

Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes - August 18, 2008

Present:

Alene Evans
Joseph Juhasz, not present
Henry Martin, not present

Carole Melis
Brud Sanderson,
Selectboard

Participating members:

Elizabeth Garfield, Town Hall renovation
Joseph Daigneault, Town Treasurer, Jeffrey
Russ, Fountain and Kurt Bostrom, road foreman

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

Evans' motioned that Joseph Daigneault, Town Treasurer, *research the appraisal* and taxation of a new camper at Camperama, giving the new campers 30 days to pay their 08-09 taxes, seconded by Sanderson, carried by all present. Daigneault was asked to use his discretion on accepting tax payment by post mark.

Jeffrey Russ will be meeting with a representative from Falvey Pools to advise on new construction of the **Fountain basin and holding tank**. The Board's consensus was to keep the existing "rock wall" around the basin. Melis told Russ that there will be a Town Barn Committee meeting at 4:00 pm Thursday, at her house. Russ left at 7:20 PM

1b. Kurt Bostrom, road foreman's report:

- Because of the Compactor's age it is constantly in need of repair. Some repairs must be made before inspection.
 - Evans was given permission to obtain detailed information from surrounding towns on how they dispose of their household waste.
She directed that a note be sent to the compactor attendant clarifying that Bostrom is his boss.
- While mowing road sides he encountered a lot of discarded TV cable that must be picked up by Southern Vermont Cable.
- With a doctor's note in hand, Royce came to work. The doctor has restricted Royce to light work duty, 4 hours a day. Since working on a highway department doesn't provide much light work, Bostrom sent him home. Bostrom will update Chaboux of VLCT.
- Ask District 2 to fill in a deep pot hole in front of the Town Hall on Rte 30.
 - Bills: He purchased plow blades from TENCO's special deal.

Highway Warrants for week ending: 8/22 8/16 were signed. Bostrom left at 7:35 PM

Elizabeth Garfield and Evans, of the **Town Hall renovation committee**, had met with the Planning Commission and now with this Board to present their plans and procedures regarding the construction of additional space/office within the Town Hall.

On August 31st the Vermont Community grants will be given to those successful towns. Their grants focus on handicapped issues, added Garfield, hopeful Townshend will get one. Should we get the grant the architect, from his data, will be identifying issues and preparing conceptual drawings for fact finding and presentation at public hearings. At 7:50 PM Garfield and Daigneault left

1a. Town Clerk and/or Treasurer: no report at this time

1c. Bookkeeper's memo:

- The Digital Express machine is working well both she and Daigneault are considering another account for depositing tax payments.
- Met with a representative from VMERS and has set up an appointment with 2 Wired Guys to assess the old computer.
- The Finance Department has a separate phone “mail box”.

The Board asked Roberts to notify the State that the Town wants the remaining \$3,241.85 for unused VSP law enforcement to be credited to this year's contract.

2. *Evans moved to approve the corrected **Minutes of August 4th**, seconded by Melis, carried by those present.*

3. Warrants *were motioned to be paid and signed, seconded by Evans, carried and signed by those present.*

4. Old Business

Valley Cares / West River Housing – It was agreed that Melis will forward to town attorney Robert Fisher all correspondence relating to appraising both buildings, especially Attorney Gingsberg letter August 3rd. The Town needs accurate and consistent information.

B&B's 08-09 Contract – will be compared to their 08-09 services.

Street lights – Taking any action on this was tabled until a full Board is present.

08-09 Budget – Preparation should begin next month.

Barber Rd. – Evans had a phone conversation with Ms. Corbitt regarding her request for the Town to maintain an old road, allowing her access into her property. Davis reported that she could not find where and if the roads were connected or joined. The Board agreed that Evans will explain to Ms. Corbitt the difficulties in locating “old” roads and that she will have to hire someone who can do the research to determine the status of the road.

Sidewalks – Sanderson believes that the Town should get everything in place for the construction of sidewalks next spring, because this time of year the cold weather affects the setting and settling of concrete and we will end up with cracked, uneven areas.

Town Hall Maintenance person – All three applicants will be invited to the Board's next meeting.

Town Barn – the idea of asking contractors to focus on bidding on the labor costs creates fixed labor costs. The purchase of materials will be at best an estimate as the Twon will be

responsible of the risk of increased pricing. The Contract will not be able to build in increased costs.

Town Hall parking – A Planning Commissioner questioned Evans on the status of the Town Hall's rear access/driveway behind the Dutton Gym? Is legal counsel needed? And what about L&G's plan to build a parking lot on a lower level behind the Town Hall with the Town's cooperation.

Cabinets – Litchfield will finish sanding the cabinets this week, after which they should be stained. Evans will follow up on Litchfield suggestion to contact Joe Lovergine for the staining. Members thought that the cabinets would have shelving.

5. New Business

The next Selectboard's meeting will be Wednesday, September 3, 2008, 7:00 PM Officer's Room.

After hearing about Jamaica's decision to complete VLCT's nomination for their Citizen of the Year award. As a neighboring town *Sanderson moved to have Melis complete our VLCT application seconded by Evans, carried by those present.*

6. Other Business – None at this time.

7. Executive Session – None at this time

8. Next meeting - **Wednesday, September 3rd**

9. Sanderson moved to Adjourn this meeting at **8:55 PM**, seconded by Evans, carried by those present.

Respectively submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard