

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

February 21, 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
Robert Arnebold

Mark Young, Treasurer
Russell Young

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

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

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

None.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

Road Foreman Report – No report tonight.

3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 24, 2011 as amended. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of February 14, 2011 as amended. 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 \$16,504.78, the Stipends for the PC and DRB for \$2,100.00, and the Town payroll. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 3 Yes 2 No [Walker James and Miles Tudhope].

5. SEWER REPORT.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mark Young asked the Select Board to review and sign a tax anticipation note for \$500,000 at 3% interest. Miles Tudhope asked if the Treasurer put this out for bid. Mark Young replied that he did not. Discussion ensued.

Carla Ochs moved to sign the First National Bank of Orwell tax anticipation note for \$500,000 at 3 % for 262 days as presented. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed -4 Yes – 1 No [Miles Tudhope was looking for the best deal for the Town.].

When asked, Mark Young explained the QuickBooks \$534.24 charge for the payroll upgrade.

Roland Simmons advised the Select Board that he contacted the National Bank of Middlebury about interest rates for the legal note being considered at Town Meeting. A letter with options will be sent to the Select Board.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Appointment with James Daily of Porter Medical – This afternoon, Roland Simmons visited with James Daily at his Porter Medical office. Obviously this hospital, as well as Rutland Regional Medical, is interested in customers from the Shoreham Community Health Center area. Porter Medical does not want to be left out of the equation. The potential is that competition may develop. Discussion ensued.

It is very important that a dialogue be set up with the different towns to go over setting up the clinic and for people in this area to define medical needs. Some services needed are more variety of health care services including preventive care, pharmacy services, education, and transport services other than emergencies. Bridport, Orwell, Shoreham, Whiting and Benson are the main towns in our area.

Expansion of this medical practice and ensuring its long term health through improved funding and more variety of health care would be a real service to our citizens.

b. Sewer Survey – Roland Simmons explained that he made a chart using all the survey replies received. The resulting information shows that there is very little change in sewer use from the last survey. Discussion followed.

Walker James will work with Roland Simmons in organizing and in working out any changes that may need to be made in the sewer billing. A proposal will be created to present back to the Select Board.

c. Reappraisal Fund – Roland Simmons explained that the last bill from the appraiser, Douglas MacArthur will require a transfer of funds from the reappraisal fund to the general fund and asked if the Select Board wished to retain a small amount to keep this account open since more payments will come from the State for the current year. Discussion followed.

Carla Ochs moved to transfer \$15,600.00 from the reappraisal fund to the General Fund to defray expenses of the current reappraisal [leaving a small balance to hold the account open]. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Annual School Meeting, February 28, 2011 – The changes for this year's school meeting were noted and discussed. This meeting has been split from the usual Tuesday annual meeting and will take place at the Orwell Town Hall at 7:00 p.m, Monday evening. It is noted that this is the annual meeting for the school and all voting will be from the floor.

b. Town Meeting, March 1, 2011 – This is the regular Tuesday annual municipal Town Meeting to begin as usual at 10:00 a.m. Along with the floor meeting, the Australian Ballot voting takes place from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. when the polls close.

The Select Board went over procedure for answering any questions the voters may have.

Russell Young suggested that maybe some pictures of the property, before and after, would help voters to see and to better understand the extent of the zoning violation.

Roland Simmons stated that the Planning Commission recommended that the Select Board ask for a break on the legal cost of this case. The Select Board agreed.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Hazardous Mitigation Plan for Orwell – Roland Simmons will hold a meeting with Tim Boutin at the Town Office on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office. People are welcome to give input, including the Fire and Rescue, the Emergency Manager, and Road Crew.

b. EOP Update – Robert Arnebold submitted the update 2011 Emergency Operation Plan to the Select Board for consideration and adoption.

Paula Barnes moved to adopt the Orwell EOP for 2011 as presented. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Paula Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board