

**MEETING OF THE  
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**March 23, 2009  
7:30 p.m.  
Town Office**

**Select Board - Paula Barnes  
Walker James  
Carla Ochs  
Roland Simmons  
Peter Young**

**Present: Allen M. Alger Kathy Buxton, Sec'ty Orwell Free Library  
Allen R. Alger Elizabeth Orr, Sec'ty, Wright Memorial Library  
Robert G. Arnebold**

**Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., by Roland Simmons, Chair.

**1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.**

Peter Young had three inquiries from citizens. The first was a complaint about a farmer moving manure that was falling off his spreader [no gate] covering all over Royce Hill Road.

There was a request from Rescue people asking permission to show movies for children during the summer at the Fire House. The Select Board feels this is up to the Fire and Rescue people since there will be liquor involved. In any case, there is no objection from the Select Board.

Third, Peter Young received a call about gravel on the front lawn of a neighbor on Brown Lane. The Select Board and Road Foreman made it clear that the road crew does not do work on private property. Discussion followed. Peter Young then stated that he and his wife will volunteer to help this neighbor out on the gravel issue.

**2. HIGHWAY REPORT.**

a. Road Foreman Report - Allen M. Alger reported that the roads are getting better. The Road crew is busy grading and graveling where possible. There are still many soft spots.

The Town got 800 yards 3/4 gravel for \$16 a yard [delivered] from Markowski. As of April 1st prices are to go up.

The Road Crew is signed up for Logging Safety Training in Shoreham, two days, April 29th & 30<sup>th</sup>. This training is sponsored by VLCT PACIF insurance.

b. State Highway 2009 Payment Freeze Cont'd - Roland Simmons gave the latest report on the State highway funding for the remainder of 2009 and 2010. Apparently the April 2009 payment will be shy 15% but then the portion of the 3rd and 4th payments held back for 2009 will be made up in 2010. The Town Clerk reported that she contacted our Rep and Senators, the Governor and Lt Governor about this holding back funding that adversely affects property taxes. All replied except the Governor and Sen Giard. *Please read* the attached sheet for a complete explanation as to where the legislature is at this point.

**3. MINUTES.**

**Carla Ochs moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 9, 2009, as written. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes 0 No.** Peter Young was not at this meeting.

**4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.**

**Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$9,543.87, and \$50.00**

**for an Election Official, Sewer Fund orders in the amount of \$452.85 and the Town payroll. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

## **5. SEWER REPORT.**

Walker James reported that the Town will have to purchase a motor for the computer chart. A copy of the draft general permit renewal, received by the Select Board, will be given to Martin Williams.

## **6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**

## **7. OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Town & School Meeting Minutes 3/3/2009 - **Carla Ochs moved to approve as presented the Town Meeting and School District Meeting minutes for March 3, 2009. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

The Select Board members signed the town and school signature sheets.

b. PC/DRB Appointments - The Select Board received the following nomination memo from Andrea Ochs, PC Chair: "At the last regular PC meeting, the board voted" to nominate Andrea Ochs and Robert Bogdan as regular members; Thomas Purdy and Edward Taube will serve as alternates to the PC; Dave King and Clyde Park will serve as delegates to the ACRPC with Andrea Ochs and Robert Bogdan as alternates.

"At the last regular DRB meeting" the board voted to nominate Andrea Ochs, Ed Taube and Robert Bogdan as members with Miles Tudhope as an alternate.

**Carla Ochs moved to appoint the people as nominated by the PC and DRB including delegate and alternates to the ACRPC. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

c. Library - Kathy Buxton, Secretary of the Orwell Free Library and Elizabeth Orr, Secretary of the Wright Memorial Library on behalf of the two Boards presented and read a letter to the Orwell Select Board in answer to their request as stated in the Select Board minutes of February 23, 2009.

**Please read the library letter that is attached to these minutes.**

The Select Board was most pleased with the information, action and plans of these two library boards and encouraged the boards to continue making future plans and "...striving to work in harmony to benefit the town library and the community of Orwell." The Select Board was most pleased with this report and the progress being made for the Orwell Free Library by both Boards.

Kathy Buxton requested a copy of this meeting's minutes for both Boards and asked some questions such as what a town payroll offers and what does the town insurance cover for the library. Roland Simmons explained that employees get workman's compensation and unemployment insurance. It was made clear that the Orwell Free Library hires, oversees the librarian and decides policy.

The Select Board will work out the specifics of librarian coverage as far as the personnel policy is concerned. The contents of the Orwell Free Library, all they own - books, furniture, papers, magazines, shelves and contents owned are covered by the town VLCT PACIF insurance coverage. The Town does not insure any of the historical items because there is no replacement value that can be put on them.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS.**

a. Latest EDR Report - The Town Clerk reported that the clerk and treasurer's association is working hard to do away with any legislation that would mean same day registration.

b. UST Cathodic Protection Testing Due - Three years have gone by and again this testing needs to be done. Allen M. Alger will contact MacIntyre to have someone come down and test the tanks.

c. Green Up Clean Up - The Select Board reviewed the 2008 flier and made corrections. Paula Barnes will contact Casella for 3 packer trucks and 2 tip-offs for May 2, 2009.

Roland Simmons will contact Elnicki about the scrap metal collection.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Deposition Report - Peter Young **moved to go into executive session at 8:54 p.m. to discuss legal matters.** Paula Barnes **seconded the motion.** **The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

Peter Young **moved to come out of executive session at 9:18 p.m.** Paula Barnes **seconded the motion.** **The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.**

No action was taken.

b. School Fuel - In order to save on fuel, Roland Simmons had Mike's Fuels fill the empty underground tank because the price is down. The price for this 2,650 was 1.62 per gallon. Allen M. Alger suggested since the school questioned the pricing of the school bus fuel, perhaps one tank should be for the school and the other larger tank for the town. Discussion ensued.

In the past the school took fuel that the town pays and then was billed for their use. This way they will have their own tank, pump, meter and key then they could order and pay for their own fuel directly. This would eliminate any questions about pricing.

Before any switching, the town will have to bill the school for fuel use from the December 2008 bill till the time of a switch, including the fuel currently in the ground in the 2,000 gallon tank. Peter Young will contact the school board and present this bus fuel solution.

c. Town Office Sign - David Abbott requested instructions for making a new sign for the town office. The suggestions are:

The sign be readable with letters 3-1/2 to 4 inches.

Bright color for letters - two-tone colors in green - dark green with light green.

Background to be white. Neat, rectangular.

Frame the sign. Material that will weather well.

Use all new material - pressure treated posts.

Two sided sign placed perpendicular to road.

Size of sign - smaller than current sign.

Text - TOWN OFFICES  
ORWELL, VERMONT  
Charter 1763

Website [www.town-of-orwell.org](http://www.town-of-orwell.org)

d. Storm Damaged Tree - On the west side of the town office there was a damaged tree that looked quite out of place but was actually on a neighbor's property. Peter Young was willing to take care of this with the property owner's permission but then reported back that after only a short time and on a first request, our good neighbor, Sandy Korda had the tree taken down. The Select Board and the clerks wish to thank him for his kind, neighborly consideration.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT.

Paula Barnes **moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m.** Peter Young **seconded the motion.** **The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Ann Arnebold  
Clerk of the Board

**Regular Meeting**

**March 26, 2007**