

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**April 25, 2011**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Town Office**

**NOT APPROVED**

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

**Present: Allen M. Alger Mark Young, Treasurer  
Allen R. Alger Russell Young**

**Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk**

The regular Select Board meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Roland Simmons, Chair.

**1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.**

None.

**2. HIGHWAY REPORT.**

a. Road Foreman Report – Allen M. Alger reported that the roads are decent despite the rains. The Road Crew is grading and laying gravel. The equipment - Grader and Mac - are in good shape with repairs now completed.

A report was heard that several pairs of long johns came off today.

b. Mowing – Roland Simmons explained that Lemuel Palmer stopped by to say that he will do the mowing again at the same price as last year, but that he could use a little more for gas, Last year the bid was \$6,900.00. Discussion ensued.

**Walker James moved to approve paying Lemuel Palmer \$7,000.00 for mowing [same contract as last year] as budgeted. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 4 Yes 0 No.**

c. State Bridge Inspection Report for Bridge #4 – The Select Board reviewed this State report for the bridge at Hough's Crossing. The deck is rated as 5-fair; superstructure at 7-good; substructure as 6-satisfactory; channel at 8-very good. The summary stated that "the deck continues to deteriorate. The bridge and approach guard rail should be upgraded to meet standards." The Road Foreman was given a copy of this report.

The Select Board members signed to certify that they received, reviewed and shared this report.

d. TAC Meeting - Carla Ochs reported that she attended two meetings. At the first meeting bridges were prioritized and a list was given out of the county bridges. The Route 74 Bridge is scheduled for repairs meaning that this route will be closed for several days. This is a concern for apple people.

At the second meeting invasive species was the topic, especially wild parsnips. Instructions were given mainly that people should not handle the parsnip weed except on cloudy days – stay away if there is any sun. Using Herbicides was discussed.

e. Highway Radio – The FCC sent a letter requiring compliance for narrow banding, stating that the deadline is January 1, 2013. The Fire Department is all set on this. Allen M. Alger is working on the process for the Town highway vehicles.

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**3. MINUTES.**

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of April 11, 2011 as written. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

**4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.**

Discussion ensued concerning the bill for Ryan Smith and Carbine.

Miles Tudhope moved to pay the balance of the bill of \$42,015.97, with protest. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed – 3 Yes – 1 No [Miles Tudhope].

Carla Ochs moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$18,410.18, the Sewer Orders in the amount of \$1,094.05, and the Town payroll. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed – 4 Yes 0 No.

**5. SEWER REPORT.**

Walker James reported that the Sewer Road now has a fresh coat of gravel.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**

None.

**7. OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Green Up Clean Up – The Green Up sheet was handed out. All is ready for May 7<sup>th</sup>.

b. Casella Letter – The following will again be provided by Casella:

[3] 25 yard packers manned by Casella employees

[1] 30 yard roll off for tires

[1] 30 yard roll off for collection of TV's, computers, etc.

Arrives 7:30 a.m. and leaves at 3:00 p.m. Cost \$3,087.85.

Any further needs will cost \$262.50 per roll off . The cost to empty a packer and return to Orwell is \$315.50.

Allen R. Alger agreed to supply the lunch with a donation from the Fire Department.

c. Vermont Cares Insurance Sheets – Vermont Cares sent in their insurance certificates. There will be a SAG stop at the Orwell Green, staffed by Champ Ride volunteers On June 11, 2011, from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

d. State Geologist – Roland Simmons reported that the quote that Orwell received in 2009 for engineering amounted to over \$50,000. There are five companies available to do this work. At this point the Chair is still waiting for a contact with Laurence Becker, Vermont State Geologist.

**8. NEW BUSINESS.**

a. WC PACIF – The Select Board received notification and a refund check for \$653.00 on the PACIF-WC account. Each year PACIF does a complete payroll audit that determined either a refund or an additional payment. This year was a refund.

Mark Young as Treasurer feels this type of audit is really an overkill.

b. Fire Warden Appointment – The Select Board received notice that the Fire Warden five year term is ending and an appointment needs to be made. Discussion ensued.

Carla Ochs moved to appoint Allen R. Alger to a five year term as Fire Warden for Orwell. Miles Tudhope seconded the motion. The motion passed – 4 Yes 0 No.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

a. Dog Report – The Town Clerk submitted an unlicensed dog report as of April 25, 2011. There are now at least 49 dogs to be licensed. The list is attached to these minutes.

b. Vitals Changes – The Town Clerk reported that there is a bill in the Legislature – H454 – being worked on. The following changes are being seriously considered:

After Jan. 1, 2012, there will be no NEW birth or death certificate copies kept at the Town Clerk's offices, unless they apply for, and are granted, "designation" status. That process and benefits of such a "designation" are yet to be spelled out.

Records will be kept in the State Archives, the Health Department, or, as above, designated towns.

Towns will be able to keep an index of certificates filed (as above) after Jan. 1, 2012, but not the actual certificates.

Access to the records will be restricted more than they currently officially are, which is designed to protect privacy, since now, apparently, anyone can access birth records without showing cause, or identification. The aim is to close the holes on identity theft.

The current procedure in the Orwell Town Clerk's office is stated below:

No one touches these volumes except the Town Clerk or the Assistant Town Clerk.

People have to ID themselves and their relationship to the requested document.

This info is documented for each certified vital. If a phone request comes in, we state that the request must come in writing with ID's stated for all involved and with the fee of \$10. Since the Town Clerk first started, all certified vitals were and are put on the special paper purchased from the State. The vitals are sealed in Mylar and placed in special metal hinged volumes. No one touches these volumes. All info on vitals goes thru the Town Clerk or the Assistant Town Clerk.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Miles Tudhope moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board