

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**June 9, 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 Michael Hayes, Komatsu Rep  
Allen R. Alger Barbara LaDuc  
Robert G. Arnebold Michael Lee, Reggae Festival Org.  
Reuel Groleau, CAT Rep Mark Young, Treasurer  
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.**

a. Road Foreman Report - Allen M. Alger reported that the chloride process has started. The chloride price will go up 10% by July 1, 2008. The Road Foreman's goal is to be finished before this date.

Road signs, including two stop signs are again disappearing.

The backhoe from Champlain Construction is here. The plan is to start doing the culverts as soon as the chloride is down. There will be three culverts that will need to be done with Bob Shaw.

Pike's charge will go from \$62 per ton to about \$75 per ton because of the small size of the State grant project. Allen M. Alger is to get a cost sheet from Pike for this paving job.

b. Komatsu-CAT Reps - The Select Board, Michael Hayes and Reuel Groleau discussed the different aspects of the Komatsu and CAT loaders. Service time and availability, prices, fenders, fuel efficiency, and a 5 year service contract were some of the points discussed.

**Paula Barnes moved to purchase the Caterpillar 924HZ wheel loader at \$90,000 net to replace the current town loader. Peter Young seconded the motion. Discussion continued.**

**There was a unanimous call for a vote. The motion passed - 3 Yes 2 No.**

c. Finalize Loader - The Select Board will present this loader in a warning to the Town voters at a special town meeting to be held on Monday, July 21, 2008, 7:30 p.m. at the Orwell Town Hall.

d. Mowing Bid - Lemuel Palmer submitted his mowing bid to mow all the gravel roads once and the tar roads twice at \$6,800.00. Last year's bid was for \$6,400. The increase is due to fuel prices. Discussion ensued.

**Walker James moved to accept this bid and hire Lemuel Palmer to do the mowing for 2008. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

A current insurance certificate was included with the bid sheet.

### 3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of May 27, 2008, as written. Paula Barnes 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 amount of **\$33,674.06**, the Sewer orders in the amount of **\$2,752.89**, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

### 5. SEWER REPORT.

On Friday last, Roland Simmons reviewed and signed the monthly sewer reports due to the State and completed by Martin Williams.

The new flow meter is installed, up and running.

### 6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

### 7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Zoning Violation Fee Change - The Select Board reviewed the violation fee structure.

Discussion followed.

Paula Barnes moved to change the fee for a violation to read up to \$100 a day. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

b. Court Order Mediation Meeting Update - New information was received by the town attorney concerning the court ordered mediation.

Carla Ochs moved to go into Executive Session at 8:59 p.m. to discuss the court order update. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Carla Ochs moved to come out of Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

No decisions were made.

### 8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Orwell Bank Gathering - The Select Board received a written request from the First National Bank of Orwell to use the southwest corner, along Route 73, of the Town Office lawn to set up a 20 by 40 tent. The Bank is holding a summer picnic for customers and community members alike. The event is to be held on June 27, 2008 from 3 to 6 p.m. An Addison County Sheriff will be present for traffic control and a Porta Let service will be available for people attending the picnic. Discussion followed.

Walker James moved to approve this request for an Orwell Bank summer picnic to be held on the southwest corner of the town office lawn on June 27, 2008 from 3 to 6 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 1 Abstain [Peter Young who also abstained from the above discussion.]

Mark Young estimates about 200 people could attend. There will be a similar event in Shoreham the week before. Parking will be available at the Town Green.

b. 201 Fisher Road Reggae Gathering - 450 to 500 People - Ben Chaucer, owner of the property located at 201 Fisher Road offered his 10 acre parcel as a site for a Reggae gathering. Michael Lee, Reggae organizer, came to the Select Board meeting to explain what his group is all about. Before this meeting, Michael Lee visited the property and *stated that it was indeed not an appropriate area for holding a gathering of 450 to 500 people to listen to Reggae bands*. He is aware of the Orwell Public Assembly Ordinance and is quite familiar with other town ordinances and the State requirements for gatherings of more than 2,000 people.

Many questions were asked and answered. A better picture and understanding of the Reggae gatherings was drawn from Michael Lee's information. The Reggae events are mainly in Vermont, Rhode Island and Montreal, and are low key with very specific requirements. This year Plattsburg has extended an invitation for a Reggae gathering so one might very well be held there.

The goal is a peaceful event, enjoying the rural landscape and Reggae music. People come in on a Friday night to camp, the next day the music runs from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. when area people go home, long distance people camp over night, all help with the cleanup the next morning and then head out before eleven a.m. This system keeps people at a safer pace in and out of the gathering event.

Michael Lee has been operating in Vermont for many years, is looking for a new site and is looking for an appropriate location in Orwell. People can see a good income from a gathering. If anyone is interested, they can contact him direct. The Select Board thanked Michael Lee for coming and explaining his project.

The Select Board will do further work on the current Orwell Public Assembly Ordinance.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. VLCT Model Low Impact Bylaw - Roland Simmons explained that this is a bylaw towns can pass to better control stormwater. It addresses vegetative waterway and the use of filter strips to lower the impact of contamination from highway work and other development processes. This is the wave of the future throughout the State.

b. Final Closing of 2007 Grand List - At the request of the Listers, the Select Board signed the Certification sheet to close the 2007 Grand list.

c. Apex Software - After a short discussion, the Select Board decided that they needed more input from the Listers to understand what this software is all about. At the next meeting they will request Cheryl Tudhope to give some explanation of the software along with some input.

d. Park & Ride Grant Program - There is money, \$250,000 this year, to assist in getting single occupant vehicles off the road. Discussion ensued.

Roland Simmons likes the idea of a park & ride down on Route 22A at the ball field. He would like the Select Board to consider this.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT.

**Roland Simmons moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Ann Arnebold  
Clerk of the Board

**NOT APPROVED**



