

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN’S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2007**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Monday, September 10, 2007 Regular Selectmen’s Meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Grierson at 6:01 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Members of the public present were Steve Carter, Kellie Reed-Carter, Richard Quandt, Joe Keeney, Jim McKenna – Red Zone Wireless, Mel Atherton, David Schlaefer, Christopher Thornton – Hancock County Sheriff Office, George Urbanneck, Garry Blanchette, Mark Picurro, Laurie Schreiber – Bar Harbor Times, Mark Good – Islander, John Carney, Judy Cousins, and Robert Cousins.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTIONS OF AGENDA

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of 8/20/2007

Chairman Scott Grierson asked to have page 4 item 7. 1. “a lengthy discussion” added.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5 – 0.

B. Minutes of 8/27/2007

Selectman Kathi Thurston asked to have page 3 changed to “add a row of floats” instead of “widen the floats”.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5 – 0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 28	\$5,582.81
Warrant 29	6,723.60
Warrant 30	5,582.82
Warrant 31	50,123.84
Warrant 32	17,032.50

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve Warrants 28 – 32. Motion passed 5 – 0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF SEAL COVE RAMP PROPOSALS

On behalf of the Harbor Committee, David Schlaefer, Chairman of the Harbor Committee, asked the Selectmen to accept Joe Keeney Construction, Inc.'s bid for the Seal Cove Ramp (see attached).

Motion made by Chairman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to authorize Millard [Billings] to draft and sign the contract [with Joe Keeney Construction]. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to award the bid for the Seal Cove Ramp reconstruction project to Joe Keeney Construction; granite ramp with curbing for \$82,750.00. Motion passed 5 – 0.

B. WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Mark Picurro asked the Selectmen to get an explanation from Time Warner as to why the people on Cape Rd. were not hooked up to cable when the section was wired before in 1999. The same houses existed then that exist now.

Jim McKenna, with Red Zone Wireless, did a presentation of his product for the Selectmen. He then answered questions from those in attendance before he had to leave.

Mark Picurro suggested forming a committee to investigate internet access in Tremont.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to form an Exploratory Internet Access Committee. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to limit the Exploratory Internet Access Committee to five members. Motion passed 5 – 0. The Selectman agreed to limit the term to one year.

C. UPDATE NEW TOWN OFFICE

1. Still waiting to hear from Sign Services about the sign.
2. Still waiting for training on the generator.

D. END OF YEAR BALANCES AND CARRY FORWARDS

The Selectmen had questions on the carry forwards and decided to table them until next meeting.

E. APPOINTMENTS

None

7. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Maine Local Roads Center, Community Services Division of MDOT has announced the recipients of the 2007 "Roads Scholars". Tremont Public Works Employee Jimmy Schlaefer has received a "Roads Scholars" award, which has been mounted on the wall above the water cooler.

B. Attached is a letter from James Collier about the emergency legislation "An Act to Clarify the Authority of Boards and Committees".

- C. MDOT will be holding a Public Meeting in Bar Harbor Tuesday, September 19, 2007 at 7:00 pm in the Bar Harbor Town Office. A copy of the proposed plan is on the back wall of the meeting room (see attached). [This meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, at 7:00 pm in the Bar Harbor Town Office Meeting Room.]

Town Attorney Chad Smith arrived at 7:04 pm.

- D. Notice of FEMA approval of \$12,720.00 reimbursement for Patriots Day Storm damage and \$29,513.77 reimbursement for St. Patrick's Day Storm damage (see attached).
- E. Cost Estimate from Lane Construction to reclaim and put a 2 inch bituminous base on Flat Iron Rd. The \$39,990.00 appears to be within the Town's budget (see attached). Town Manager Millard Billings recommends doing the project this fall.
- F. Tremont has received \$2,010.00 dividend check from Maine Municipal as a result of its good loss experience (see attached).

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Nothing to report

B. ACCESS ROAD

Town Manager Billings suggested renting a John Deere 120 Excavator from Nortrax for \$3,900.00 a month to remove the stumps from the trees Jimmy is cutting down.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to lease an excavator for time needed – 1 month, 2 months – at Millard's discretion. Motion passed 5 – 0.

C. CABLE/INTERNET ACCESS

The Selectmen express concern Time Warner is not following the contract.

D. CAP'N NEMO'S AMUSEMENT PERMIT

After much discussion with Mr. and Mrs. Cousins, with input from Mr. and Mrs. Carter, the Selectman chose to amend the Cousins' Special Amusement Permit.

Town Attorney Chad Smith suggested, "After notice and hearings of all interested parties, the Board determined there was no incorrect statement on the application for the permit and there is no violation of the Special Amusement permit. However, with consent of the permit holder, the permit is amended to read that there shall be no live bands or karaoke after 11:00 pm on the evenings of Sunday through Thursday, and none after 12:00 pm on Friday."

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Heath Higgins, with consent of the permit holder, the permit is amended to read that there shall be no live bands or karaoke after 11:00 pm on the evenings of Sunday through Thursday, and none after 12:00 pm on Friday, except New Year's Eve, July 4th, St. Patrick's Day. Motion passed 5 – 0. Chairman Scott Grierson asked the Cousins if they agreed with these amendments to their Special Amusement Permit. Mr. Cousins replied, "I do and I'm actually relieved."

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Lester Closson, the allegations have led to [the Selectman] not finding any violations of the Special Amusement Permit at this time. Motion passed 4 – 1. Selectman Heath Higgins opposed.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to stop all public comments. Motion passed 5 – 0.

9. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Alewives, Committee Appointments

10. OTHER

Chairman Scott Grierson apologized for not making any School Consolidation Meetings. The next meeting is September 19, 2007.

Selectman Heath Higgins asked if the Fire Department could get the same discount on fuel oil as town employees. Town Manager Billings to check with Webber.

The truck purchased from the State will be getting new electric controls this week.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

October 1, 2007

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to adjourn. Motion passed 5 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Scott Grierson

Heath Higgins

Katharine Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson