

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
September 21, 2015

Chairman Nelson Tift called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Wallingford Town Hall.

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

Others Present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Dave Ballou, Michael Hughes, and Sarah Green.

**Agenda Amendments.** Town Administrator Sandi Switzer indicated Ken Fredette requested the Act 46 agenda item be tabled until the next meeting. S. Switzer added a request by the state Department of Environmental Conservation to conduct soil tests at the ballfield to the agenda. N. Tift added Wallingford Volunteer Fire Chief Michael Hughes introduction to the agenda. By unanimous consent, the agenda amendments were approved.

**Minutes.** M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the Minutes of the September 7, 2015 meeting. Motion carried (5-0).

**Selectboard Orders.** B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette to approve pay orders totaling \$29,861.68 after \$832.50 was added for Lisa Wright Garcia's assessor invoice for work conducted August 19 – September 16, 2015. Motion carried (5-0).

**Fire Chief Introduction.** Wallingford Fire Chief Michael Hughes introduced himself to the board and provided details regarding his 40 years of fire service.

**Road Commissioner Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker was not in attendance.

Fire Chief Michael Hughes requested the town road crew's assistance digging up the dry hydrant at Weeks Pond on Heritage Hill. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula authorizing the road crew to assist with the dry hydrant project. Motion carried (5-0).

The board by unanimous consent agreed with Road Foreman Steve Lanfear's proposal to increase drainage on the pedestrian bridge by drilling a series of holes in trouble spots and adding copper piping to promote drainage.

B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette authorizing the town to purchase RSMS software at a cost of \$150 for the Network Inventory. Motion carried (5-0).

The board agreed John Squier would be directed to assist with the Network Inventory.

Sarah Green requested the board direct the road crew to clean-up roadside mowing debris near her Ice Bed road property. After some discussion, R. Regula made a motion seconded by G. Fredette authorizing the road crew to assist with clearing debris. Motion carried (5-0).

S. Switzer spoke by telephone to Road Commissioner Phil Baker, who indicated paving priorities included River Street, Elm Street and Circular Drive. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon confirmed \$47,106 was available for paving.

**Public Comments.** None.

**New Truck Loan.** By unanimous consent, the board approved the Heavy Equipment Borrowing Resolution authorizing the town to borrow \$118,625 with a 1.68% interest rate from Merchants Bank to purchase the 2016 Kenworth dump truck.

By unanimous consent, the board approved a retail seller's agreement from Green Mountain Kenworth for the following purchase; a 2016 Kenworth dump truck \$112,000; extended cab \$3100; 5-year warranties \$3540; Viking body and plow package \$52,800; administration fee \$285; and trade-in credit of \$13,000 for the Sterling trade-in.

**Tree Purchases.** G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by B. Brooks authorizing Tree Warden Steve Pytlik to purchase a red maple at a cost of \$54 to be planted near the 1818 red house on Main Street. Motion carried (5-0).

By unanimous consent, the board agreed the Conservation Commission had the authority to purchase trees for Stone Meadow as long as expenses were within the commission's budget.

**Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.** By unanimous consent, the board approved adoption of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and authorized N. Tift to sign the Certificate of Adoption.

**Board of Civil Authority Decisions Appealed to Superior Court.** N. Tift informed the board he attended Superior Court hearings earlier in the day related to three Board of Civil Authority decisions appealed to Superior Court.

N. Tift said the judge indicated the following deadlines in the Tom Truex and John Sease cases: November 1 to request discovery, December 1 to respond to discovery and a hearing in January. N. Tift said a hearing would be scheduled in November for the Harry and Frank Chapman case.

**Appointments/Resignations.** B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette accepting Ann Tiplady's resignation from the planning commission with regret. Motion carried (5-0).

N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier appointing Erika Berner to the planning commission for a term to expire in 2018, as the representative to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and the Rutland Regional Transportation Council for one-year terms, and appointing Gary Fredette as alternate to the RRTC. Motion carried (4-0). G. Fredette abstained.

**Workshop Request.** By unanimous consent, the board authorized Zoning Administrator and planning commission member Jeff Biasuzzi and Town Administrator Sandi Switzer to attend a grant-writing workshop sponsored by Stafford Technical Center in Rutland in February of 2016 at a cost of \$254.

The board tabled Mr. Biasuzzi's request to attend a zoning forum in Montpelier in October.

**Town Hall Recommendations.** The board authorized S. Switzer to contact electrician Glenn Eno to inspect a wire above the door leading to the basement in front of Town Hall in response to VLCT's Wade Masure's recommendations following a survey of the structure.

S. Switzer said some of Mr. Masure's findings were already addressed. Plumber Bill Lohsen agreed to address rust on the boiler in response to another finding.

The board directed S. Switzer to contact Mr. Masure to inquire whether the findings were recommendations or requirements.

**Other Business/Announcements.** By unanimous consent, the board approved a request by the state Department of Environmental Conservation for soil testing at the ballfield off Meadow Street and authorized N. Tift to sign the consent form.

**Executive Session:** N. Tift made a motion to enter executive session at 8:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Superior Court civil matters. The motion was seconded by M. Tessier. Motion carried (5-0).

G. Fredette made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:47 p.m. that was seconded by M. Tessier. Motion carried (5-0).

B. Brooks made a motion to hire attorney Gary Kupferer to advise the town on the Tom Truex and Sease/Tiplady appeals of Board of Civil Authority decisions to Superior Court. The motion was seconded by G. Fredette. Motion carried (5-0).

B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift directing assessor Lisa Wright Garcia to handle the Frank and Harry Chapman appeal of a Board of Civil Authority decision to Superior Court and authorized Ms. Garcia to consult with former assessor John Tiffany for up to an hour. Motion carried (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Date Approved: 10/05/15

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator