

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD  
January 11, 2010  
7:30 p.m.  
Town Office**

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

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

**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 - The roads are sanded and plowed ready for the next snow to fall. More sand was delivered today. The cost of this last snow storm - one round of sand and of salt each and two rounds of plowing - \$4,600.

b. Certificate of Highway Mileage - There is no change in Orwell's highway mileage for this year. The Select Board reviewed the 2010 certificate from the state.

**Carla Ochs moved to approve and sign the certificate of highway mileage - 75.375 total - as presented. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.**

c. VT 22A Corridor Management Plan - Rutland Regional Planning Commission is seeking proposals related to the Vermont Route 22A Corridor Management Plan located within the towns of Fair Haven, West Haven, Benson and Orwell, from the southern town line with New York State to VT 73.

Regular users of this highway section continually complain of the unsafe conditions and relate their experiences with near miss accidents. The idea of this study is to make this corridor safer.

The results of this corridor management project will play a crucial role in development review and in modifications that may be considered in local planning efforts. Discussion followed a review of this management plan. Further information is available at the town office.

**Paula Barnes moved to appoint Roland Simmons as Orwell representative to the Technical Advisory for the VT 22A Corridor Management Plan. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 3 Yes 1 Abstain [Roland Simmons].**

d. Mack '93 Replacement - Allen M. Alger brought in chassis quotes from J & B International [at \$102,000] and Carter [at 108,000] for a replacement truck. A quote from Mack should be in this week. Discussion ensued.

The Select Board asked the Road Foreman to have ready prices including for different body sizes and for single or tandem, for the special budget meeting to be warned for Monday, January 18, 2010, 7:00 p.m., Town Office.

**3. MINUTES.**

**Paula Barnes moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 28, 2009, as written. Carla Ochs 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 **\$11,221.84**, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

#### 5. SEWER REPORT.

Roland Simmons reviewed and signed the monthly and quarterly reports.

#### 6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mark Young requested a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$400,000 for eleven months at 3.5%. The National Bank of Middlebury submitted a rate of 3.85%. Discussion ensued.

The Select Board learned that the general fund balance is now in the negative. The last report from the Treasurer, December 24, 2009, showed that the general fund was over \$1 million.

Walker James moved to sign a tax anticipation note for \$400,000 for eleven months at 3.5%. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

#### 7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Tier-two Reporting - The Select Board received notification that Orwell is required that certain hazardous materials must be reported annually by March 1 for the preceding calendar year. Orwell submitted a report for 2008 last year. Discussion ensued.

Paula Barnes moved to have Roland Simmons oversee and sign these reports. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

The clerk will complete a report for 2009 and Roland Simmons will review the report and sign the reports.

b. Continued 2010 Budget Work - The Select Board again asked the Treasurer for the end of year financial reports. Later in the evening Mark Young brought in these reports.

Work then continued on the 2010 budget. The warning draft was reviewed. The budget work sheets will be set up tomorrow by Roland Simmons and copies will be mailed sent out by the clerk to the Select Board for further review.

Work was begun on the warning.

The next budget meeting will be warned for Monday, January 18, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

c. Auditor Deadlines - Auditor's schedule is as follows:

Jan 21, 2010 - Reports & Financials Due

Feb 4, 2010 - Report goes to the printer

Feb 18, 2010 - Town Report mailed

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. AC Solid Waste Charges and Budget - Addison County Solid Waste Management District submitted a new rate schedule and an annual report with budget sheet. Roland Simmons contacted the Solid Waste District and asked several questions about a new fee charge and about several budget items. The Solid Waste people are to get back with some answers.

The one fee questioned is - **"a \$1.00 admin fee is charged on all monetary transactions in addition to prices listed below"**.

A brief explanation given over the phone was that this will stop people from bringing in a few items at a time. The Select Board feels this fee is a negative charge and will stop many people from bringing in hazardous items.

b. Louis Hall, Delinquent Tax Collector - Louis Hall gave a report on the property owners who are delinquent as of January 11, 2010. *A copy of this list is attached to these minutes.*

The 2008 total delinquent is \$23,570.48

The 2009 total delinquent is \$62,868.31

The two possibilities for process are property owners Olga Sears and Green Tree and possibly Rick Fyles.

Discussion followed this report.

The Select Board approved Louis Hall using Jonathan Bump to begin the tax sale process with some of these property owners who are delinquent over one year.

c. Orwell Village School "Lending a Hand In Service" - The Select Board received an invitation to see "how our students might be of service to you and the work you do." An invitation was received from -

Susan W. DeCarolis to dinner at the Town Hall on Wednesday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.[snow date February 24]. Members of the faculty, school board and student council will also be present. Discussion followed.

Roland Simmons filled out the slip provided stating that the four Select Board members present tonight will be at the dinner.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

a. Broadband Survey - Vermont's Broadband mapping initiative is a collaborative broadband data collection and verification effort. VBMT is initiating the creation and development of a comprehensive and verified geographic inventory of broadband service availability in the State of Vermont. Orwell completed the survey on line. The survey asked for the town's broadband information.

One of the purposes of this survey is to give a picture of the location of "unserved" and "under served" areas in the state, thereby supporting targeted future investments in these areas.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Paula Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes - 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board