

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**February 11, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Town Office**

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

**Present: Allen M. Alger, Road Foreman Mark Young, Treasurer
 Allen R. Alger
 Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk**

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

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

Peter Young received a call from a citizen who was quite concerned for an elderly person. An investigation was made the result of which is that all is OK. Peter Young feels that such people should be commended for being concerned about and caring about other people in Town.

Paula Barnes announced that the Parade Committee will be doing a luncheon for Town Meeting this year.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report - It is getting harder and harder to find salt. The State did not chase drifting this last time and neither did the Town. Nearest salt the State is offering is at the Mendon, Route 4 State Shed.

Peter Young noticed that the right hand turn coming south on North Orwell into Brown Lane needs the snow to be rounded off. The school bus has to make this turn.

b. Sand Order - Roland Simmons reported that last Friday the Road Foreman called to ask for permission to order sand. Permission was given.

c. Equipment Repairs - Work is being done on the Mack'04 - broken studs replaced. There is hub ware in the rim area. Rims are ordered and when the weather breaks the 6,000 lb rims will be replaced with 9,000 lb. rims.

The last bed chain order had a bad batch. These chains will to be replaced, under warranty.

The neighboring town Road Crews continue to share parts and pieces as needed. This system is working well for all the towns concerned.

The heater motor in the loader cab stopped working today.

The Select Board feels that the Road Crew continues to do a very good job.

d. Bridge Workshop - This workshop will be held sometime in June. Allen M. Alger took the questionnaire and will fill it out for input for this workshop.

e. 2008 Paving Grant - After discussion there are two areas to be considered for paving this year:

1. Route 73 W from the Ron Parent farm to Paul Parent farm.

2. Route 73 W from Route 22A to the Mt Independence triangle.

The Select Board asked Allen M. Alger to investigate paving costs from Gorman and Pike.

f. Sign Upgrades - Class two highway grants program addendum was received stating: "The Agency of Transportation will require that all traffic control devices within a Class 2 Highway Grant project shall be brought into conformance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices." Specific grant instructions followed. This addresses, in addition: stop signs, reduced speed ahead signs, intersection signs - size to go from 24 inches to 30 inches.

3. MINUTES.

Paula Barnes moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 28, 2008, as written. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amounts of \$12,445.88, the Sewer orders in the amount of \$1,476.09, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Walker James 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 on February 8, 2008.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT. _____

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Municipal Plan ACRP Hearing - Feb 20th Town Office - Roland Simmons reminded people that there will be a ACRP hearing on the Orwell Municipal Plan to be held at the Orwell Town Office, 7:00 p.m Wednesday, February 20, 2008. This is a hearing to accept the Orwell plan at the regional level and will finalize the adoption process for Orwell.

b. Telecommunications Authority - Information for a Broadband grant with a deadline of March 22, 2008, was received by the Select Board. Peter Young will review this information.

Peter Young will inquire at the Orwell Village School computer lab to see if there is a wireless connection that can be used at the Orwell Town Hall.

c. CVPS Poles Report - Allen R. Alger reported that last Friday, CVPS fixed the two poles just east of Horton Road, as requested by the Select Board. Roland Simmons both called and wrote a letter requesting that CVPS check and fix these two leaning transmission poles.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Kori Mitchell - Solid Waste - Paula Barnes stated that Kori Mitchell will not be here tonight because she needs to get a few more prices before she can give her presentation.

b. Drug Testing - There has been much confusion about the packages [containing 30 test kits] that were shipped to VLCT towns this past week. In addition, the clerk was unable to get on the ParaMed site. The password given produced an error message. Discussion followed.

The clerk will contact Joe Damiata of VLCT for further instructions. Peter Young is the DER for Orwell.

c. Right-of-Way Permit - Treadway Farms, Smith Road - On the north side of Smith Road, heading east from the North Orwell Road, Treadway Farm wants to install a field pit. A stand pipe to be used to fill the pit, will to be installed in the Town's right-of-way. This will be used to bottom fill the pit making it easier to mix in the spring. The trucks will come in from North Orwell Road and leave via Royce Hill Road.

Thus, the farm will be able to move manure in winter when the road is frozen and be stored in the pit. Then, by installing a culvert under the road, the stored manure can be move directly into the field across the road via a hose. Discussion ensued.

Carla Ochs moved to approve the Treadway Farms right-of-way permit for a fill pipe and a culvert to be installed under the road approximately 1,000 feet East from North Orwell Road on the north side of Smith Road. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Last Minute Audit Change - The Auditors added a last minute change to the Expense report on the last page, by identifying the \$300,000 listed after the Income totals as ‘Borrowings Paid.’

On the Income report, the 2007 budget, tax receipts figure should be increased by \$2,000.

b. Benson Ancient Road Hearing - Mark Young reported that he just attended the Benson Select Board hearing on Ancient Roads. The Benson Select Board moved tonight that their current State Certified Highway map shall show all the town roads in Benson. This officially throws up any other roads that may exist, according to current Statute. There were about six or eight people from Benson, a few from state parks and one person from out of town.

People have 44 days to appeal, after which, barring any appeal, the ancient road situation is ended.

Mark Young feels this is a good way to go to avoid any further complications or challenges on old, poorly identified roads. The Orwell Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk have been working on a road book for Orwell for the last eight years. The research part of this project is about 80 percent complete.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Carla Ochs moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board

