

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2006  
WARREN SELECT BOARD  
WARREN TOWN HALL  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Brodeur, Barry Simpson, Chair, Mac Rood, Burt Bauchner.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steve Butcher

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Susan Simpson, Elaine Fuller, Jeff Fuller, Reta Goss, John Goss, Alex MaClay, Mary Gow, Louise Messner, Bob Messner, Cindi Jones.

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

**7:01 PUBLIC CANDIDATE FORUM** – Mr. Messner volunteered to moderate for this public forum. Ms. Elaine Fuller, Ms. Susan Simpson running for Town Treasurer, Ms. Mary Gow, running for Harwood Union Board as Warren's Representative, taking the place of Mr. Richard King, who is stepping down. Mr. Mac Rood and Barry Simpson re-running for their 2 and 3 year terms. Ms. Fuller and Ms. Simpson presented to the public their qualifications and expressed what they would like to see the job be. Ms. Gow presented her thoughts on what she could bring to the Harwood Board. She has children in school system, she would like see more communication with community, and would like to see a good quality education for our students. Mr. Rood is re-running for the 2 year term on the Select Board. Mr. Rood expressed his thoughts on continuing the work the current board is working on. He did express that the town is becoming more complex every year. One major challenge Mr. Rood would like to see is that the Select Board do a better job at organizing each other as a board, having better communication with other towns in the Valley working more effectively, understanding the goals of various community groups and with the other sub committees in the town. Mr. Rood indicated that the board is making progress in this area. Another key item that the board is looking into is changing fiscal year of the town which is currently January-January. By the time that Town Meeting is here, the town has been operating without an approved budget for three months. Another key issue is affordable housing in the Valley. Mr. Rood is on the sub committee for the Warren Affordable Housing looking at the current land purchased by the town by Kingsbury's bridge. He is also on the Mad River Steering Committee. Mr. Simpson expressed his key issues which were looking into changing the fiscal year, inter-municipal cooperation, affordable house are critical elements. Mr. Simpson expressed the growing problem of reduced liquid fuels, and corresponding increase in price over the next years.

He also expressed an interest in trying to retain young people here by having a Winter Recreation Management Academy at Harwood. This would have a portion of students enrolled focusing on all aspects of winter recreation, summer recreation. This program would be providing something for young people going through this program giving them a feeling that this is their home. He also expressed the inter-municipal communication as well.

**7:50 PM** – Capital Budget Public Hearing – Mr. Simpson presented an explanation of the Capital Budget. The only people present were the Select Board, and Ms. Jones. The Capital Budget is a way of which the town has a way of budgeting anticipated expenses: Highway Department Equipment, Fire Department Equipment, Town Reappraisal, Town Mapping, Conservation Fund, Bridge Repairs, Paving, Fire Protection/Stand Pipes, Library Building, Town Building Renovations, Town Improvements, Warren Wastewater System, Dam and Covered Bridge. It is a forecast of Future Transfers and a Forecast of Expenditures for a 5 year period.

Motion by Mr. Rood to adopt the Capital Budget as printed, seconded by Mr. Bauchner. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

**8:00 PM** – **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 31, 2006** – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the minutes of January 31, 2006, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. All in Favor: VOTE: 3-0. (Mr. Rood abstained as he was not present at the last Select Board Meeting).

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Motion by Mr. Rood to approve the Road Cut Application for Mad Gap as recommended by Mr. Butcher (Road Commissioner), seconded by Mr. Brodeur. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Rood to pay the course fee of \$30.00 for Mr. Bauchner to attend the Housing Strategies Conference on Feb. 23, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

The Select Board also signed board orders, a liquor license for Mac's Convenience Store, and the application for the Storm Water Grant.

A question was raised concerning the Mad River TV 44 budget concerning the town's share of \$2,000 that is included in the special appropriations. Ms. MaClay of Channel 44, responded to the questions raised by the board. The Valley Towns appropriations are listed as sponsors in the budget. The budget was presented as the one sent submitted to the Waitsfield Cable, under franchise negotiations as all cable subscribers pay a percentage of their bill for this coverage. From the budget presented, the question arises is the \$2,000 needed to fund Mad River TV 44 as this organization is financially healthy?

As the current budget approved by the board is already at the printer's changes could not be made. It would be up to the voters to question any of the special appropriations. It was suggested by Mr. Simpson, that each year TV 44 present an operating budget and an explanation on the services it provide.

**8:30 PM** – Motion by Mr. Rood to go into Executive Session regarding Personnel inviting Ms. Jones, seconded by Brodeur. All in Favor: 4-0.

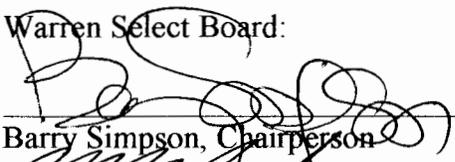
**8:45 PM** – Motion by Mr. Rood to come of out of Executive Session regarding personnel, seconded by Mr. Brodeur. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

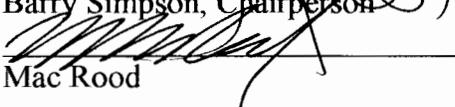
Motion by Mr. Rood to appoint Ms. Jones as interim Town Treasurer with the authority to appoint an assistant treasurer for the same period, until Town Meeting Day, seconded by Mr. Bauchner. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

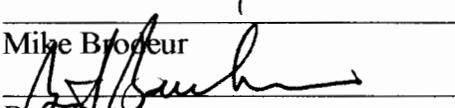
**9:00 PM** – Meeting Adjourned:

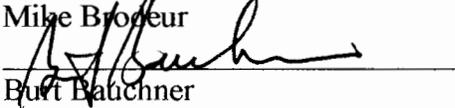
Respectfully Submitted by,  
Cindi Hartshorn-Jones, Warren Town Administrator

Warren Select Board:

  
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Barry Simpson, Chairperson

  
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Mac Rood

  
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Mike Brodeur

  
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Burt Bauchner

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Steve Butcher