

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**June 25, 2007
7:30 p.m.**

Town Office

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

**Present: Allen M. Alger, Road Foreman
Allen R. Alger**

**Robert G. Arnebold
Barbara LaDuc**

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 - The road crew is hauling, grading and spreading gravel after which chloride is being put down. Two-thirds of the roads are completed. The chloride budget will be about \$2,000 short. Some culverts were changed.

No word on paving to date. Drum sealing was discussed. The cost is \$7 a yard. The process is to grind up the asphalt as deep as requested, add more stone if necessary then lay the asphalt back down. The process is done cold. The surface is thoroughly rolled and left to set for 8 weeks before putting down the rubber seal. The cost for one mile would be approximately \$100,000.

b. Horton Road - Walker James and Roland Simmons inspected the north Horton Road area that was a concern of one of the residents. The Select Board members found that even with a car parked on the road, there was adequate room to drive past. Some wooden beams on the side of the road opposite the yellow house were in the right of way. The Williams were asked to move these beams back and they agreed to do this when they return from vacation.

Walker James suggested that the Town get a letter from Jordan Carpenter giving the Town permission to use his half circle driveway for a turn-around for the town trucks. Walker James will contact Jordan Carpenter and ask him for such a letter.

The child fence does not seem to be a problem for cars passing or the town plow trucks.

c. UST Notice - The Select Board was notified that towns can now do self certification on-line. The web address was listed. Checks are required of each regulated tank system that a permit is held for and must be submitted no later than September 14. Instructions are included for on-line service.

d. Bishop Hill - Roland Simmons received an inquiry about upgrading and repairs on Bishop Hill Road. Allen M. Alger stated that the road crew will put this gravel repair on their schedule.

3. MINUTES.

Peter Young moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 11, 2007, as written. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 3 Yes 0 No

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Walker James moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$29,574.32, the Sewer

Orders in the amount of \$1,093.91 and the Town payroll. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Select Board received a financial report from the Treasurer last Friday.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Elnicki - Clean Up Offer- Kevin Elnicki contacted Roland Simmons after the last Select Board meeting and offered to contract the next three years for steel and metal at Green Up day. Such contract will pay the Town \$500 for 2007 and \$500 a year for the next three years. The Select Board will look for this offer in writing. Discussion ensued.

Paula Barnes moved to sign a written contract with Kevin Elnicki for steel and metal at Green Up day for the next three years with the payment of \$500 for the current year [2007] and \$500 a year for the next three years. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

b. Verterre Group - Roland Simmons reported that he signed the final reimbursement papers for the Town to get a payment of \$386.45 for the Town; and the Verterre Group a payment of \$546.45 [this is for the final removal of the material from the town garage area this Spring]. The Verterre Group will sign off with the State. This should finish the project and close this hazardous site.

c. Treasurer's Letter - Mark Young sent a copy of the letter he wrote to the Supervisory Union explaining the withholding of \$2,985.39 from transfer to the Orwell School District, that the Select Board voted to withhold. "The long and short of this situation is that Orwell's town officials have fought the battle of a protracted appeal in large part for the State of Vermont Education Fund and are now told that the State will not refund any education fund taxes collected or accrued upon successful appeal of assessment." A copy of this letter is attached to these minutes.

d. BCA Meeting - Roland Simmons proposed that the BCA hold a meeting and that a letter be discussed and written to William Johnson of PVR concerning the State appeal decision on a property that has now sold for 2 and ½ times the State appraiser's assessment.

A BCA meeting will be warned for July 9, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's Office.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Bishop Hill Wetlands - There is continued concern about building in a wetlands area off Bishop Hill Road. Discussion ensued. There is a ridge on the property in question that is suitable for building.

b. Municipal Plan DRB Hearing - Andrea Ochs sent a letter to Roland Simmons stating that the "Planning Commission has completed an update to its town plan and is ready to begin the plan adoption process." A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on July 18, 2007, 7:00 p.m. at the Orwell Town Clerk's office. A complete copy of the draft was supplied for review.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Notice of Violation - A complaint came in about the lack of posting a building permit on a property located on Bishop Hill Road. The Zoning Administrator investigated and issued a notice of violation. After further communications the Zoning Administrator consulted with the town attorney on this matter and issued a second notice of violation which resets the appeal period, on the attorney's advice.

b. Blair Fields Energy Project - Karen Blair and Robert Fields are making application for a certificate of public good for interconnected net metered power systems. This application is for constructing a 100 foot wind tower with a 22 foot rotor that will put out 10,000 watts. The wind tower will be located 500 feet north of house and orchard. At the tower base there will be an interlock disconnect switch and meter.

The Zoning Administrator notified them that they will need a permit for the structure and a variance for the height. The idea of wind towers is welcome.

c. Red Cross Shelter Application - Robert Arnebold reported that the School Board has signed the Red Cross Shelter Application. The next step is to have Tim Bouton sign the application and then mail in the application. This will now insure that if the town shelter is ever needed, the Town is signed on with the Red Cross who will then supply and run the shelter. In addition, the Town will be held harmless.

d. CAMA - CAMA is the program the State has the listers use to generate the grand list on the listers' computer. CAMA notified the Select Board that the 2007 fee has increased 5% and the yearly fee will increase 5% per year for the next two years.

e. School Fuel Billing - The clerk billed the Village School for the last three months of fuel used by the school buses. Payment was received in the amount of \$4,040.43.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Peter Young moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes - 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board

