

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

November 8, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Town Office

***NOT APPROVED***

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

Present: Allen M. Alger

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 – Right now because of the wet snow, hail and rain, the roads are not too good. People need to drive sensibly, slow down and be cautious. The gravel roads are just too soft right now to plow. Salt was put down but did not seem to do much which is very strange, but may be because there is just too much water.

The Road Crew went up again to view the progress on the new truck. The delivery date is now set for the end of this week or the first of next week.

The hazardous inspection was completed thru PACIF. An alarm system was suggested.

Trapping of beavers continues – five to date were caught.

b. Health Trust – Roland Simmons explained that the increase for health insurance for 2011 will be about 17.5%. When the rates are compiled, after the November 12, 2010 Annual Health Trust meeting, the Select Board will go over the plans with the Road Crew.

At this point the Select Board sees no reason to leave PACIF Health Trust.

The Road Foreman is looking for a 4<sup>th</sup> class for chainsaw instruction.

Roland Simmons and Walker James plan to attend the Annual Health Trust meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Capital Plaza in Montpelier.

**3. MINUTES.**

Miles Tudhope moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 25, 2010, as written. Walker James 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 \$11,359.47, the Tax anticipation note for \$405,770.19, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

The Fire and Rescue Building note through the National Bank of Middlebury is due November 16, 2010. Roland Simmons just received the notice from the Treasurer and will have to contact the National Bank of Middlebury before completing the order to pay this installment.

#### 5. SEWER REPORT.

The Chair reviewed and signed the monthly State reports.

#### 6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Select Board received and reviewed the latest financial reports from the Treasurer.

#### 7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Green Up Coordinator – Roland Simmons checked with Cindy Watrous who again graciously agreed to be the Orwell Green Up Coordinator.

b. Animal Control Officer – The Select Board received copies of the 2010 ACO reports as requested.

c. Old Town Garage Lease – The lease between the Town of Orwell and Dennis Weyer for use of the Old Town Garage is signed and the first rent check received as of November 1, 2010.

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Possible Required Outside Audit - An incident at Hardwick Electric Co. concerning embezzlement of over one million dollars over multiple years, may prompted a possible decision to force towns to do outside audits annually [in addition to work done by elected auditors]. This is just a heads up as it could be another expense that the towns will have to consider.

b. PACIF Scholarship & Grant Program – 1<sup>st</sup> Response Inquiry – This PACIF program will enable the Town to purchase equipment needed to meet some safety and prevention needs of the Town. There is some equipment such as a defibulator for First Response or an alarm system for the town garage that will be considered at budget time.

Members are allowed to receive only one grant annually and are eligible to win an award of 50% of the anticipated cost of qualifying equipment up to a maximum of \$5,000 per grant.

Allen M. Alger will ask Peter W. Ochs to come up with some cost figures from First Response.

#### 9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Assistant Zoning Administrator – The Select Board received two letters from the Planning Commission [Clyde Park, Clerk and Andrea Ochs, Chair] recommending Wayne Weseman for Assistant Zoning Administrator Discussion ensued.

“Mr. Weseman has lived in Orwell for the past 5 years and has a varied professional background, He is willing to take on this responsibility and learn all he can about our zoning and permitting regulations and assist our Zoning Administrator any way he can.”

**Walker James moved to appoint Wayne Weseman as Assistant Zoning Administrator as recommended by the Orwell Planning Commission. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.**

b. Proposed County Budget – The Select Board received an invitation to participate at a public meeting to discuss the preliminary proposed county budget for 2011-2012. This meeting will allow public participation in the preliminary budgeting process

The meeting will be held on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010, AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE JUDGE FRANK MAHADY COURTHOUSE IN MIDDLEBURY.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Walker James moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board

