

# **Townshend Select Board Meeting Minutes**

## **March 2, 2009**

**Present:** Select Board - Kit Martin, chair; Alene Evans; Brud Sanderson; Carole Melis; Joseph Juhasz (absent)

**Members of the Public** - Irving Stowell; Craig K. Hunt, Board secretary

1. **Call To Order:** At 6:35 p.m. Martin called the meeting to order.
2. **Additions and Deletions:** None at this time.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Martin moved: **To approve the Select Board Minutes of February 2, 2009**, seconded by Melis. After discussion, the motion was carried by those present to approve the Minutes as corrected. Martin then moved: **To approve the Select Board Minutes of February 17, 2009**, seconded by Melis. After discussion, the motion was carried by those present to approve the Minutes, as corrected.
4. **Reports:**
  - 5a. **Town Clerk's Report:** None at this time.
  - 5b. **Treasurer's Report:** None at this time.
  - 5c. **Bookkeeper's Report:** None at this time.
5. **Highway Foreman's Report:** None at this time.
6. **Warrants:** None at this time. It was decided that when the new Board convened following elections at Town Meeting, that they would examine the Warrants.
7. **Old Business / Updates:** None at this time.
8. **New Business:**

**Town Barn Committee:** Melis requested that the Chair sign Applications for Wastewater and Drainage Permits needed for the Town Barn Project, and by consensus, the Board decided to have the newly-elected Chair, following Town Meeting, be the signatory. Melis then informed the Board of her understanding that only a partial survey of the Town Barn property had been completed, which Sanderson confirmed. Following discussion and recommendation by Sanderson, Sanderson made a motion: **To have Dauchy Creamer complete the survey work at the Town Barn begun for Stevens and Associates in 2005**, seconded by Melis and carried by those present.

Melis informed the Board of receiving numerous bids on the Project, and spoke of a meeting of the Town Barn Committee the previous Saturday, and another planned for the upcoming Thursday.

Martin expressed concern from having heard suspicions that Hunt was being paid for his efforts toward the Project, which Hunt denied. Melis then reported that a number of local contractors had expressed interest in the project, and that Hunt, as well as another Committee member, had submitted bid proposals in advance of the deadline, but would not partake in the decision-making process.

A request from Judith Holden, Trustee of Lisa's Love Charitable Association for use of the Town Hall on May 9, 2009 and September 19, 2009 was then discussed, and Sanderson made a motion: **To approve the request of Lisa's Love Charitable Association for use of the Town Hall on May 9th and September 19th**, seconded by Melis. Martin asked to amend the motion: **To approve the use of the Town Hall by Lisa's Love Charitable Association on May 9, 2009, but have the new Select Board, after opportunity to review Town Hall use policies, decide upon the September 19th request**, which was accepted by consent. The motion, as amended, was then carried by those present. Hunt was asked to send a letter of explanation to Lisa's Love Charitable Association.

**9. Members of the Public:** At 7:05 p.m., Martin recognized Irving Stowell, Townshend representative to WSWMD. Irving presented a letter from WSWMD with a financial spread sheet explaining the implications of the February 19th WSWMD Board meeting, at which time members voted not to impose a requested surcharge. That decision, Irving reported, created spending deficits for WSWMD that would have impact upon present Town budgets and future assessments. Martin thanked Irving for all his efforts on behalf of the Town, and for helping to set a 2010 Town budget, which already assumed the increase. Irving then spoke of a letter received by Hunt which reiterated the decision of the Board at its meeting of February 17th, to have Irving represent the Town at the WSWMD meeting of February 19th, and express the Board's concerns over any policy whereby Town assessments from WSWMD change after Town budgets are approved. Irving explained that WSWMD does not have to change its Charter in order to adopt an Ordinance that allows it to impose a waste tax in the District, but that, for now, the only fees that will change are those to dump trash at the landfill. Irving left at 7:20.

**10. Correspondence:** A letter from Hunt resigning as Select Board secretary was read by Martin, who made a motion: **To accept the resignation of Hunt with regret**, seconded by Sanderson, and carried by those present.

**11. Executive Session:** None at this time.

**12. Adjournment:** At 7:32 p.m. Martin made a motion, **To Recess the meeting until immediately after Town Meeting on March 3rd**, seconded by Evans and carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted

Craig K. Hunt, secretary