

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

January 10, 2011

7:30 p.m.

Town Office

NOT APPROVED

**Select Board: Paula Barnes
Walker James
Carla Ochs
Roland Simmons
Miles Tudhope**

**Present: Allen M. Alger
Robert Arnebold**

Russell Young

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

The regular Select Board 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 – Salt and sand supplies are adequate now and are at the half way mark. The Road Crew made up their own mixture which they mixed right at the pile. With this mixture only nine [9] ton was needed, cutting the usual amount used by one third. Several more additional commercial mixtures are coming on the market.

Local highway crew groups are working on sorting out these different products and reporting back to the Road Foreman meetings. One suggested guide is that mixing in the pile first, results in much better results.

The State view is that a mix product is good below 20 degrees. The regular process is just fine over 20 degrees.

b. Highway Mileage – The State Certificate of Highway Mileage arrived. This year again there is no change.

Paula Barnes moved to approve and to sign the 2011 Certificate of Highway Mileage as presented, which reports no changes. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 27, 2010, as written. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$14,695.17, the Sewer Fund orders in the amount of \$157.90, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

Walker James is completing the repair of the Treatment Plant fence by adding some needed additional posts.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**7. OLD BUSINESS.**

a. 2011 Budget Work – One of the budget items needed to be decided is a figure for expenses for the Slide Area engineering. In addition, the Road Foreman is considering paving about 6/10th of a mile starting where last year's paving ended, running up to just before the Slide Area site.

The Sewer budget sheet and the Income budget sheet were reviewed. Two changes were made on the Sewer budget - increasing the Electricity by \$500 and the Chloride by \$200.

Work continued on the General Fund expense budget. Discussion continued on several areas.

The Chair was requested to contact the town attorney to ask several questions concerning the two pending court cases. This will be done tomorrow along with making calls concerning questions about the slide area resolution.

The Select Board agreed to meet again on Monday, January 17, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. to continue work on the 2011 budget.

b. Slide Area – Roland Simmons reported that he contacted the Vermont Army Corps of Engineers office and was referred to the Concord, MA., ACE. No response was received to date; but he will continue trying to reach someone.

VEM sent a letter stating that there is hazard mitigation grant money which may be a source of funds for further stabilizing the slide area on Mt. Independence Road. Discussion ensued.

A State Engineer will be contacted for the needed information and engineering study of this area.

c. Payroll Adjustment - Highway – A payroll sheet for the 2011 payroll was presented. The only change in wages is for the Road Crew – a 2 percent increase to coincide with the increase in Health Insurance costs, for the Highway Department.

No other employees will receive any change in their wages for 2011.

Paula Barnes moved to approve the payroll sheet for 2011 as presented and to send this sheet to the Treasurer. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Annual Evaluations – Roland Simmons reported that the Highway Crew evaluations are now completed and filed.

b. Special Meeting – The Select Board will continue work on the 2011 Budget. A Special Meeting will be warned for Monday, January 17, 2011, 7:30 p.m., at the Orwell Town Office.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Tier II 2010 Report – The Town of Orwell is required to report any hazard material contained at its facilities. Three reports – Town Garage, Town Office, and Orwell Sewer Treatment Plant – are required to be filed each year, by March.

The clerk reported that the three reports for 2010 are now completed and mailed to the proper agencies.

b. Delinquent Tax Collector Report – The Select Board received the latest report on delinquent taxes. The amount now stands at a total of \$72,450.62 for past years and 2010 combined.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Walker James moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board