

Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2009

Present: Select Board - Kit Martin, Chair; Alene Evans; Brud Sanderson; Carole Melis; Joe Juhasz (by phone)
Members of the Public - Dale Davis (Town Barn Committee); Craig Goodenough; Reed Cutting; Norman Mallory; Mary Mallory; Tim Franklin; Cheryl Franklin; Jaime Cone, Brattleboro Reformer; Craig Hunt, Select Board secretary

1. **Call To Order:** At 6:08 P.M., Martin called the meeting to order and recognized Dale Davis of the Townshend Barn Committee. Davis requested that the Board approve an application with Chittenden Bank for a one-year bridge loan in the amount of \$875,000.00 for construction of the new Highway garage. After brief discussion, Melis made a motion: **To sign papers with Chittenden Bank for a Bond Anticipation loan**, seconded by Sanderson and called by those present.
2. **Additions and Deletions:** None at this time.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Martin made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of January 5th and 7th**, seconded by Melis, and carried by the those present, with Evans abstaining.
4. **Reports:**
 - 4a. **Town Clerk's Report:** None at this time.
 - 4b. **Treasurer's Report:** None at this time.
 - 4c. **Bookkeeper's Report:** None at this time.
5. **Highway Foreman's Report:** Sanderson relayed to the Board in Bostrom's absence that the T-4 truck's turbo was blown, that Joe's truck, T-8, had had new brakes installed, and that T-3 was in good working order. He also reported of an estimate from Brian Schmidt for sandblasting and repainting the Common fountain for approximately \$2400.00. After discussion on these matters, Evans requested that the Board seek better information on the condition of the fountain and seek more competitive bids on the work necessary for its restoration.

Hunt spoke of FEMA money being made available upon application for recovering expenses incurred because of the December ice storm, and Sanderson, Martin and Melis cautioned against commitments with the government to which strings are attached and for which expenditures negate substantive gain. After discussion, Martin made a motion: **To complete the application paperwork subject to having the opportunity to opt out of the program after the details become known**, seconded by Melis and carried by those present.

Hunt was requested to list with VLCT those Town Projects which might qualify for Stimulus money being considered by Congress.

6. **Warrants: Martin made a motion: To pay the Warrants**, seconded by Evans and carried by those present.

F0209 AR	\$ 3,684.59	General Fund
F0209 PR	\$12,912.74	Payroll

7. **Old Business:**

A-133 Audit: Joe Juhasz was contacted by phone at 6:50 p.m. and explained that all costs of the required audit would be covered by Valley Cares. After discussion, Evans made a motion: **To have Martin review the McSoley McCoy auditing contract with Bob Crego**, seconded by Melis and carried by those present. Hunt was instructed to deliver a copy of the contract to Bob Crego for his review, and upon approval, present it to Martin for signature and mailing back to McSoley McCoy. Juhasz disconnected at 7:04.

8. **New Business:** At 7:05, Martin recognized Craig Goodenough, Reed Cutting, Norman and Mary Mallory, Tim and Cheryl Franklin, as representing the private waste haulers with concerned about WSWMD's proposal to alter its fee and surcharge structure effective July 1st. The haulers requested that the Select Board support them in their opposition to the proposed Ordinance, and much discussion ensued regarding the financial impacts upon them and those who use their services, and upon the Towns in the District. The Board offered to speak with Irving Stowell, Townshend's representative to WSWMD, and have him express the Town's concerns at the upcoming WSWMD meeting about needing to know costs before setting budgets. The private waste haulers left at 7:40.

At 7:42, Martin recognized Claire Adams who presented a letter she'd received from the West River Condominium Association barring her and public use of Old Route 30 beyond Favreau's Corner Road. She also questioned the legitimacy of construction activity along that route. The Board discussed the issue of the road being designated a Class 4 road, which entitles public access, but felt that a legal opinion ought to be sought prior to commenting on any construction activities of which it was unaware. Claire left at 7:48

At 7:50, Martin moved: **To have the Board enter Executive Session**, seconded by Sanderson. The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:55, and as a result, Martin made a motion: **To have the Town's attorney review matters at Favreau's Corner Road**, seconded by Sanderson and carried by those present, with Melis abstaining.

At 8:00, Martin made a motion: **To have the Board recess for work on the Town budget**, seconded by Sanderson and carried by those present.

At 8:58, Martin reconvened the meeting and made a motion: **To have the Select Board approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget**, seconded by Sanderson and carried by those present.

9. **Correspondence:** None at this time.

10. **Meeting Schedules:**

Melis made a motion: **To change the regular meeting scheduled for February 16th to February 17th**, seconded by Sanderson, carried by those present. Hunt was asked to check with Juhasz to see if he would be available for a meeting on the 16th, and inform the Board if he was.

12. Melis moved: **To adjourn at 9:15 p.m.**, seconded by Martin and carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt, secretary