

Townshend Selectboard Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2008

Present:

Alene Evans,
Joseph Juhasz (not present)
Henry Martin

Carole Melis
Brud Sanderson,
Selectboard

Participating members:

Fredrick Hege, Rescue (comm. support); John Muisse (comm.. garden) Jeffrey Russ and Paul Lewis, (Fountain); Dale Davis, (Tn Barn) Craig Hunt and Priscilla Lyman (apply Bd clk) and Kurt Boston

1. At 7:04 vice chair, Evans called the *Meeting to Order* and recognized *Participating Members*:

Jeffrey Russ and Paul Lewis (**Fountain** basin contractor) described the work that will be done to fix/replace the basin where the Fountain stands. Lewis' new basin will function like that of a swimming pool with water circulating, chlorine being added to keep down the growth of algae, adding water as it evaporates providing, specific paint on its surface. IT should be repainted every 5 years. Total cost of construction \$9,850, plus hiring a licensed electrician for proper wiring. Next year he will assist the Town in getting it up and running and show how to winterize it for free. After discussion *Melis moved to have Paul Lewis performs the necessary work as he explained, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.* He indicated that this basin work could start in 2 – 2 ½ weeks. Russ will coordinate the removing of the Fountain structure. Russ and Lewis left at 7:20 PM.

Fredrick Hege, Rescue:

- Spoke about the Town's copy of the **application for a Rural Development Grant** which, when combined with other towns, may allow them purchase a new ambulance. *Melis moved to sign our copy supporting Rescue's application for a Rural Development Grant to purchase an ambulance with financially committing the Town, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by those present.*
- Rescue will be advertising their up and coming fund raising for capital expenditure - on Brattleboro's cable TV, a Monadnock newspaper, along with handing out PR brochures explaining the need for this fund raising. He then asked permission to put this fund raising information on the Town's Web site. After discussion *Martin moved to approve Rescue's request to post the fund raising on the Town's Web site, seconded by Sanderson, unanimously carried by those present.*
- Rescue is seeking individuals with expertise to assist Rescue with complex issues in organization. Hege left at 7:30 PM

Dale Davis and Craig Hunt reported that the Town Barn Committee has been **crunching numbers** on building a new Town Garage and sand/salt shed. The figures appear to be around \$850,000 to 1 million with \$100,000 to \$200,000 for a sand/salt shed included in that total cost. The immediate issue to be addressed is testing the contaminated area. Melis suggested hiring

ECS Company for approximately \$1,500.00 to examine test pits in the area, The results of the testing may be available at the Board's Sept. 29th meeting. After discussion *Martin authorized that the Town Barn Committee proceed with ECS' testing, not to exceed \$1,500, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.*

Melis motioned that she contact Atty. Fisher to set up the Town Barn's public hearing and wording for a bond vote, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board. The Board's consensus was to also put the Town Barn project on the Web site. Davis left at 7:50 PM

John Muise informed the Board that he has the ability to acquire assist the Town in applying for these Rural Development Grants.

Muise stated that many people have spoken to him in favor and support of a **community garden**. He appreciated learning of tonight's suggestions. Muise left at 8:05 PM.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Priscilla Lyman, Craig Hunt and Ellie Lemire who expressed their interest to be hired as the **Board's clerk/secretary**. Evans will prepare a job description and e-mail for select persons' input to have ready on the 29th. Lyman and Hunt left at 8:26 PM

1a. Town Clerk and Treasurer: no reports

1b. The following was discussed with Kurt Bostrom, ***Highway foreman:***

- He was reminded to apply for a Municipal Equipment Loan and was given notification of JDeere's credit report.
- The repairing of Windham Hill Road will commence next spring and will consist of installing new culverts, new ditching to be reinforced with stone to redirect the water from saturating the road's sub base and asphalt. He wants to finish cutting trees and brush on the Grafton Road.
- He had spoken to P. Klien of W. Townshend in response to his letter explaining the condition of the roads near his property. Bostrom said the road repair has been started.
- Bostrom expressed his concern on existing Roads as to where to find and verify their classifications and what about throwing up
- Truck #3 needs to be repaired. He still has two bids on purchasing a new truck.
- Royce has two more evaluations on his ankle and is expected to be working Monday, September 21st.

At 9:55 PM *Melis moved into Executive Session under Title 1, section 313, inviting Bostrom and Davis, to discuss personnel, seconded by Martin, unanimously carried by the Board.*

At 9:00 PM *Sanderson motioned out of Executive Session, seconded by Martin, carried by those present.* No action resulted from this Executive Session.

Sanderson, speaking as a parent, wanted to discuss another matter involving the placement of new **swings** in the school's playground. The swings were believed to have been the same size

as the existing ones but they are not. Following discussion *Martin authorized that the highway foreman, on a voluntary basis, be allowed to use the Backhoe for placement of new playground equipment, seconded by Melis.* Sanderson was asked to double check on the school's insurance, etc. and;

Sanderson announced that the School District Board is inviting parents/residents to attend their September 21st meeting at 6:00 to discuss the **school bus**.

1c. Bookkeeper: no report at this time

2. Warrants: *Payment of the warrants, below were moved to be paid by Evans, seconded by*
Dated: payable Sept. 19th Amount: \$42,262/78 Fund: General Fund
\$ 4,118.51 Payroll

Martin, unanimously carried and signed by the Board.

3. Minutes June 23rd, July 11 and 13 and September 3rd

Martin moved to approve the corrected June 23rd meeting minutes, seconded by Evans, unanimously carried by the Board.

Melis moved to approve the July 11th and 13th meeting minutes, seconded by Sanderson, unanimously carried by the Board

Evans moved to approve the corrected September 3rd meeting minutes, seconded by Sanderson, unanimously carried by the Board.

Sanderson's reply to Evans was the 99 year lease between the Town and L&G indicates an undefined right-of-way to allow access to the Town Hall.

4. Old Business

Street lights – Decision will take place when there is a full board.

B&B contract – Action on this contract will wait for full Board for discussion.

Personnel Policy – Davis indicated that when printing out Melis' final comments/corrections the contents on the pages shifted, which meant Table of Contents needed to be reviewed and that the other forms and policies be included. This policy was accepted and approved July 1, 2008, but the original has not yet been signed.

Sign 2007 Certificate – Evans, as being the only remaining, active 2007 Selectperson, signed the form No appeal or suit Pending (Grand List)

5. New Business

- The Planning Commission (PC) presented copies of their proposed changes to the previous Town Plan. These changes will be included in the Town Plan when placed for re-adoption by the Town. PC announced their public hearing to discuss these Town Plan changes will be held on Wednesday, Sept 24th.
- No action taken on Windham Regional Commission's Button Up Program.

6. Other Business – no Board action taken

Certificate of Insurance from - Donald P Gould & Son, Inc
State of VT - Project work sheet – CVPS moving Crane Mtn. structure 20 feet away neighbor

7. Executive Session – none at this time

8. Next meeting – Special 9/29/08 at 4:00 PM
Regular 10/01

9. Evans moved to Adjourn at 9:50 PM, seconded by Sanderson, unanimously carried by the Board.

Respectively submitted,

Cynthia Davis, clerk for the Selectboard