

**Town of Benson**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**December 29, 2008**  
**Minutes\***  
**Approved as corrected 1/12/09**

**Present:** Selectboard: Lynn Bowen, Daniel Britton, Guy Charlton, Sue Jansen  
Public: Rachel Collett (select board secretary), Peter Jensen, Lois Trenn

Guy Charlton called meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**Approve Agenda:**

Agenda was amended to include Listers before Sewer Commissioners Meeting, and in Old Business Water Test Results.

**Listers:**

Lois Trenn handed out memos to the Board. Errors and Omissions was the first one to be reviewed and Lois explained. See memo on file.

Sue Janssen made a motion to correct the Grand List for parcel 10-91 to \$216,000.00. Daniel Britton seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Sue Janssen made a motion to instruct the Town Treasurer to refund ~~\$272.27~~ \$126.78 to Dennis and Loretta Clark. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Daniel Britton made a motion to correct the Grand List for parcel 10-122.1 to \$228,800.00. Sue Janssen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Daniel Britton made a motion to instruct the Town Treasurer to refund Gary and Joanne Gates ~~\$20.05~~ \$11.43. Sue Janssen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Board next reviewed the memo on the Shoreham Telephone and Lois explained.

Sue Janssen made a motion to authorize Guy Charlton to sign the memo allowing the Listers to have their own phone line. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

The Board reviewed the memo about the contract for Apex and Lois explained.

Sue Janssen made a motion to authorize the Listers to contract with APEX Sketch Maintenance for \$295.00 with funds from reappraisal. Daniel Britton seconded the motion and it was so voted.

**Sewer Commissioners:**

Lynn Bowen made a motion to recess the Select Board meeting and reconvene as the Sewer Commissioners. Daniel Britton seconded the motion and it was so voted.

The Board discussed raising the Sewer Fees by possibly \$25.00 and when it needed to be added to the bills. The reasoning behind the increase is to put aside money for any necessary sewer repairs or upgrades that may be needed. The Board also discussed the rates going up by 10% or 15%.

Sue Janssen made a motion to increase the annual sewer fees by 15% for 2009. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Sue Janssen moved to adjourn the Sewer Commissioners and reopen as the Select Board. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

**Public Comment:**

There was no Public Comment.

**Read Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Sue Janssen made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

**Pay Bills:**

Lynn Bowen made a motion to pay the bills. Daniel Britton seconded the motion and it was so voted.

**Road Foreman Report:**

\$10,000.00 worth of sand was just received. The Road Crew is out when they need to be but, to cut back on overtime they are not out all day every day. The Board discussed the cleaning of Perch Pond Road. The road is to be plowed only when a pick-up truck cannot do it and is to be sanded only on the 1<sup>st</sup> hill approaching 22A.

**Fire Department:**

There was no report.

**Old Business:**

The Board agreed by consensus to move the Budget to the last.

Water Filter Test Results:

Lynn did testing on the water at the Town Office, see on file. The water is okay right now. Lynn stated that she would call Water Guard as the Board agreed that there needs to be a ~~water filter~~ *UV light disinfection system*.

Act 250 Designation:

The signed copy cannot be found. Sue stated that she has been looking for it. Sue suggested reaffirming the decision today of the Act 250 Designation. The Signed copy needs to be posted in 5 places and published.

VLCT Notification—Reduction in Aid:

The Board discussed the memo from Trevor Lashua. See memo on file. The Board agreed that it is not in the Town's best interest to count on receiving the January payment from the State as all aid has been frozen.

**New Business:**

Certificate of Highway Mileage:

See copy of Certificate of Highway Mileage on file. The Board agreed by consensus to sign the certificate.

Fish and Game Request:

The Fish and Game requested the use of the slab by the Town Office for use on 1/31/09 and 2/1/09 for the Down Home Derby. This derby benefits the Youth League. The Board agreed by consensus to allow the Fish and Game to use the slab.

Appreciation for Stores Selling Dump Stickers:

The Board agreed by consensus to get \$50.00 gift certificates in appreciation of the stores selling the dump stickers.

**Correspondence:**

Letter from VT Land Trust read into the minutes. See on file. By consensus the Board agreed to send a letter to them.

Letter from State of VT Agency of Transportation read into the minutes. See on file. Letter was in reference to grant request for Salt and Sand Shed which was denied.

Letter from George D. Aiken Resources or Better Back Roads read into the minutes. See on file.

**Budget:**

The Board worked on the following Budget items for Projected Income for: State Highway Funds, Listers Income, Dogs, Current Use, Grand List Maintenance, Liquor Licenses and Rents. Also worked on was Projected Expenses for: Office Community Hall, Transfer Station, Town Officers, and Road Maintenance.

**Adjournment:**

Sue Janssen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27pm. Lynn Bowen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel S. Collett

\*Minutes posted on the web are abridged. Complete copies of all referenced documents are on file with the Minutes in the Town Office