

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**April 28, 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  
Allen R. Alger  
Arnebold, Robert G  
Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk**

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 p.m., by Roland Simmons, Chair.

**1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.**

None.

**2. HIGHWAY REPORT.**

a. Road Foreman Report - Dennis from Pike went over the areas being considered for paving and recommends waiting to see if the grant comes thru before giving a quote. The approximate price now is \$62 a ton laid.

Allen M. Alger and Dean Hanson attended the flagger refresher training and are recertified for another two years. Each person that attended received a certification card.

b. Fish & Wildlife Access Permit - The Road Foreman inspected the access site on Sunset Lake Road and directed Fish & Wildlife to install an 18"- 20' culvert. Fish and Wildlife plans to make a parking lot for hunters to access the Pine Woods area. The Select Board reviewed the permit.

**Peter Young moved to approve and sign the Fish and Wildlife Access permit for the Pine Woods access area. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

c. Loader Spec Sheet - The Select Board Chair drew up a spec sheet for a loader to be given out to loader dealers. The Select Board reviewed the sheet. Discussion followed.

**Peter Young moved to accept the spec sheet, as corrected by the Chair, for quote purposes to be given out to loader dealers. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

**3. MINUTES.**

**Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2008, as written. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

**4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.**

**Walker James moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$6,626.15, the Sewer**

**orders in the amount of \$490.80, and the Town payroll. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

The Select Board directed Art Remick to dispose of the defective D Link box.

#### **5. SEWER REPORT.**

Walker James reported that the air lines to the # 1 pond will be dug up and a replacement line installed. They will again use the Dundon excavator on either Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

#### **6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**

None.

#### **7. OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Green Up/Clean up Day - Final Details - The Select Board went over the layout for collection and traffic flow. Lunch will be provided for the workers. Allen R. Alger agreed to handle this.

EarthWaste did not return the first call and was contacted again to be sure they know the May 3rd Clean Up date. Copies of the detailed Clean Up sheet are available at the Town Garage and the Town Clerk's Office.

b. Municipal Building Policy & Insurance - Peter Young distributed a first draft sheet for a municipal building policy. Discussion ensued.

The goal is for all departments involved, to work together and develop a workable plan that protects the Town and the towns people. A copy of the draft sheet was given to Allen R. Alger.

**Walker James moved to get an explicit definition from VLCT of what needs to be covered. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

The first step is to review the sheet and to have VLCT spell out, in clearer language, what they mean by municipal use and community use, what is covered by PACIF and who needs to be under TULIP.

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS.**

a. Caterer Permit-Brandon Harvest Group - Brandon Harvest Group d/b/a as Café Provence applied for a caterer's permit for June 14, 2008. The Select Board reviewed the permit.

**Walker James moved to approve the Brandon Harvest Group caterer permit for June 14, 2008. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

b. Hold Harmless Payment - The Select Board was notified that the Hold Harmless estimated payment for this year will be \$47,688. Last year's payment was \$50,733 which makes a reduction of \$3,045. The State did not give any explanation for the reduction.

#### **9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

a. Silver Star Day - The Silver Star Families of America is a 501 c 3 organization that was formed to remember our wounded by honoring them with a Silver Star banner or Flag, by providing services such as care packages, maintaining a Yahoo message board to provide a safe place for families to talk and find needed information. We are asking towns to honor us with the proclamation for May 1st to be recognized as Silver Star Day to honor the wounded and disabled Military.

The Orwell Select Board drew up the attached proclamation.

**Carla Ochs moved to accept and sign the Silver Star Proclamation 2008 for the Town of Orwell. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

*A copy of this proclamation is attached to these minutes.*

b. Constitutional Amendment - The legislature wishes to amend the Vermont Constitution to read: "Every person who will attain the full age of eighteen years by the date of the general election who is a citizen of the United States, having resided in this State for the period established by the General Assembly and who is of a quiet and peaceable behavior, and will take the oath or affirmation set forth in this section, shall be entitled to vote in the primary election."

This would, in fact, allow persons who are 17 years of age to vote. Be aware that this is a 4 year change process but people need to be thinking about this now. The law requires a person to be 18 years of age to vote.

Some of the things to be considered are confusing among the voters regarding different rules for different elections. The voting age is 18, not sometimes 18, sometimes 17. In addition it looks like the election clerks make the rules up as they go along. Every time a law or rule is changed, it is one more place in the process for a potential mistake. What is the purpose of this change?

c. State Error - Apparently an error on the part of the State Department of Education was made on the preliminary cash flow sheets for FY2008. This error was in the allowable percentage of education taxes a municipality may retain. The figure used was 0.225 of one percent. What should have been used was 0.125 of one percent. The difference for Orwell is \$1,156. This represents money already credited to the Town.

d. Executive Session - **Paula Barnes moved to go into executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss a legal situation. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

**Roland Simmons moved to come out of executive session at 8:53 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

No action was taken.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT.

**Carla Ochs moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board



