

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**July 14, 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 Glen Cousineau
Allen L. Alger
Robert G. Arnebold**

**Susan Ann
Arnebold,
Clerk**

The meeting was called to order at 7:24 p.m., by Roland Simmons, Chair.

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

a. Allen J. Alger stated that the farmers' market sign on the Village Green is an eye sore and asked if the Select Board had a sign policy for the Green. Roland Simmons explained that farmers' market signs are seasonal and permitted by Orwell Zoning and by the State in their road right of way. The Village Green area is under the jurisdiction of the Orwell School. The Select Board suggested that Allen R. Alger speak with the people who put up the sign.

b. Glen Cousineau reported that he is still having a water problem, storm water washes out sections of his driveway. Discussion ensued.

Allen M. Alger stated that the representative from Betterback Roads pointed out that the problem in this area is the neighboring property across the road. The problem stems from private property drainage. Betterback Roads clearly recommends that the Town do no work on private property. Roland Simmons and Walker James will again visit the site.

Glen Cousineau reported that a marble marker was laid over by the mower when the roadside was mowed recently.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report - Sand is being stockpiled for this year. There were a few washouts from yesterday's rain. The Road Crew is working with Benson on gravel and the excavator.

The Road Crew worked with Shoreham Telephone on replacing a line gone bad on Royce Hill near Pearl Road.

b. VLCT's Road Salt Purchasing Collaborative - The Road Foreman reviewed this proposal and stated that the County Foreman meeting has not discussed this yet. Allen M. Alger questions the price. Orwell has already filled the salt shed this year. The Select Board and Road Foreman decided to hold off for this year and see how this collaborative works out for others. Then if it looks like a good proposal, Orwell will consider it next year.

c. Brown Lane Water Runoff - Peter Young stated that there is a water problem on his property on Brown Lane. Discussion ensued.

Roland Simmons and Walker James will investigate this water situation.

Allen M. Alger reported that there is a large hole on the south side of the Town road right of way, just north of the Young driveway, that the Road Crew will be filling in.

3. MINUTES.

Paula Barnes Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 23, 2008, as written. Carla Ochs 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 \$57,852.06, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

The Select Board Chair reported that he reviewed and signed the State Monthly and Quarterly Sewer Reports submitted by Martin Williams.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Select Board received financial reports from the Treasurer last Friday.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

- a. Earth Waste Check - Roland Simmons called Earth Waste looking for the \$500 check for the scrap metal. The reply again was that they are busy but will send the check along.
- b. Special Meeting July 21, 2008 - All is ready for this meeting. The Select Board will work up an information sheet on the proposed purchase, to be handed out at the meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Ancient Roads Certificate - AOT has created a document for a mass discontinuance of town highways. The new document, the Certificate of Mass Discontinuance of Town Highways provides a check list of the items required by V.S.A. 19 §305(h). This document will need to be fill out and returned to Vtrans and a copy will need to be filed by the Town Clerk. This mass discontinuance is optional.

As a reminder, the Town of Benson recently did a mass discontinuance of their roads. The deadline for taking this action is February 10, 2010.

b. VLCT Model Stormwater Bylaw - The Select Board will need more time to go over this document but feels that any stormwater regulations should tie into the Orwell zoning regulations.

The clerk was directed to make copies to be available at the next Select Board meeting and to make copies for the Planning Commission for their next meeting, Wednesday, July 16, 2008.

c. DeWitt Trail Section - In answer to a question about the gate, Peter Young was informed that this gate can be closed but **NEVER LOCKED**. Peter Young will pass on this information.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Environmental Court-Lake Property-Town Rep -

Peter Young moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter at 8:40 p.m. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Roland Simmons moved to come out of Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Carla Ochs moved to appoint Peter Young Select Board representative in the Barry Court Case. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 3 Yes 2 Abstained [Roland Simmons & Peter Young].

b. Education Tax Rates - The Select Board received notification that the 2008 education tax rate is as follows:

Non-residential - 1.7073

Homestead - 1.5550

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Peter Young moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 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

May 12, 2008

NOT APPROVED

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Regular Select Board Meeting

July 23, 2008

Regular Meeting

March 26, 2007