

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

September 27, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Town Office

NOT APPROVED

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

Present: Allen M. Alger
Allen R. Alger
Robert G. Arnebold
Dennis Weyer
Russell Young
Sheri Young

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

The regular Select Board was called to order at 7:29 p.m. by Roland Simmons, Chair

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

None.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report – Brush cutting will continue next week on Royce Hill Road, Griswold Lane and Horton Road. The sand pile is covered and the gravel is lined up. The ditching project on Old Sawmill Road was completed. The new truck is still in the shop being equipped.

b. Reflectivity Workshop - The Road Foreman attended this workshop and reported that it was well worth the time in addition to being able to have interaction with other town Road Foremen. The State sign project requires each town to have a sign plan completed by 2012, to have road signs changed over to the new type of signs by 2015 and to have street/road signs changed over by 2018.

c. Paving Grant - Roland Simmons explained that the Select Board has several choices concerning the 2010 State paving grant for Route 73. Because the Board got a better pricing on the paving than was presented in the grant application, the final cost was \$84,855.94. The State grant will pay up to \$89,344.00. The Board can either apply for permission to include some of the Mt Independence paving this year or can hold over the balance for more paving next year. Discussion ensued.

Miles Tudhope moved to transfer \$26,824.06 from TH#3 to TH#2 by writing a memo and applying for a grant money transfer, thus enabling Orwell to use the full State paving grant of \$89,344.00 for this year. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No. [Paula Barnes arrived after this vote.]

d. CVPS - The Select Board reviewed the CVPS petition, right of way permit and sketch plans for a project to install an underground line within the highway limits of Singing Cedars Road.

Paula Barnes moved to approve and sign the petition and right of way permit for the above mentioned project by CVPS. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

3. MINUTES.

Miles Tudhope moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2010, as written. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Walker James moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$37,849.55, Sewer Fund orders in the amount of \$1,259.62, and the Town payroll. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.**6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**

The Select Board received a copy of a letter from the Department of Taxes notifying the Treasurer of an eft payment of \$1,447.14 representing a second municipal adjustment for this fiscal year.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Sheri Young - Mount Slide Area Alternatives – The Select Board asked Sheri Young to come to this meeting to talk about the slide area. Sheri Young explained that she is a soil scientist and only deals with the first seven feet. Being very familiar with the State sites on soils, Sheri Young produced a map siting the well depths to bed rock in the area, including the well drillers evaluation of the soils they drill through. At the Mount the depth is 10 feet, at Chiamulera's, 99 feet, at Magloire Audet's 240 feet, at Rae Anne Barry's 315 feet and at Wicker Lane 14 feet. This shows that the slide area sits on a huge bed of clay. The clay is moving and will continue to move into the Lake. There is no research to define exactly what is happening except that the clay will continue to move west. Discussion followed.

There are many problems involved in finding a solution. The Select Board needs to find funding, to investigate permits and contracts and to find people interested in doing further research.

The Select Board appreciated and thanked Sheri Young for coming in and giving this additional information.

b. Dog Warrant – Roland Simmons read the dog warrant.

Miles Tudhope moved to process the warrant for the unlicensed dogs. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Copy is attached to these minutes.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Leber Letter Old Town Garage – Roland Simmons read a letter from Jonathan Leber informing the Town of Orwell that he is terminating his lease of the Town Shed, effective November 1, 2010. Discussion followed.

Walker James would like to review the survey and position of a well on this property.

Dennis Weyer has had a long term interest in this property that adjoins his residence on Roberts Avenue. He would like to lease the property with an option to buy. Roland Simmons explained that when the Town learned of a Brownsfield grant, Dennis Weyer signed on with the Town at this time to discuss this with Regional Planning Director, Adam Lougee.

Miles Tudhope moved to post notice around town of the availability of the Old Town Garage property for lease, inquiries be submitted to the Town Clerk's office and to be acted on at the October 25, 2010 Select Board meeting. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion failed - 2 Yes [Miles Tudhope, Walker James] 3 No [Paula Barnes because Dennis Weyer has expressed interest in this property before it was leased in 1997, he is aware of the situation and the Brownsfield Study, he signed up and is a very interested party - Carla Ochs, Roland Simmons].

Paula Barnes moved to lease the property to Dennis Weyer. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion failed - 2 Yes [Paula Barnes, Carla Ochs] 3 No [Miles Tudhope objected to this motion as unfair by not giving notice-Walker James, Roland Simmons].

Roland Simmons moved to post, in Town, the availability of the Old Town Garage for lease before making a decision on October 11, 2010. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes - 1 No [Paula Barnes].

b. VT Health Trust 2011 Rates - The rates for 2011 are projected to have about a 17% increase. Discussion followed. The Select Board will look at more options.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. General Election - Questions for Candidates - Joy Jones sent a letter to the Select Board asking to come to a Select Board meeting to introduce herself and to hear any concerns. Roland Simmons will contact Joy Jones about coming to the October 11, 2010 meeting and will check with Will Stevens to see if he wishes to attend a Select Board meeting.

b. Planning & Zoning Forum - Roland Simmons stated that he will be attending this forum to be held Thursday, October 28, 2010. Because he is on the VLCT Board, there will be no fee cost, just mileage. This is a chance to discuss pressing issues in municipal planning and zoning with officials from across the state. The Select Board supports all such training for Town Officers.

c. Health Officer Workshop - The Select Board received notice that Virginia Wilson will attend the Town Health Officers Workshop to be held November 10, 2010 in South Burlington.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Miles Tudhope moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board

