

MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2008
WARREN SELECTBOARD
WARREN TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mac Rood, Chair, Kirstin Reilly, Barry Simpson, Burt Bauchner.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Bombard, Andrew Cunningham, Kinny Perot, Robert Ferris, Roni Donnenfeld, Alex MaClay, (TV44), Cindi Hartshorn-Jones.

7:00 PM – Meeting called to order by Mr. Rood.

7:01 PM – CARBON SHEDDERS – Roni Donnenfeld, Robert Ferris, Kinny Perot – The group is a Mad River based conservation and education group, dedicated to helping the Mad River Valley save money on energy costs, create a clean energy future for the community and reduce our collective energy usage and CO2 footprint by 10% by 2010 through our “10 by 10” initiative. Corporate sponsors include Yestermorrow Design and Build School, Seventh Generation, Do Your Part/ ICF International and Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. They would propose workshops and informational on line tools to educate the public and help households assess their footprints and show them where they can reduce energy costs. They presented to the Selectboard a petition with three items to be voted on at town meeting.

1. Shall the voters of the Town of Warren pass a non-binding resolution to reduce the aggregate energy usage and carbon emission of the residences, businesses, and institutions with the Town of Warren by 10% by the year 2010?
2. Shall the voters of the Town of Warren resolve to support the “10 by 10” carbon reduction initiative, as proposed by the Mad River Valley-based group Carbon Shredders, through active participation in the “10 by 10” program? This participation would include calculating current CO2 footprint and using tools made available for free by Carbon Shredders, and pledging a 10% reduction in energy-usage and CO2 emissions by 2010. This resolution would mandate participation by Town institutions and facilities.
3. Shall the voters of the Town of Warren approve an expenditure, not to exceed \$600.00, to support a local community-education program offered by the Mad River Valley-based group Carbon Shredders in partnership with the non-profit Yestermorrow Design and Building School, with the goal of getting the Town’s residents, businesses, and institutions to reduce their energy usage and carbon footprints by 10% by the year 2010. Said funds would be used to cover a portion of the operating expenses associated with workshops, educational material and public awareness and support programs, during the 2008 fiscal year, and would be paid via reimbursements by the Town, subject to Town approval of each expense.

Discussions took place regarding mandating Town institutions and facilities. Ms. Donnenfeld indicated that at Town Meeting that they would amend the article and delete that line. The group also indicated that they had been to the Towns of Fayston, Moretown, and Waitsfield with the same articles. Ms. Reilly indicated that some businesses had approached her and felt that this was a bit overwhelming. She recommended that the group promote the idea and also approach businesses with support for how to attain the goal of reducing 10% of their carbon emissions. The group stressed that this plan was promoting trying to change people's behaviors. The above three items will appear on the 2008 Town Meeting Warning.

OTHER BUSINESS:

7:50 PM – Gary Bombard – Lister Board Vacancy – Mr. Bombard came before the board to let the selectboard members know that Mr. Malboeuf is now a resident and voter of Florida and cannot continue to hold the elected office of lister. Mr. Malboeuf has notified the Lister Board Chair with a letter of his resignation in this position. Mr. Bombard indicated that Mr. Kenny Blair is running to fill the unfinished 3 year term of Mr. Malboeuf that expires in 2009. The lister board felt that Mr. Blair was a good candidate as he has experience in the Lister Office and has worked on appraisals before. The Lister board requested that the Selectboard appoint Mr. Blair in the interim to finish out the 3 year term.

Motion by Mr. Simpson to appoint Mr. Blair until town elections as lister contingent upon receipt of Mr. Malboeuf resignation, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 3-0 (Mr. Simpson, Mr. Rood & Ms. Reilly) Mr. Bauchner abstained from voting because the vacancy had not been advertised precluding the possibility of other citizens seeking the office. He further indicated that although he objected to the process he endorsed Mr. Blair.

7:57 PM – Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2008 – Motion by Mr. Simpson to approve the Minutes of January 22, 2008, second by Mr. Bauchner. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

7:58 PM – Wastewater 2008 Budget – Mr. Bauchner updated the board that the Waste Water Committee, composed of Richard Grossman, Marilyn Gaul, Cindi Jones, and Mr. Bauchner, had met Monday and looked at the budget and approved the 1.46% rate increase. Mr. Bauchner explained it was better to incrementally increase the budget year to year than have one big jump in user rates.

Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the wastewater budget, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:00 PM – Sullivan & Powers Engagement Letter for Town Audit – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to re-engage Sullivan and Powers as the town accountants to perform the town audit, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:02 PM – Underhill vs. Barker Settlement: The board reviewed the settlement agreement as presented by the DRB to the Warren Selectboard.. Motion by Mr. Simpson to approve in principal the settlement with the condition as stated by the DRB: “that the site plan be done by an engineer with the proper dimensions on a mylar for filing in the Warren Town Clerk’s office. Second by Mr. Bauchner. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:05 PM – Chez Henri Restaurant Liquor License – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the Chez Henri Liquor License, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:10 PM – Town Meeting Day Warning: The board then discussed the 2008 Town Meeting Warning. All 21 Articles were approved as per attached. All members would sign the warning on Wednesday.

8:30 PM – Petition for offices to be nominated and elected from the floor: - The petition was not received on time and did not have the required 5% of signatures. Discussion took place on the disadvantages and advantages of not voting by Australian ballot. The board agreed not to put this article at town meeting day.

Motion by Mr. Rood to include the petitioned article on the Town Meeting Day Warning, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 1-3. (For Mr. Rood. Against: Mr. Bauchner, Mr. Simpson, and Ms. Reilly).

Mr. Bauchner proposed the idea of petitioning the Vermont Legislature to make Town Meeting a legal holiday so that there would be more participation by voters that could not get out of work.

Motion by Mr. Rood to include an article on the Town Meeting Day Warning, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0. Article as follows:

Shall the Town of Warren urge the legislature to create town meeting day as an legal holiday in order to encourage and enable the broadest possible participation opportunity for people to participate?

Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the Town Meeting Day Warning with the revisions warned for Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:00 PM – BUDGET CONTINUATION – Mr. Bauchner suggested that since the county tax was increased from \$50,335 to \$82,995 due to a change in fiscal year, a one time, 17 month, time change starting from February 1, 2008-June 30, 2009, that the board request a payment of the difference from the tax stabilization charged to General Fund to help offset the 65% increase in that line item. The board also moved the \$20,000 Conservation Fund Allocation from the Capital Funds to an article to be voted at town meeting day. Ms. Jones also indicated that after discussion with Mr. Malboeuf that Town Planning and Development could be reduced from \$17,000 to \$12,000. Adjustments

made to capital accounts presented total capital allocations: \$399,500 and the general town budget at \$1,894,822.

10:00 PM – Discussions concerning planning for a generator in the future for the Town Garage Buildings. The board was presented an estimate from Collins Electric on a recommendation for this proposal. The quote consisted and conformed to the state rules and regulations for commercial buildings. Much discussion took place regarding that the town should look for alternative energy efficient ways such as wood chip burner, batteries, solar, wind etc. Mr. Bauchner indicated he was not opposed to the idea, but wanted justification on if it was really a necessary expenditure for what the actual power outages have been.

Motion by Mr. Simpson to approve \$7,600 to purchase a generator, second by Mr. Bauchner. All in Favor: VOTE: 2-2. (For Mr. Simpson, Mac Rood) (Against: Ms. Reilly and Mr. Bauchner).

10:25 PM – Chipper Discussion: Mr. Simpson reported that he had spoken to a few of the surrounding towns regarding a shared purchase of wood chipper. Mr. Simpson indicated that Waitsfield and Roxbury were not interested but Fayston was interested in the concept of a shared purchase. Mr. Simpson stated he had been talking with a few members of the Fayston Selectboard and would meet with them again to discuss how it would be shared, maintenance costs etc.

10:35 PM – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the operation budget of \$1,901,519, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

10:40 PM – Conservation Commission Interviews: Mr. Rood reported that Ms. Hamilton is resigning from the commission and that the Commission interviewed 3 good candidates: George Schenke, Kenny Blair, and Caitrin Noel. The Conservation Commission wanted to know 2 things: 1) Does the board want to meet the candidates and 2) Would the board increase the Commission from 5 people to 9? The Selectboard agreed that they would like to meet the 3 candidates and agreed to increase the Commission from 5 members to 9. Appointments would take place at the next scheduled Selectboard Meeting.

10:45 PM – Motion by Mr. Rood to go into executive session to discuss personnel and invite Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

11:10 PM – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to come out of executive session, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

11:15 PM – Motion by Mr. Bauchner that the Selectboard advise the town attorney, Mr. Cameron, that the Selectboard approved the final draft contract in principle; the three additional issues raised by union must be resolved. The Board further authorized that the signing bonus would be paid after the contract was ratified, signed, sealed and delivered to the town, second by Mr. Simpson. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

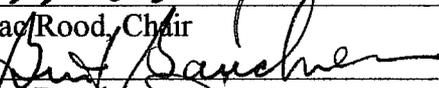
11:20 PM – Motion by Mr. Rood to Adjourn, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE:
4-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Hartshorn-Jones,
Warren Town Administrator

Warren Selectboard



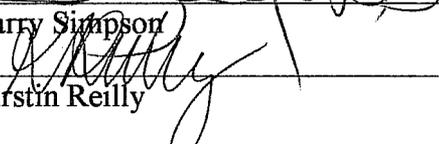
Mac Rood, Chair



Bart Bauchner



Barry Simpson



Kirstin Reilly

Erin Russell-Story