

# Wallingford Selectboard Minutes\*

**\*These are unofficial Minutes subject to the approval at the next regular meeting.**

January 21, 2014

Select Board Present: Bill Brooks, Gary Fredette, and Nelson Tift

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer and Jay Kenlan.

Chair B. Brooks called the regular Selectboard meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

**Minutes.** The January 6th meeting minutes were approved on a motion made by N. Tift and seconded by G. Fredette. Motion carried (3-0).

**Selectboard Orders.** N. Tift made a motion to approve the pay orders totaling \$19,227.35, which included the additions of \$84 to Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District for saplings and \$238.81 to Vermont Dept. of Taxes for NEMRC/CAMA fees; motion seconded by G. Fredette. Motion carried (3-0).

**FY '15 Budget.** G. Fredette indicated the proposed FY'15 municipal budget was nearly level-funded and he suggested it may be fiscally responsible to add more money to the highway budget for gravel. He said federal Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) was 1.5% and the FY'15 budget was below that figure. G. Fredette explained increasing the gravel budget by \$15,000 to \$75,000 would bring expenditures within the COLA range.

Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon said the municipal tax rate would be .2904 without the additional \$15,000 for gravel and .2967 with the added \$15,000. G. Fredette made a motion to increase the gravel budget by \$15,000; N. Tift seconded the motion. The motion carried (3-0).

B. Brooks said the FY '15 budget of \$1,016,983.82 would require \$702,120.60 to be raised in taxes, which is a 1.6% increase.

N. Tift made a motion to approve the budget; G. Fredette seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**Warning.** Moderator Jay Kenlan was present to review the Town Warning. He asked where the annual meeting would be held this year. S. Switzer indicated it would be at Town Hall since it was at the Wallingford Elementary School last year.

B. Brooks said the board would ask residents if they preferred to hold the annual meeting at Town Hall every year rather than switch locations.

G. Fredette made a motion to approve the Warning; N. Tift seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**Public Comments.** There were none.

**VTrans Highway Mileage Certificate.** B. Brooks made a motion to sign and submit the VTrans Highway Mileage Certificate with the Doty Trail decrease adjustment of .75 miles; N. Tift seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**Bridges and Roads Standards.** B. Brooks made a motion to sign the Bridges and Roads Standards adopted by the board in March of 2013; G. Fredette seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**Taped Meeting Policy.** The digital recorder used by municipal boards, committees and groups does not have enough memory for six months of meetings as required by the town policy. The recordings would have to be copied to another source in order to keep on file for six months. G. Fredette made a motion to revise the Taped Meeting policy to maintain recordings for 90 days; N. Tift seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**CAMA Agreement.** G. Fredette made a motion to sign the Vermont Department of Taxes agreement giving the town use of NEMRC/CAMA services through June 20, 2014 for a sum of \$238.81; B. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).

**Other Announcements/Business.** The board discussed Bill Lohsen's concerns regarding the maintenance and upkeep of Route 140W. G. Fredette said he talked to Charlie Woods about Mr. Lohsen's concerns.

As for winter road maintenance, B. Brooks said the board was leaving it up to Road Commissioner Phil Baker to determine how often John Squier would be needed to assist the road crew.

VLCT requested input on legislation that would delete Title 19 section 958 for Select Boards to lay out rights-of-way over a private property owner's land for lumber removal. The board took no action.

In response to an inquiry from Ruth Bailey regarding the brook behind her School Street property, the board directed S. Switzer to write a letter to the state Agency of Natural Resources sharing Ms. Bailey's concerns the brook should be cleaned out and deepened to reduce impact on her land.

The board directed S. Switzer to contact Health Officer Trisha Nash to find out if the brook had created any sewer issues at the Hugo Bailey property adjacent to the Ruth Bailey property.

B. Brooks said he had not heard the Town Hall clock chimes ring for a couple of weeks. He directed S. Switzer to ask clock repairman Alan Grace to look at the clock to see what can be done.

The board expressed interest in possibly applying for a VLCT 2014 PACIF Equipment Grant to purchase traffic safety equipment.

B. Brooks directed S. Switzer to contact Rutland Regional Planning Commission to emphasize Route 140 from Wallingford to Mt. Holly should be moved higher on the district's priority paving list.

Summer Recreation Director Tara Cancio-Bella has decided not to return to the position for 2014. The board agreed to advertise the position on the website, Front Porch Forum and in the town and school newsletters.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Date Approved: 02/03/14

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator