

Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2008

Present:

Alene Evans
Joseph Juhasz
Henry Martin, chair

Carole Melis
Jeffrey Russ
Select Board

Participating Members:

Michael Foley,
7:00 Oliver Olson, Jamaica Selectperson Dam taxes
7:30 Brud Sanderson – Stevens Assoc (L&G plans)
8:15 Sherry Maher – use Common Thurs – farmers market
8:30 Kathleen Hege & David Dezendorf – 3rd qtrly pymt
Kurt Bostrom, road foreman and Richard Carusona

The chair called the ***Meeting to Order*** at 7:00 PM ***and recognized Participating Members:***

All agreed that the road foreman would meet with **Michael Foley** to address his concerns expressed in his e-mails regarding plowing snow across a town road. The chair spoke of the Board's procedure to first notify a property owner, in writing, to cease plowing snow across the town road. Left at 7:10PM

Oliver Olson, Jamaica Selectperson is inquiring as to how **the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission** arrived at the number (the value of properties lost in individual towns to build the Dams) to be frozen. This number reimbursement on property lost to those towns where the Army Corp of Engineer maintains a flood control dam. He then shared this information with Representative, Rick Hube, who is eager to meet and start communicating with the Commission to start revising the 1955 figures. Hube wants to sit down with the Governor's Counsel, the Governor and other members to discuss the future of the agreement and determine a fair amount of monies owed from 1982. Olson and Hube left at 7:30 PM.

Robert Stevens and Brud Sanderson from Stevens Associates presented copies, of **L&G's construction** and documents being submitted with their ACT 250. Stevens noted the plans contain additional parking spaces to help alleviate one of the Town's issues. Martin asked where the Town's right-of-way is located. It was deeded to the Town to be behind the Dutton Gym to provide access to the Town Hall basement. Stevens had no knowledge of this right-of-way, but will change.

Arthur Monette, Planning Commissioners (PC), recapped all the work that the PC has achieved to make Town Hall handicapped accessible by providing an elevator in the back plus providing parking. He mentioned that the PC will be discussing this after Stevens Associates makes their presentation this Wednesday.

Along with copies of L&G's plans Stevens asked that the Town complete the ACT 250 Municipal Impact Statement. Stevens noted that both the Planning Commission and the Select Board will have party status. Left at 7:50 PM

1b. Road Foreman, Bostrom has met with Mr. Foley to find a solution when he plows his driveway snow across the town road. Bostrom stressed to Foley that the town road must be cleared of his snow. If not cleared wind rows are left, which become frozen, thus creating plowing difficulties. Bo (Walter Royce) misunderstood his conversation with Kurt and took it as his authority to call the Sheriff's Department. Consequently, a Deputy Sheriff went to the Foley's residence.

- Martin asked that the Board decision to consider the renting the roadside mower be made after Town Meeting (renting for a month is \$6,000 or \$1975 per week).
- Bostrom had information and some numbers to purchase a new Backhoe.
- With this type of rainy snow storms sand has been quickly disappearing so he called Fitzpatrick who had the ability to make and deliver 200 yards of sand; Cersosimo has lost 2 days of delivery because of the weather and today every employee was at an all day workshop.
- Salt: he ordered some from a New York Company; has three orders with Cargill and has 2 orders in the Barn
- While winging back the roads during the last snow storm in the dark he "took down" Cathcart's split rail fence, he immediately phoned them and will call Vermont League of Cities and Towns for insurance coverage.

Commission Highway Orders for weeks ending 2/9 and 2/15 were discussed and signed by the Board. Bostrom left at 8:10 PM

Townshend School Board members, Kathleen Hege and David Dezendorf asked how the Town will handle people who park in the no **parking and bus loading zones**. The School Board would like to have permission to have the vehicles towed. Melis volunteered to write a letter to violators as notification to not park there.

The next issue that needs to be addressed is to instruct the Town Treasurer to have the 3rd installment payment ready on March 3rd for pick up at noon.

She also requested to be on the Board's June 2nd meeting agenda to request the school's last tax payment. Left at 8:15 PM

Sherry Maher manages Brattleboro's winter **farmers market** and is a member of a non profit group, Post Oil Solutions. She suggested that she organize a local farmers market on the Common. After discussing the usage of the Common it was suggested and supported to offer her the use of Taft Meadows. She would have liked the availability of electricity to run credit/debit cards. She will keep the Board up to date and get commitments from the vendors. Left at 8:35 PM

Richard Carusona will not need an Access Permit as he will be using a temporary driveway off Town Road # 5XX for access and egress of equipment, which he plans to start this

week. As he continued, it became very evident that he should have brought his file as many could not relate to the exact locations and to review one of the two letters sent by the Army Corp. of Engineers stating that he can't start any construction without the Corps written approval of all plans. He does not have to go through ACT 250 process as his project is below all State minimal requirements.

The Board reported to Carusona that its meeting with Mr. Adams went quite well, resulting in open communications. Left at 9:00 PM

1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer:

Town Treasurer's notes (4); TnHall water (CD)

*Martin moved to approve the **Minutes – February 4, 2008**, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board. Their clerk accepted Melis' grammatical corrections.*

*Martin moved to **Pay Bills and Sign the following Orders**, seconded by Melis*

SM07-08 #17	\$19,116.30 & \$1330 from RDAG
	and remains open to add the cost to mail Town Report
SM07-08 #14A (17)	\$47,
PRSM07-08	\$ 980.29

4. Old Business

Professional Auditor – Board members agreed that the chair should continue trying to communicate with Joseph Pieciak of Pieciak & Co. over his invoice and lack of contractual follow through.

Town Meeting – The Board discussed financial matters and circumstances at this year's Town Meeting. The Board will have another workshop, Monday Feb. 25th to review the new 2007 Town Report, Flood Ordinance and Personal Policies

Floodplain Ordinance – Melis will seek town council advice regarding Martin's concern about mixing the two governmental factors (State and Federal) in this Ordinance. She reviewed her drafted Introduction and continued to explain that this Ordinance is only a mechanism to enforced thru the adopted Flood Plain By Laws. The Board will review this draft Ordinance for approval then hold a public meeting before adoption.

CVPS – Melis explained the criteria which Town's can only respond to. Additional appearance notices to become interested parties are still being received.

Amoires – Evans will follow up with Al Litchfield's price to build dining room cupboards.

Town Hall Pipe – Russ will fix/ repair the basement sewer pipe.

PA system – Martin supported Davis' suggestion to obtain costs for a new Public Address System in the Town Hall assembly room. Upon reading the information obtained from Warren Beattie, Electrician and Tech advisor, Martin noted the cost of a new installed system and this purchase should wait until next year. Martin volunteered to start setting up the Town's existing PA.

5. New Business

State's notification of coliform found in the Dam Diner's water.

The Board did not support installing bottled water in the Town Hall, requested by Davis.

6. Other Business – no action taken

Certificate of insurances – Valley Crane, Renaud Bros

Accurate Appraisal on Truck 8

Note from VSP – Lt. Hopkins

Wastewater & Potable Water permit issued to P. LaBoissiere, Jr

7. At 9:40 PM Melis moved into **Executive Session** under Title 1, Section 313 to discuss personnel, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.

At 9:50 PM Martin moved out of Executive Session, seconded by Melis, unanimously carried by the Board. No action taken

8. Next meeting – pre-town info Feb 26th; regular 3/3

Melis moved to **Adjourn** 9:55 PM, seconded by Russ, unanimously carried by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Select Board