

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD
December 14, 2009
7:30 p.m.
Town Office**

**Select Board: Walker James
Carla Ochs
Roland Simmons
Peter Young**

**Present: Allen M. Alger Kori Mitchell
Allen R. Alger Wayne Weseman
Robert Arnebold Mark Young, Treasurer**

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Roland Simmons, Chair.

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

Peter Young had two concerns. The first is the same problem identified last year, the use of sand by people in Town. Peter Young was told that there was a white dump truck at the Town Garage Saturday morning being loaded, using the Town loader, with sand from the Town sand pile. This is of great concern to several people as well as Peter Young. Apparently someone is taking advantage of the Town policy of permitting people to take a pail of sand when their driveways or walks are slippery. The taking of the sand is getting out of hand.

Allen M. Alger did not know about this incident or who was involved. Discussion ensued.

The Select Board needs to control the taking of sand in any larger quantity. The Town sand is not there for people who are running a sanding business. Small quantities by pail does not translate to mass taking by dump truck load. Use of the Town loader is restricted to the Road Crew or a person directed by the Road Foreman. The sand and the loader needs to be under strict control.

Second, Peter Young reported that he was on a town road, going onto land that he had permission to hunt, when he was very rudely told that he was on private property and on a private road. The road was Stevens Orchard Road which indeed is a town road. The person was invited to this Select Board meeting to express their concerns. No one showed up.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report - The Road Crew is working on sanding and clearing the roads of snow. The west light is installed at the Town Garage. The new east light [that was defective] will be set up when a replacement arrives. The Road Crew was asked to continue a reserved sanding process, as much as possible, on the roads, such as what they are doing currently.

b. '04 Mack Cylinder - Roland Simmons explained that if we wait to replace the '04 Mack cylinder until January 1, 2010, PACIF may share in the cost to the Town. Allen M. Alger feels that it is possible to wait until the turn of the year. Discussion followed. The Select Board decided to wait until January 1, 2010 to replace this cylinder.

c. 2010 Budget - The Select Board went over the 2010 budget figures submitted by the Road Foreman.

3. MINUTES.

Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of November 23, 2009, as written. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Walker James moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$15,280.09, the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$157.56 and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

Monthly reports were reviewed and signed by the Select Board Chair. After reviewing the 2010 Sewer Budget and discussing this with the Treasurer, the Select Board feels there is money that can be set into the Reserve Fund.

Peter Young moved to write an order to transfer \$10,000 from the Sewer Fund checking account to the Sewer Reserve fund, and to direct the Chair to sign such order next Monday at payroll time. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Select Board received a set of print outs from the Treasurer. These sheets will be reviewed to enable the Select Board to set up a Budget for 2010.

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Crown Point Bridge Update - There is a website - www.nysdot.gov/lakechamplainbridge - where people can view the different models under consideration to replace the Crown Point Bridge. People are encouraged to visit this site. The latest information sheet from NYSDOT, via Will Stevens, is attached to these minutes

b. Lister Vacancy - Two requests [Jean Audet and Wayne Weseman] to serve as Lister were received and reviewed by the Select Board. Roland Simmons read the letter containing the qualifications of Wayne Weseman. [Last meeting, the letter from Jean Audet was read.] Questions and discussions followed.

The Select Board feels that Wayne Weseman is highly qualified to take this position. The Select Board thanked Wayne Weseman for coming in.

Peter Young moved to appoint Wayne Weseman as Lister until the next annual or special meeting. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

d. ACSWD Report - Kori Mitchell reported to the Select Board on the latest information on Middlebury recycling system and from the Addison County Solid Waste District Board and is looking for a little direction from the Select Board.

Under consideration is a possible drop off in Orwell of manageable hazardous waste items of light bulbs and batteries. Kori Mitchell said she would be willing to commit to work on this project by delivering the material once a month to Middlebury. Discussion ensued.

Kori Mitchell will contact Chris Dundon to see if such a pick up is feasible here in Orwell. Kori Mitchell will look into this and report back. Walker James will be glad to give her a hand in working out such a service.

The Select Board is not interested in adding to the Town Budget at this time. Such a drop off would have to be by fee.

Kori Mitchell again asked if there is anything the Town is anticipating that she should speak for, to please let her know. Roland Simmons stated that if there was something Kori thought would effect Orwell, to contact either him or Walker James to keep the Board aware of what is going on.

The Select Board expressed concerns about the rising tipping fees and asked whether any of the administration costs were frozen or cut. Administration costs are definitely out of balance. The Select Board strongly feels that the higher the tipping fees, the more people will not bring items to Middlebury but find less desirable ways to dispose of their excess items.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Annual Evaluations - Annual evaluations for the highway, sewer plant and Select Board clerk are due by the next Select Board meeting. A schedule will be set up by Walker James and Roland Simmons.

b. VLCT - Vision Plan - The Select Board reviewed the Health Trust vision service plan. There is no interest at this time.

c. PACIF - 2010 Billing - The WC and Sewer Plant figures were received from PACIF for the 2010 budget work. Discussion about the appraisal figures for three of the Town buildings followed. Peter Young is concerned about some of the increases that are about 40%. Roland Simmons will investigate further into these building appraisal figures.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Copier Lease Renewal - The Town copier lease is due for renewal. IKON submitted a proposal that the Town Clerk distributed to the Select Board for consideration.

Roland Simmons moved to accept the 60 month proposal for a Ricoh MP 2550 unit at \$101.00 per month, images at \$.011 per copy, that includes all service and supplies including all parts, labor and toner, delivery, installation and training including all network configurations of printing and scanning. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.

The new copier is a little faster and will have scanning capabilities. Otherwise, it is comparable to the current unit and approved by the State of Vermont for land record copying.

b. Lake Champlain Byways - Adam Lougee asked if someone from Orwell would be interested in representing Addison County on the Lake Champlain Byway Council. In addition, FY2010 grant applications will be due sometime in January 2010.

c. DRB - Roland Simmons explained that there is a consideration if it is legal to act at a DRB meeting if it is not properly warned. He will check with the DRB Chair but wanted the Select Board to be aware of this concern.

d. Fire/Rescue Building - Peter Young reported that he has not been able to meet with the Fire/Rescue Building Committee as yet, but hopes to get this accomplished by the next Select Board meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Peter Young moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes - 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ann Arnebold
Clerk of the Board