

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, January 28, 2008 meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Grierson at 6:03 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Scott Grierson, Selectmen Kathi Thurston, Chris Eaton, and Lester Closson, Town Manager Millard Billings, and Recoding Secretary Debbi Nickerson. Selectman Heath Higgins was absent.

Members of the public present were Heidi Farley – Tremont Rec Board, Mark Good – Islander, Dianne Waters – Tremont Consolidated School Principal, Amy Murphy – Tremont School Board Member, and Laurie Schrieber – Bar Harbor Times.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Kathi Thurston asked to have page 2 Item 3. Seal Cove Ramp first sentence changed from "Salesmen" to "Selectmen" and the second sentence changed from "hald" to "half".

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to accept the minutes of January 28th as amended. Motion passed 4 – 0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 91	6,495.32
Warrant 92	19,597.35
Warrant 93	1,424.21
Warrant 94	5,588.20
Warrant 95	8,275.00

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve Warrants 91 – 94. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Motion made by Chairman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to move to 6. New Business B. Seal Cove Ramp. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Town Manager Millard Billings explained the Town's Attorney, Chad Smith,

suggested the town issue a check for the 10% retainage and give it to his office to hold. When Joe Keeney sends him the written two year warranty and the waiver releasing the town for any liability to pay any unpaid sub-contractors, Mr. Smith will forward the check. The Selectmen agreed to this.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve Warrant 95. Motion passed 4 – 0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMUNITY CENTER LEASE

Principal Dianne Walters asked the Selectmen if the School could re-negotiate the lease. The current lease states that the School would pay \$5,000.00 per year and all the utilities for the Community Building, which includes the gym. Fuel oil and electricity have increased so substantial that she would like to re-negotiate the lease to reflect the fact that the town uses the gym at least as often as the School does and the Town should be contributing to the utilities. Chairman Scott Grierson explained \$5,000.00 was rent for the old Town Office space and the payment of the utilities was for the gym rent. The \$5,000.00 has been put into a reserve account to cover capital expenses. Principal Walters would like the Selectmen to contribute to the utilities because of the community use of the gym. The Selectmen agreed to investigate.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Nothing new

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. The past week Town Manager Billings attended a two day ICS 400 class for FEMA.
2. The Fudges' property they purchased from the Dow's is now for sale (see attached).
3. MMA suggested a better method to pay the Snow Plow Call Out Man would be for funds to come from the Winter Roads Budget rather than the Selectmen's account. The Town Manager has the authority to create and fill Public Works positions. MMA suggested the Selectmen rescind their decision to make a winter storm the equivalent of a Selectmen's Meeting, which would enable Town Manager Billings to create the Public Works position and hire whom ever he feels is qualified.

Motion made by Chairman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to rescind the position of "Winter Call-out Man" and at the same time rescind paying him or her as if it were a Selectmen's Meeting. Motion passed 3 – 0 – 1. Selectman Chris Eaton abstained; he was the Winter Call-out Man.

Town Manager Millard Billings immediately created a new Public Works position and called it "Overseer of Winter Roads in the absence of the Town Manager".

9. ANNUAL BUDGET

A. THIRD PARTY REQUESTS

Chairman Scott Grierson asked about the Washington Hancock Community Agency's request. In 2006 they requested \$783; in 2007 they requested \$1,846; now in 2008 (for FY 2009) they are requesting \$886. He pointed out their request has gone down and he is concerned they have made a mistake.

Chairman Scott Grierson asked Town Manager Millard Billings if any Third Party Requests have been received from new applicants. Town Manager Billings responded that there were no new applicants this year. The Selectmen sent the requests on to the Warrant Committee (see Third Party Requests attached).

B. BOARDS & COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The Selectmen sent the requests received in time for this meeting on to the Warrant Committee (see attached).

10. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Selectman Lester Closson stated he felt the Town should pay some of the utilities for the gym and Community Center. Selectman Kathi Thurston pointed out more than half of the building is used by the School. Town Manager Billings voiced his concern for changing the rent when School consolidation is in the works.

11. OTHER

Chairman Scott Grierson updated the Selectmen on the consolidation plan for MDI Schools. The Committee is doing a wait and see if the submitted plan will be accepted.

Town Manager Millard Billings has received a pamphlet for Tenant User Liability Insurance (see attached). As long as the Rec Board oversees the use of the Community Center it is considered town use and is covered by the existing policy. The DOT met with the Select Board several years ago. At that time DOT explained 102 stopped at the church in Seal Cove. The Town requested the State designate 102 as East and West. The State refused. The Town plows the snow, but the State maintains the complete length of the road though Tremont. If the State has changed that arrangement they have not notified the Town.

12. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

February 11, 2008 and February 25, 2008

13. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Chairman Scott Grierson, to adjourn. The motion passed 4 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Scott Grierson

Heath Higgins

Katharine Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson