

approved 5/23/17

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2017

Present: Kathy Hege; Robert Wright; Will Bissonnette; Irv Stowell; Steve Frisk

In Attendance: Joseph Daigneault; Kurt Bostrom; Becky Reilly; Richard Melanson, (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. Call To Order: Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes: Stowell made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of April 25, 2017**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present. Bissonnette made a motion: **To approve the Special Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2017**, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

3. Additions and Deletions: None at this time.

4. Warrants: Wright made motions to approve the following Warrants.

50901 Payroll \$ 9,242.04, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

50902 Payroll Taxes \$ 3,587.09, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

50903 General \$ 295.32, seconded by Bissonnette and FAILED by those present.

50904 General \$ 6,637.23, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

50905 General \$ 802.08, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

50906 Highway \$ 172.69, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

50907 Equipment \$ 5,054.78, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.

50908 General \$ 2,026.23, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

50909 General \$ 7,240.17, seconded by Stowell and carried by those present.

5. Reports: Highway Report: Bostrom reported that he'd met again with Tree Warden Bob DeSiervo and that dead tree cutting had begun. Numerous trees, however, should be taken out by the utility companies.

While the grader needs front tires, the other equipment is in good repair. As to street sweeping, Bostrom informed the Board that he was wrong in believing it to be obligatory.

The four individuals who were interested in serving as a back-up Transfer Station attendant met with Bostrom last Friday to review the procedures involved and Bostrom believes all to be qualified to fill in, if needed.

Bostrom is working on the scheduling the Plumb Road bank stabilization work and is waiting to hear from the Windham Rgional Commission about their work on the Network and Infrastructure Inventory

Bissonnette made a motion: **To enter Executive Session, under 1 V.S.A. 313a4 with Bostrom for employee evaluations at 6:16 p.m.**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:33 p.m., and, as a result, no action was taken.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Network Inventory Compliance Certificate which was submitted after the last meeting as part of the Bridge 42 replacement grant application and questioned by V-Trans. The Board then stated that the Network Inventory was not up to date, but that a grant had been received and, with Windham Regional, would be in compliance, soon. Bostrom stated that he was marking a map of culverts replaced, but Stowell argued that without documenting current road conditions and providing cost projections in writing, Townshend was not in compliance. Bissonnette made a motion: **To state on the Network Inventory Compliance Certificate that Townshend's Network Inventory has not been kept up to date**, seconded by Wright and carried by those present. The consequence of not keeping a current inventory adds ten-percent to the required matching funds of any State grant.

Town Clerk Report: The Select Board reviewed the Town Clerk's journal reports from the prior weeks.

Treasurer's Report: Daigneault reported that the General Fund held a balance of \$802,025.72.

6. Correspondence: Hege read a letter from Phil Moriarty requesting clarification by the Select Board of the charge to the Governance Study Committee. Subsequent to that letter being written, however, the Select Board had stated that charge during a Special Meeting held on May 2, 2017.

Hege read correspondence from the Windham Superior Court scheduling June 20, 2017, as the date for a Small Claims Hearing brought against the Town by former Townshend Auditor, Patrick Kiernan.

7. Old Business: Tax Sale Property: Stowell made a motion: **To ratify a quorum decision by the Select Board, made between meetings, instructing the Town's attorney to proceed with serving Eviction Notices upon Lisa Johnson and unnamed others from property bought by the Town of Townshend at Tax Sale**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.

Members of the Public: Becky Reilly, Townshend's Delinquent Tax Collector), was welcomed and Bissonnette made a motion: **To find that premature disclosure of legal information discussed with Townshend's Delinquent Tax Collector would put the Town at a disadvantage**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

Stowell then made a motion: **To enter Executive Session under 1 V.S.A. 313 a1f with Townshend's Delinquent Tax Collector to discuss legal matters at 7:15 p.m.**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:43 p.m, and, as a result, Bissonnette made a motion: **To have the Select Board consider legal options in consultation with Townshend's Delinquent Tax Collector and the Town's attorney**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

8. New Business: Liquor License: Stowell made a motion: **To approve the Second Class Liquor License application of Lawrence's Smoke House**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present with one abstention.

Transfer Station Operations: Following discussion about the legal and financial hurdles of State mandates upon municipal waste collection after July 1, 2017, Stowell made a motion: **To have the Select Board resolve to have all pertinent information necessary to make a public decision on the future of Townshend's Transfer Station operations by June 1, 2017**, seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

Officer Appointments: Stowell made a motion: **To nominate Will Bissonnette as Townshend's representative to the Windham Regional Commission**, seconded by Wright and carried by those present, with one abstention.

9. Other Business: None at this time.

10. Meeting Schedule: Regular Meeting: May 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment: Stowell made a motion: **To adjourn at 8:00 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt