

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

December 12, 2011

7:30 p.m.

Town Office

NOT APPROVED

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

**Present: Allen R. Alger Paul Stone
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.

Paul Stone asked about the Griswold Lane culvert repair. Roland Simmons explained that the Select Board has not made a decision on this repair. FEMA is not going to supply funds for this damage because it is a Class 4 road with very little, if no, public vehicle traffic. Discussion ensued.

Paul Stone stated that since the Select Board is going to fix the culvert anyway, why wait until the next Select Board meeting for a decision. Walker James explained that the Board needed to decide how much will be fixed, the cost and to get input from the Road Foreman. Discussion continued.

Carla Ochs expressed concern that this culvert has washed out at least three times in the last 15 years and feels something should be done to try to prevent any further repeat of this history.

Walker James moved to repair the culvert site on the Class 4 section of Griswold Lane, after conferring with the Road Foreman and to mitigate by adding another culvert, thus bringing the total cost to approximately \$5,500.00. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

Road Foreman Report – Paula Barnes reported for Allen M. Alger. The Road Crew continues with grading and cutting brush and trees.

In 2012 the 8 foot light fixture bulbs used in the Town Garage will no longer be available. Wilson Electric explained that the light fixtures can be changed under a State program that will pay for the equipment but not the labor. The Select Board would like Allen M. Alger to get the information together such as efficiency of new fixtures and an estimated cost of labor for this change over.

3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to amend her motion in the minutes of November 28, 2011, Section 6 to read: \$300,000 plus interest instead of \$422,500. Roland Simmons seconded the motion to amend. The motion passed – 4 Yes 0 No.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of November 28, 2011, as amended. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed – 4 Yes 0 No.

Roland Simmons moved to accept the minutes of the Reclassification meeting of November 28, 2011, as written. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed – 3 Yes 0 No.

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4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amounts of \$8,649.41, Sewer Reserve Fund Transfer of \$12,000.00, the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$141.19 and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

Paula Barnes moved the addition of \$100.00 to the Sewer Fund amount, for the Sewer permit renewal fee. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

Martin Williams submitted the sewer renewal permit application for review and signature. The Select Board reviewed the application. Roland Simmons signed the permit application. This will be mailed out when the check is received from the Treasurer on Friday of this week.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mark Young submitted the latest financial report along with transaction detail sheets for 2011 to date. Upon review it was discovered that the transaction detail sheets were for 2010. Roland Simmons will ask the Treasurer for the correct sheets tomorrow.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Hazardous Mitigation Plan Changes – The two things needed for FEMA grants are an approved Hazardous Mitigation Plan for Orwell and NFIP material [two paragraphs to be added] to be included in the Orwell Land Use Regulations.

Roland Simmons will have the adjustments for the Mitigation plan [section 1.53 Mitigation Actions and Projects] ready for approval at the next Select Board meeting.

b. GZA Draft Report– Roland Simmons received the draft copy of the GZA Geo Tech Engineering report and explained that he went over the whole report. The basic result is that the Town can go back to the blacktop section of the slide area and will plan to add a guard rail.

“...remedial construction measures are not necessary, in GZA’s opinion, to improve the stability of the slope since the slope in its current configuration exceeds AASHTO’s minimum recommended static and seismic factors-of-safety. Further, it is GZA’s opinion that the road can be relocated to its original location from the temporary realignment onto an adjacent property owner’s land.

GZA recommends that the Town periodically inspect the slope for any additional movement or evidence of instability, and continue to stabilize the shoulder of the road with rock fill when necessary to maintain the integrity of the road surface.”

The eight page summary and complete draft report are available at the Town Office, usual hours.

The Select Board will budget for guard rails and contact AOL for guidance on installation. The Select Board is satisfied with the GZA report and noted that a copy was sent by GZA to FEMA.

c. Old Town Garage – Miles Tudhope questioned the condition of the old town garage, feeling that it is not in very good condition.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. O’Shea Quote on Fire Dept Insurance – The Select Board received a quote for several choices to increase the accident and sickness coverage for the Fire Department. Discussion followed.

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Roland Simmons will research and compare this proposal with the VLCT coverage under their new program for fire departments and get back to the Board.

b. Date of Second Select Board Meeting for December – Alternatives were considered because the next meeting falls on the Christmas holiday.

Miles Tudhope moved to hold the next regular Select Board meeting on Tuesday, December 27, 2011, Town Clerk’s office at 7:30 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Orwell Free Library Thank You – The Select Board received the following note from the Orwell Free Library Board:

“Ted, Paula, Walker, Carla & Miles, Mountains of Thanks! We want to thank you for your prompt attention to the library problem! Your help is greatly appreciated and I’m sure our patrons will be happy to have a safe walk from their cars to the sidewalk this winter. Sincerely, The Orwell Library Trustees.”

b. Executive Session – Lawyer Communications – **Paula Barnes moved to go into executive session – 1VSA 313 (a)(1) to discuss and review town lawyer information and communications - at 8:40 p.m. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.**

Paula Barnes moved to come out of executive session at 8:48 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

No action was taken

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Paula Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board