

**MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD**

**July 13, 2009
7:30 p.m.
Town Office**

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

**Present: Allen M. Alger Robert G. Arnebold
Allen R. Alger**

Susan Ann Arnebold, Clerk

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

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

Peter Young reported that he received two complaints about a speeding yellow motorcycle. Both these complaints were reported to the State Police.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

a. Road Foreman Report -Allen M. Alger reported that the chloride spraying is about 2/3's completed. The Road Crew is waiting on the weather to get all the pot holes fixed.

Tomorrow the Road Foreman will be attending a culvert workshop.

No word as yet concerning the inquiry about the ditch mower for brush.

The Select Board needs confirmation about the catholic inspection of the UST units at the Town Garage.

b. Landslide Stone Placement - Roland Simmons asked the Select Board members if they viewed the stone placement at the landslide area on the Mt Independence Road. Discussion ensued.

The Select Board members support the placement to stabilize the area at its face and plan to continue along the edge with another 10-12 loads. Maglorie Audet stated that he would like more stone placed at the face.

Walker James moved to approve placing more stone at the face along the edge to stabilize the area at the landslide on Mt Independence Road across from the Maglorie Audet property. Peter Young seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No

c. Chipman's Point Road - Roland Simmons stated that Steve Jerome of Betterback Roads recommended that Orwell apply for a mitigation grant to stone line the ditch along Chipman's Point Road. The water problem develops from the adjoining field which is not town responsibility.

The Ullom's seemed satisfied with this plan. The Road Foreman will apply in September for the Betterback Roads grant. The form is available on line. The deadline is October 30, 2009.

3. MINUTES.

Walker James moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 2009, as written. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 3 Yes 0 No. 2 Abstained, not being present at this meeting.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Paula Barnes moved to pay the General Fund orders in the amount of \$26,512.13, Line Item for the Orwell Parade Committee in the amount of \$1,800, and the Town and Sewer payrolls. Walker James seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

5. SEWER REPORT.

Peter Young stated that someone from UVM was at the Town Office inquiring whether Orwell would consider a business presentation concerning biofuel from waste products. The Select Board is willing to consider a presentation, if one comes.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mark Young, Treasurer, presented a tax anticipation note for \$400,000 for the Select Board to sign. Roland Simmons stated that he was not signing another note. A tax anticipation note was signed February 23, 2009, for \$400,000 and to date borrowing on the budget sheet states only \$200,000 was transferred. Discussion followed.

Paula Barnes moved that the Select Board not sign the requested note for \$400,000. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 4 Yes - 1 Abstain [Peter Young].

7. OLD BUSINESS.

a. NFIP Application - The Select Board reviewed the completed application papers. Roland Simmons read the resolution to the members.

Walker James moved to adopt the resolution and submit the application papers to NFIP. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

b. Town Office Sign Base - The Town Clerk asked the Select Board members if they are pleased with the new base and plantings below the Town Office sign. Walker James on behalf of the Select Board, thanked Robert Arnebold for creating the base and Peter Young and the Road Crew for setting up the new sign. All the members are very pleased with the results.

c. TAC Appointment - Clyde Park volunteered to be the TAC representative for Orwell.

Carla Ochs moved to appoint Clyde Park TAC representative for the Town of Orwell. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Tax Rate Information - The Select Board received the education tax rates for fiscal year 2010. They are as follows:

Non-residential tax rate	-	\$1.8204
Homestead tax rate	-	\$1.5088

b. Old Road Discontinuance Process - The Town Clerk reported on the progress of the old road research and recommended that the Select Board do a discontinuance process. This entails holding a hearing and then having the legislative body [Select Board] vote to discontinue all roads that do not show on the current certified State highway map.

The Select Board will consider this action at the July 27, 2009, Select Board meeting.

c. State Police Request - Peter Young stated that the State Police requested that Orwell consider posting its back roads. Discussion followed.

Peter Young moved to start the process to amend the Orwell Highway Safety ordinance to include speed limits and additional stop signs. Carla Ochs seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes 0 No.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. Dry Hydrant - Roland Simmons received a request for a permit to place a dry hydrant near the Carla Ochs property. After discussion it was discovered that the placement would actually be in Benson. The request will be returned to Louis Hall stating that it is a Benson issue not Orwell.

b. Fire/Rescue Accident & Sickness Insur Change - The Select Board was notified that this year, instead of three year running policies, the fire and rescue accident and sickness insurance policies will run yearly.

c. Vt Transparency. Org - The Ethan Allen Institute sent out letters to Vermont towns to introduce their new website, www.vttransparency.org. The Select Board read the material and decided to place a link to this site on the Orwell web page. A copy of the information is attached to these minutes.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Carla Ochs moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Paula Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed - 5 Yes - 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ann Arnebold

Clerk of the Board

