

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
March 7, 2016

Selectboard Members Present: Bill Brooks, Gary Fredette, Rose Regula, Mark Tessier and Nelson Tift.

Others Present: Sandi Switzer, Dave Ballou and Jay White.

Town Administrator S. Switzer called the reorganizational Selectboard meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Wallingford Town Hall.

S. Switzer conducted nominations for board chair. R. Regula nominated Bill Brooks as chair. M. Tessier seconded the nomination. G. Fredette nominated N. Tift as chair. B. Brooks seconded the nomination. There was a brief discussion regarding the nominations. The board voted (4-0) to elect B. Brooks as chair. B. Brooks abstained from voting.

G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to nominate N. Tift as vice chair. Motion carried (4-0). N. Tift abstained from voting.

G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula designating the Rutland Herald as the official newspaper for the publication of legal notices; regular Selectboard meetings would be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall; and the use of Roberts Rules of Order and Consensus Decision-making at board meetings. Motion carried (5-0).

**Minutes.** M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the Minutes of the February 29, 2016 meeting. Motion carried (5-0).

**Selectboard Orders.** G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve pay orders totaling \$15,302.85 after \$1533.13 was added for town attorney fees. Motion carried (5-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker was not present.

**Agenda Amendments.** None.

**Vermont Community Foundation Fund.** Jay White requested the town enter into an agreement with Chipman Lodge #52 F&AM (Masons) to establish a scholarship fund through Vermont Community Foundation.

Mr. White provided an overview of the fund and the proposed agreement. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to sign the agreement. Motion carried (5-0).

**Public Comments.** Lister Dave Ballou reminded the board he would be out of town this summer when lister grievance hearings and Board of Civil Authority hearings were normally scheduled. He distributed documents outlining state statutes requiring all three listers to participate in hearings with a minimum of two listers present at hearings.

Mr. Ballou suggested a revised schedule with Abstract and Change of Assessments Notices being sent out by May 27 and lister grievances scheduled the week of June 13. He said he would be able to participate in hearings that week. After further discussion, N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the revised schedule. Motion carried (5-0).

Mr. Ballou suggested the board consider at some point in the future whether the town should eliminate lister positions in favor of professional assessors.

**Public Comments.** None

**Workshop Requests.** Mr. Ballou recommended the board reconsider the decision not to pay for Current Use and NEMRC workshops for the town's assessor, Lisa Wright Garcia.

After some discussion, G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to split the cost with West Rutland of Ms. Garcia's hourly wage to attend the workshops. Motion carried (5-0).

**Conflict of Interest Policy.** The board reviewed VLCT's boiler plate Conflict of Interest Policy. After some discussion, G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to adopt the policy. Motion carried (5-0).

**Annual Appointments.** On a motion made by N. Tift and seconded by G. Fredette all volunteers whose terms expired will be reappointed to their positions, along with Jeff Biasuzzi as zoning administrator, Dave Gilman as fire warden, Art Seward as deputy fire warden, M. Tessier and N. Tift as fire protection budget committee members and G. Fredette as scholarship committee member. Motion carried (5-0).

The board agreed Nathan Astin would not be reappointed to the Development Review Board after he expressed interest in resigning at the conclusion of Cumberland Farm hearings.

**Tennis Courts.** The board reviewed estimates from Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing, Advantage Tennis, and Wilson and Lawrence, Inc. to repair/rehabilitate the tennis courts and fencing. There was a discussion regarding whether the \$22,300 approved by voters at the annual floor meeting along with other available funds would be enough to do the work.

The board tabled the matter until the March 21 meeting and requested S. Switzer to invite Recreation Committee members to that meeting to discuss the estimates and options.

The board discussed the noticeable cracks that have resurfaced on the basketball court less than two years after being repaired. The board directed S. Switzer to contact the contractor, Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing, to find out what could be done.

**Town Hall Use Request.** The board considered a request by Nan Dubin to use the second floor of Town Hall for weekly Wednesday morning yoga sessions taught by someone from Chittenden, who charges \$10 per person. The board agreed by unanimous consent to request a suggested donation of \$1 per person since it was not a non-profit agency interested in using the space.

**Selectboard Concerns.** There was a brief discussion regarding the agreement between Fire District #1 and the Wallingford Fire Department noted in the Prudential Committee 02/24/16 meeting Minutes.

M. Tessier requested S. Switzer research the district's charters related to fire protection services.

**Other Business/Announcements.** The board approved S. Switzer's request to attend a free FEMA procurement workshop on April 27 and the TOEC gathering later the same date (fee of \$71) featuring Municipal Road General Permit and municipal composting workshops.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Date Approved: 03/21/16

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator