

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
August 6, 2018

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

Others present: Julie Sharon and Sandi Switzer.

Chair B. Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. at Town Hall.

Agenda Amendments. By consensus, the Board agreed to add setting the municipal tax rate.

Minutes. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 07/16/18 Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette approving pay orders totaling \$16,002.27. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. None.

Recreation Committee Report. None.

Homestead Late Filing Penalty. By consensus, the board authorized assessment of penalties as outlined by the State for late filings of Homestead Declaration. It was further agreed any grievances resulting from the penalty would be addressed by the Board on a case by case basis.

Municipal Tax Rate. The FY'19 budget current property taxes of \$797,121.84 plus \$2,079 for the Rutland Marketing Initiative approved by voters and the FY'18 net loss of \$2,835.43 resulted in an amount to be raised in taxes of \$797,121.84. The total would require a municipal tax rate of \$0.3508, an increase of 3.5 cents. The state calculates the education rate.

G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to set the municipal tax rate at \$0.3508. Motion carried (5-0).

Public Comments. None

Heating Oil Bids. The Board reviewed bids submitted by six heating oil contractors. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to accept Champlain Valley Heating's low bid of \$2.55/gallon. Motion carried (5-0).

G. Fredette asked the town administrator to check with Mill River Unified Union School District on heating oil quotes and see whether the contractor would extend the price per gallon to the Town.

Junk Complaint. By consensus, the Board directed the town administrator to issue municipal tickets to Ken Generess of Prospect Street for violation of the municipal ordinance regulating the outdoor storage of junk and junk vehicles.

Stone Meadow Use Request. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula approving Ryan Carr's request to allow 11 Green Mountain College students and 3 trip leaders to camp at Stone Meadow for one night on August 21. Motion carried, (5-0).

Elfin Lake Season Pass Request. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier approving a \$65 refund to Melissa Baker for an Elfin Lake season pass after her two daughters refused to return to the lake after witnessing two men strip out of wet clothes on the beach. Motion carried (3-2). N. Tift and R. Regula voted in the minority.

Tift Road Funding. By consensus, the Board approved Michel Lapointe of VT USDA-NRCS's recommendation to change eligibility determination to "not eligible" for USDA-NRCS funds to allow FEMA funds to kick in for the July 1, 2017 storm.

Other Business. The Board agreed vehicle stickers for the transfer station should not be included in this year's tax bills, but board members agreed stickers should be distributed to new property owners.

There was a brief discussion regarding the status of the Town's effort to sell the former Witham property on Route 103. The Board agreed to table the topic of hiring a realtor until the next meeting.

B. Brooks said he briefly spoke to the attorney for the Dennis Smith Estate regarding the Church Street property. The board chair said the attorney indicated all parties would be meeting later this month to hammer out an agreement in order to clean up the property.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator

Date Approved: 08/20/18