed the Town Clerk's journal reports from the prior weeks.

Law Enforcement Report: None at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that there was currently \$786,594.44 in the General Fund checking account.

8. Warrants: Wright made motions to approve the following Warrants, all seconded by Martin.

- 80201 Payroll \$ 8,192.39. The motion failed for lack of a quorum.
- 80202 Taxes \$ 3,321.08. The motion failed for lack of a quorum.
- 80203 General \$ 135.37, carried by those present.
- 80204 General \$ 17,842.00, carried by those present.
- 80205 General \$ 558.37, carried by those present.
- 80206 General \$ 233.47, carried by those present.
- 80207 General \$ 1,341.67, carried by those present.
- 80208 Hgwy \$ 2,729.50, carried by those present.
- 80209 Equip \$ 695.60, carried by those present.
- 80210 Equip \$ 2,525.00, carried by those present.

Wright moved to amend and approve Warrant:

- 71209 Equip \$ 5,853.92, seconded by Martin and carried by those present.
- 80211 General \$ 738.90, carried by those present.
- 80212 Hgwy \$ 366.32, carried by those present.
- 80213 Equip \$ 919.66, carried by those present.
- 80214 General \$ 158.63, carried by those present.

9. Correspondence: None at this time.

10. Old Business: Tax Rates: Wright made a motion: **To ratify the FY 2016-17 tax rates of \$2.0060 as the Homestead and \$ 1.8460 as the Non-Residential rates**, seconded by Martin and carried by those present.

Officer Appointments: Martin nominated Cynthia Davis to serve on the Town Report Committee, approved by those present.

Hege nominated David Bolton to serve on the Town Report Committee, approved by those present.

Martin nominated Kathleen Greve and Cynthia Davis to serve on the Social Services Screening Committee, approved by those present.

Notices: Hunt informed the Board that Notices for two municipal lease agreements and for the re-certification of the transfer station would be formally published and on the Agenda for Board consideration at the meeting on August 23rd.

Gazebo Reimbursement: Discussion focused upon the fact that Amica Mutual Insurance Co., despite multiple requests, had not yet reimbursed the Town for repairs to the

gazebo following the vehicular accident this past winter. Martin made a motion: **To take legal action against Amica Mutual Insurance Co., for the full cost of repairs and the costs of collection,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

11. New Business: Auditing Bids: Hege opened and the Board reviewed bids for a town wide audit:

McSoley McCoy	\$12,500.00
Sullivan & Powers	\$16,900.00

Following discussion and noting that McSoley McCoy would guarantee its price at \$12,500.00 per year for auditing over three years, Martin made a motion: **To award the auditing contract for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and for auditing services in 2017 and 2018 to McSoley McCoy for a sum not to exceed \$12,500.00 per year,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

12. Executive Session: Martin made a motion: **To enter into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m., with Daigneault, under 1 V.S.A. 313-a3 for evaluation of public officers,** seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:08 p.m., and as a result, the chair will arrange for the Select Board to meet with finance office and administrative staff, the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

13. Other Business: None at this time.

14. Meeting Schedules: Regular Meeting: August 23, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

15. Adjournment: Martin made a motion: **To adjourn at 9:10 p.m.,** carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt