

Approved: July 10, 2006

**Selectboard Meeting
June 26, 2006
7:00 – 10:14 p.m.**

Present: Paul Saenger, Walt Pyle, Bob Warren, Steve Goodrich, Mary Jane James, Barb Kivlin
Absent: Marthe Fisher
Guests: John Sullivan, Ann Cousins, Linda Larrabee

Call to order:

Paul called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Minutes from June 12, 2006, were approved as corrected. Walt MOVED and Bob SECONDED to accept minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Minutes from Stormwater Extension Hearing on June 12, 2006, were amended to include Item No. 5 from June 12th Selectboard Minutes. Steve MOVED to amend the Minutes to include #5 from the June 12, 2006 Selectboard Minutes. Walt s SECONDED. Motion carried.

Announcements:

July 25, 2006 Disaster Preparation Meeting for Selectboard to be held at the Elementary School.

Additions to Agenda:

Eleanor Brisson gave Paul her written ideas on Newton Academy.
Karen reported out briefly on Platt Memorial Libraries meeting with Ann Cousins from Preservation Trust
Zoning Bylaws - concerns that we are moving too fast.

Reports:

1. Walt MOVED to send a letter of support for Jeep Madison's application to the Land Trust. Bob SECONDED. Motion carried. Further discussion about current use and conserved land in Shoreham.
2. CTO and sick guidelines tabled until next meeting.
3. Park and Ride application further discussed. Steve suggested that perhaps it could be situated up behind the church by the recycling center. Karen offered that perhaps an agreement could be reached with the Service Center to rent space for parking, which would help the Service Center's business, not increase the impervious surfaces in Town, offer a central location for the everyone to park and any bus to turn around at. Steve to speak with the local manager at the Service Center about this idea.
4. Mary Jane reviewed Casella contract with Board for trash at the Wastewater building and Town shed. Bob MOVED to accept Casella's contract on Wastewater Water and Town Shed trash pickup. Walt SECONDED. Motion carried.
5. Mary Jane reviewed information from Regional Planning about the Lake Champlain Watershed that Nell Fraser sent.

6. Ann Cousins, a field service representative for the Preservation Trust came to the meeting to explain the Town's preservation issues. She suggested that the Town apply for Designated Village Center, which is a state designation that sets boundaries and comes with certain advantages. (1) A community development grant would give bonus point for being within boundary; building within that area can qualify. There are limits on churches and municipal owned buildings. There are also tax credits up to \$50,000 with issues on access for health and safety issues that bring a building up to code, i.e., ADA. Any business within the boundary can qualify too. This is a new legislative measure and the Town would need to act fairly quickly to take advantage of it. Ann left info sheet on tax credits. (2) A fair amount of fundraising needs to be done with other grant makers, and she used the Towns of Putney and Hardwick as examples. These towns used matching gift to hire a planner or fundraiser such as Christine Graham for a day to help plan a strategy. The Preservation Trust could help with these grants. She suggested that perhaps one member from each group attend this session. Discussion about the size of a Village Center and who might be included and even that there might be multiple town centers. This can be reviewed on the Division for Historic Preservation's website.

Ann explained about Newton Academy and the escalated deterioration. It is an important building in Town because of what it has to offer the Town as a public theater space and the doctor's office. Preservation Trust wants to help to carry this further. She said the National Trust honored the Town by picking this building from the many that applied. She asked if the Town has any interest in putting town money into this project or given any consideration into expanding town functions there. The Board replied that not much had been discussed as yet since they were all relatively new to this project discussion, and therefore, there is no unified direction. She suggested that maybe the Board could help facilitate discussions with Doctor Curtiss about where his practice was going or go after Rural Development Funds or put up a bond to put money towards this. The Board told her that the Town Clerk's office is the main priority. She asked there could be a committee to explore the possibilities of where to put it. John announced the Newton Academy's structure is now on the CAD program they purchased. One example of an old building was in Starksboro where their town offices have placed the vault on the outside of the building and some of this was federally funded. It could do a structural idea to bring to voters. Ann at this point explained the two funding sources at Preservation Trust that could possibly help Shoreham. One is a partnership with the Freeman Foundation, which would fund projects up to \$50,000 which have great architecture and that really helps to build community. She said all four buildings (Newton Academy, Platt Memorial Library, Masonic Building and the Church) in Shoreham qualify for these funds. This is basically what makes sense for the needs of the community and there is a need to save Newton Academy. The other funding source they have is partnership with Senator Leahy's office for Village Revitalization Funds, which provides grants up to \$100,000 for community center buildings that exhibit important historical architecture and that create or enhance village centers. Question was asked if there is any planning grant money left over from Commons Task Force?

Ann asked that the Selectboard consider empowering committees to after the Village Center Designation and bring all interested parties together. Or when the time comes for money that they keep directing or supporting these projects. Paul said there are so many projects, but the Town's priority is in fixing the roads. She shared her concern about raising funds over the long-term and stated that this is usually done in phases and they could build from there. Slate roof should be repaired.

Walt MOVED to authorize Paul to sign a letter of support for the Vermont Housing and Conservation Grant that will help repair the roof at Newton Academy in the amount of \$75,000. Bob SECONDED. Motion carried.

7. Ed Peet, Mike White, and Thomas Vanacore from the Mosquito Control District of Bridport and Cornwall came in to explain about the Lemon Fair Mosquito Abatement Program. Tom explained that they have two crop dusters that have insurance to take care of spraying for the mosquitoes. The State will reimburse up to 100% for the larvacide. It costs roughly \$7 per acre for crop dusting and \$7.75 for the larvacide or a total of \$14.75 per acre. The Town may have to approve this with a vote. The Town would need to form a one-town district, publish warnings 15 days before a treatment. Once the Town finds larvae, State reviews and approves. It takes 5lbs of larvacide per acre and the planes usually carry 800lbs per load. Tom said they are trying to treat the main watersheds, not treating homes. Towns currently covered, Bridport, Cornwall, Leicester, Salisbury, Weybridge (waiting on vote), Whiting is another possibility. The Town needs to test for larvae and can use wetland survey landscape maps (ACRP has maps) which show the areas for consideration. John Turmell, a State entomologist is someone the Town could speak with about this. He explained about the different pesticides that could be used and suggested the primary spots would be the Lemon Fair and the Swamp. He advised the Board to get the larvacide permits. Steve MOVED that the Town get the application for the larvacide permit. Bob SECONDED. Motion carried.

Roads:

8. There have been problems with the town road due to the rainstorms. Jason said they have been ditching down on Quiet Valley Road. Walt said there is a problem with the culvert by Thurstons. Jason explained the watering was over the culverts and the road down below Moyer's/Porter's place. Board suggested he close the roads where needed.

Jason said they will need the excavator for another week and a half. They added a driveway culvert by Mrs. Barnard's house. In addition, 7 culverts were put in on Hemenway Hill Road, plus some ditching was done. Four culverts were added on Quiet Valley Road and some on Palmer Road. Jason will call G. Stone about the excavator rental. He said the RSMS road survey will begin on July 10th. He also had a meeting with Pike on Friday to go over paving need. Stop signs for Buttolph per last meeting have been ordered. Mowing still needs to be done on Richville and Depot. Next mowing will include with two passes. Jason also announced the Town did not receive a grant to fix Lake Street culvert.

Paul suggested that Jason make detailed notes on the roads when he is out tomorrow because there might be some emergency money available to fix this, plus take pictures. Asked if he could find people to help if he needs them.

9. Selectboard orders reviewed and signed.
10. Mary Jane explained about setting the schedule for setting the tax rate beginning at the last meeting in July.
11. Walt MOVED to go into Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. to discuss the Alexander issue. Steve SECONDED. Motion carried.
12. Bob MOVED to come out of Executive Session at 10:13 p.m. Walt SECONDED. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Bob MOVED to adjourn at 10:14 p.m. SECONDED by Walt. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,
Karen M. Shackett
Minute Taker

Signed: _____
Marthe Fisher, Secretary
Town of Shoreham Selectboard