

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2009
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The January 6, 2009 Regular Selectmen's Meeting was called to order by Chairman Charlie Dillon at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Members of the public present were Mark Good – Islander, Marilyn Moore – Tremont School Board Member/Tremont School Trustee, Rob Liebow – Superintendent Union 98, Interim Harbor Master David Schlaefter and Jim Keene – Tremont Volunteer Fire Department.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to hold 6. A. until Superintendent Rob Liebow arrives. Motion passed 5 - 0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After much discussion about corrections the Selectmen chose to table the minutes of December 22.

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to table the minutes of December 22, 2008. Motion passed 5 - 0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 68	5,669.01
Warrant 69	6,642.75
Warrant 70	7,305.74
Warrant 71	101,127.26
Warrant 72	2,062.79
Warrant 73	5,353.48
Warrant 74	7,124.00

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve Warrants 68 – 74. Motion passed 4 – 0 – 1. Selectman Chris Eaton abstained; he received a check on one of the Warrants.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. MOUNT DESERT REQUEST TO REVIEW MDI HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

In 1963 the legislature passed an act to allow a new High School on MDI.

In 1965 the Private and Special Act creating MDI High School was passed in each of the four towns on MDI.

In 2008 state mandated regionalization of schools; the funding formula was discussed but put on hold until after regionalization plans were approved.

On December 4, 2008 there was a meeting at MDI High School to discuss the funding formula.

On December 16, 2008 a letter was received by the Town Manager from Mount Desert Board of Selectmen asking the Town of Tremont to support a petition that would permit amending the Private and Special Act of 1963, Chapter 176, "To Create a Mount Desert Island Regional School District" (see attached).

Superintendent Rob Liebow explained the funding formula to the Selectmen (see attached).

School Board Member Marilyn Moore agreed with Superintendent Liebow that the funding formula was fair.

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to maintain status quo. Motion passed 5 - 0.

The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to send a letter to Mount Desert.

B. FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT

The Tremont Fire Department is requesting to use the Town's Federal ID number for grant applications.

Jim Keene explained the Fire Department is applying for grants from the State of Maine, which require a Federal ID number. The Fire Department is applying for grants to increase the water available to fight fires. The Fire Department will fund the projects, and then the Fire Department will be reimbursed for 50% of the costs. The State's contact person must have a Federal ID number; therefore the Fire Department is requesting the use of the Town's number as well as the contact person be Town Manager Millard Billings. All reimbursement checks would be issued to the Town. The Town would then issue a check to the Fire Department. The Selectmen agreed to let the Fire Department use the Federal ID number as long as the Fire Department keep the Selectmen informed what they were doing with the money. Town Manager Millard Billings asked how much money the grants would be for. Jim Keene assured him it would be 50% of \$4,500 (\$3,000 + \$1,500) from the State of Maine Forest Service. The Fire Department would cover the costs then ask the Town to reimburse them for any money received. Town Manager Millard Billings spoke with James Wadman, the Town's Auditor, who said there would be no problems with the Fire Department using the Town's Federal ID number.

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to authorize the Tremont Fire Department to use the Town of Tremont's Federal ID number for the grant applications we've discussed. Motion passed 5 - 0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. REPORT OF ONGOING PROJECTS

1. NEW TOWN OFFICE: Nothing new to report
2. FLAT IRON RD: Nothing new to report
3. SEAL COVE FISHWAY: Nothing new to report

B. REPORT OF PENDING PROJECTS

1. ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE: Nothing new to report
2. ACCESS RD: Nothing new to report
3. INTERNET EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE: Nothing new to report

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. John Goodwin Jr. has been delivering sand, mixing it with salt and stockpiling the salt/sand mix in the storage building. He has mixed 820 cubic yards of the first 1000 cubic yards of his contract.

B. Enclosed are prices for various portable welder/generators.

Town Manager Millard Billings spoke to an electrician about hooking the garage to the office generator. The electrician felt it would be more expensive to run the wires to the garage than to buy a portable generator. The Town was looking into purchasing a portable generator for welding, so it was decided to purchase one large enough to run the garage.

The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to check the fuel capacity of the Miller Bobcat® 250 and if it was compatible with the Bobcat® 225 get the Miller Bobcat® 250.

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to authorize Town Manager Millard Billings to purchase a welder/generator, not to exceed \$3,500. Motion passed 5 - 0.

C. David Kelley is current on the Wharf Garage rent.

D. January 5, 2009 Harbor Master David Schlaefer and Town Manager Millard Billings met with the Chiefs of Staff of the Congressional Delegation about the Bass Harbor Dredging Project. The Chiefs of Staff said they would help all they could in getting the funding for the project from the Economic Stimulus Package. Selectman Scott Grierson asked if there was a plan for follow-up. He felt once a week would be sufficient. Both Harbor Master Schlaefer and Town Manager Millard Billings agreed to maintain contact.

E. Harbor Master David Schlaefer asked to have Town Manager Millard Billings contact Frenchboro and Swan's Island about money for the use of the Town's facilities. He suggested mentioning how much will be spent to repair and maintain the floats at the Ferry Terminal.

F. Assessor/CEO Carl Young's first day was January 5th. He has requested to take off the first two weeks of February without pay. The Selectman agreed.

9. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Quarterlies, Emergency Management Ordinance

Selectman Scott Grierson asked to have the "Access Rd." left off the agenda until the opportunity is brought up again.

10. OTHER

Selectman Kathi Thurston suggested changing the time the meetings begin. The Selectmen agreed to starting them a 5:00 pm during the winter.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

January 19, 2009

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Scott Grierson, to adjourn. Motion passed 5 - 0. The Selectmen Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Charlie Dillon

Scott Grierson

Katharine Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson