

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**November 12, 2007
7:30 p.m.
Town Office**

**Select Board - Paula Barnes
Walker James
Carla Ochs
Roland Simmons
Peter Young**

**Present: Allen M. Alger Robert G. Arnebold
Rep. Will Stevens**

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., by Roland Simmons, Chair.

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

None.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

Road Foreman Report - The Road Crew is working on finishing the grading of the roads. The Select Board said the Road Crew did a very good job on cutting roadside brush and would like to see this done every year.

The gravel budget is just about spent. A new chain will be put on the '04 Mack this week.

3. MINUTES.

Walker James moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2007, as written. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$33,550.24, the Sewer orders in the amount of \$114.63, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

The monthly report was reviewed and signed by the Select Board Chair.

Walker James reported that the annual maintenance was just completed for the Treatment Plant.

The mower will be sent to Hendy's for service.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer, Mark Young, did not attend this meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Cemetery Gravel Bill - The clerk reported that the Cemetery Commission Treasurer came in and paid the gravel bill for road building work the Road Crew did at the Mountain View Cemetery.

b. Parcel Mapping - The Lister Chair, Cheryl Tudhope, is in the process of hiring Judy Bond to go forward with working on the Parcel mapping. The maps will have a different look and Cheryl Tudhope wants the Select Board to look at the map samples.

c. Town Office Shutters - Joanne Forcier finished painting the shutters and returned them to the Town Office windows. The shutters look very good and the two coats of paint should last another ten years. The bill will be paid in tonight's orders.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

Town Office and Lister Phones - The clerk found some two line phone systems to update the phones in the Lister and Town Clerk offices. The Select Board reviewed these phones. The clerk will put in the order shortly. Two line phone systems are not that easy to find at your local stores.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Will Stevens Legislative Report and Questions to Share - Will Stevens is checking in prior to the session starting in January to see if the Select Board has any concerns they wish him to address. Several areas discussed are:

1. Broadband committee looking for local input. Peter Young volunteered to help this committee.
2. The Select Board is concerned about privacy and having prebate figures on the tax bills. Go back to sending checks to the people. A better idea is to have the State collect its education tax and the towns will take care of the municipal tax. The cost to the towns just keeps increasing and the problems go on and on-more mistake upon mistake at the State level.
3. There seems to be a general disconnect between the legislature and Vermont citizens.
4. The VTRANS district combination makes it harder and harder to get good assistance at the town level. Prior to this change, service from District #3 was excellent, now it is most difficult to even make contact with the district representative much less get good input. Highway funding drops each year.
5. Current Use seems to be badly administered.
6. More and More is being put onto towns with no funding.
7. The State is not doing adequate training for local officials or arranging training at times when volunteers can actually attend. People all have jobs during the day.

Will Stevens reported that he is working on ways to assist farms in the future and stated that the Speaker stated that the 2008 issues she is looking at are transportation, housing and energy.

b. VLCT Health Trust Regional Meeting - Regional meetings are starting. The next one scheduled that is close by is Wednesday, November 28, 2007, 9 to 12 at the Cortina Inn in Mendon.

The annual meeting is in Montpelier on November 16, 2007. Roland Simmons and Walker James are signed up to attend.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Walker James moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ann Arnebold
Clerk of the Board

Regular Select Board Meeting

October 22, 2007

Regular Select Board Meeting

July 23, 2007

