

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

April 11, 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 Rick Keane, ACRPC
Robert Arnebold Russell Young
Jim Donovan, FASLA**

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

The regular Select Board meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Roland Simmons, Chair.

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

None.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report – Walker James delivered the report for Allen M. Alger. The Road Crew continues to do grading and laying of gravel as the weather permits. Ledge pak is in good supply and seems to do a good job closing the pot holes.

b. Financial Plan – On Monday morning Roland Simmons and Allen M. Alger met with Tom Roberts of AOL District #3 to draw up the highway financial plan for 2011-2012. The Select Board went over the plan.

Paula Barnes moved to accept and sign the 2011-2012 Highway Financial Plan as presented. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

c. New Standards – AOL has a new set of required standards for roads and bridges. These standards need to be adopted in order to continue to get the 20% [Town] - 80% [State] split for State grants. These new standards match what the Road Crew is already doing here in Orwell, Allen M. Alger reported after reviewing them at this morning's meeting.

In addition to these standards, a certification of compliance is required to be signed by the Select Board.

Paula Barnes moved to adopt and sign the latest State Town Road and Bridge Standards along with the Certificate of Compliance for Town Roads and Bridge Standards. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

These documents were all signed by the Select Board and will be mailed back to Tom Roberts on Tuesday, April 12th.

d. FEMA – Roland Simmons reported that he spoke with Ray Dougherty who explained that Orwell is late for applying for this year's grant but should continue with the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. This plan needs to go through the approval process and may take some time before final approval is made.

e. Slide Area – The next step for a solution to the Mount Independence slide area problem is to line up a Spring meeting with the State Geologist. Roland Simmons will set up this meeting this week. An engineering study will be needed and the search for grant help continues.

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3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 28, 2011 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 \$33,041.86, along with \$2,511.80 to Louis Hall, Delinquent Tax collector, the Sewer Orders for \$1,443.77, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

The monthly and quarterly State reports were reviewed and signed by the Chair earlier today.

Walker James reported that there was work on the sewer lines from the school. The lines from the kitchen were found to be plugged up with grease. The lines were cleaned out and new sleeves installed. This was a private repair.

The Congregational Church and Town Office lines were also checked and are OK.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Green Up Report – The Green Up sheet is ready for posting. Roland Simmons is still waiting for Casella to send a quote for their packer trucks.

b. UST Reminders – The following checklist was prepared by the ANR for Orwell:

October 1, 2011 – Petroleum Cleanup Fund Assessment Fee due.

December 31, 2011 – Self Certification Annual Line Test.

June 17, 2012 – Cathodic Protection Test (3 yr).

August 1, 2014 – UST permit renewal.

Allen M. Alger has been on top of these requirements and is doing an excellent job of monitoring and submitting paperwork as required.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Casella Price Increases – The Select Board received notification that: “in order to reflect market conditions, the existing fuel recovery fee index will be adjusted beginning with your April invoice.

In April we will be re-indexing the fuel surcharge percentage to begin at 0% when the DOE's average price of diesel is at \$4.09 per gallon. This will result in your base rate rising yet your overall bill will remain consistent. The fuel surcharge on your fill will now be 0% unless the price of diesel rises above \$4.09 per gallon.”

b. Dog List – The Town Clerk reported that as of April 5, 2011, there were 121 unlicensed dogs. Postcards were sent out on this date to the owners. As of today, 74 unlicensed dogs remain. This has been the very best response to a postcard mailing.

Walker James moved to send the unlicensed dog list to the Animal Control Officer. The deadline for licensing these dogs is June 1, 2011, or the animals will be impounded by the ACO. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed – 5 Yes 0 No.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

Route 22A Committee – Jim Donovan of Broadreach Planning & Design explained the plan progress to date on the Route 22A Corridor Study and laid out a map of potential alternatives for the 22A corridor from the New York state line to Route 73 in Orwell.

The plan for the evening is to go over the recommendation list and designate options specific for Orwell. A set of sheets entitled Initial Recommendations – Orwell, was handed out to the people present. These are potential options for preserving or improving the overall operation and character of the roadway.

Each recommendation was discussed and evaluated. A copy of the set of sheets is attached to these minutes. People are encouraged to give input to the Select Board. All the towns involved will be revisited and in about six weeks there may be another opportunity for Orwell to go over a final presentation of recommendations.

The Route 22A Corridor study is sponsored and funded by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. The project will be guided by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, the Towns of Benson, Fair Haven, Orwell and West Haven and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Walker James moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board