

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
January 9, 2017

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

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer and Erika Berner.

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

Agenda Amendments. S. Switzer added Tax Sales.

Public Comments. None.

FY'18 Administration. The board discussed possible salary increases for full and part-time employees.

G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to budget 2 percent raises for all employees with the exception of the zoning administrator. Motion carried (5-0).

There was a discussion regarding Zoning Administrator Jeff Biasuzzi's request for an hourly rate increase of \$2.19 an hour (from \$16.81 to \$19/hour) to bring the rate more in line with other communities. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to budget an hourly pay rate of \$19 per hour for the zoning administrator. Motion carried (5-0).

The board by unanimous consent approved the zoning administrator's request to increase line #5004A, zoning expenses, by \$100 to \$400.

There was a discussion regarding the purchase of a laser printer for the lister office. B. Brooks requested the assessor check with the Selectboard prior to making the purchase.

By unanimous consent, the board level funded the fire warden, road commissioner, auditor and Selectboard stipends as well as the delinquent tax collector salary. The board increased road crew overtime by 2 percent, level funded the lister budget as requested by assessor Lisa Wright, and reduced Reappraisal Fund line #5002D to zero.

FY'18 Insurance. The board reviewed a worksheet of all insurance expenditures with fixed numbers for the first six months of the next fiscal year and estimates of the last six months. By unanimous consent, the board set the FY'18 insurance figure at \$112,600.

FY'18 Revenue. N. Tift advised the board to level fund ordinance fines at \$12,000 and the board agreed. Board members by unanimous consent level funded office rent at \$4000, zoning permit revenue at \$4000, and scrap metal at \$1000.

In other budget items, the Selectboard agreed to leave #5307 grader repairs at \$3500 and move \$2500 from #5332 Special Projects to #5327 Traffic Control Devices for the flashing radar speed sign.

Town Administrator Sandi Switzer noted Randall Dapron from Casella informed her of a \$2 per ton rate increase for solid waste being passed on from the Rutland County Solid Waste District. The board by unanimous consent increased line #5150 Transfer Station Expenses by \$1000.

The board discussed whether to reduce line #5314 Hired Equipment for roadside mowing since only 40 of the 60 hours budgeted in FY'17 was used. The board by unanimous consent agreed to level fund it at \$7000. Board members agreed the road crew should utilize multiple employees to operate the mower so the full 60 hours could be utilized.

Selectboard Comments. N. Tift noted he would not be available to attend the fire protection budget on Thursday at the Fire District #1 office.

Other Business. G. Fredette noted there were a lot of vehicles at the Ferris O'Connell residence on Route 103. S. Switzer responded she had requested the constable verify how many vehicles were registered.

S. Switzer informed the board of the January 11 tax sales at Town Hall. B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift authorizing R. Regula to represent the town at the tax sales and bid on the Route 103 Witham property if there were no other bidders. Motion carried (5-0).

The board discussed Jeff Biasuzzi's request to budget \$1960 for planning commission stipends and \$160 for development review board stipends. Board members expressed concerns it would set a precedent for members of all municipal groups to receive stipends. The board agreed to offer 20-punch transfer station cards to planning commissioners and DRB members. Board members agreed to revisit the matter in the future.

Planning Commission Chair Erika Berner (who was in a meeting in another office) was invited to provide the board with an update regarding amending the South Wallingford industrial zone. She informed the board Rutland Regional Planning Commission's Ed Bove had advised a South Wallingford resident to send a written request to the commission outlining what they would like changed in the zoning supported by reasons for the change. She added the planning commission would then act upon the request and forward any action to the Selectboard for review and further action.

Ms. Berner said the planning commission was updating the Town Plan and then would revisit zoning regulations to make any adjustments necessary to align zoning with the revised plan. She said industrial zone updates could be made at that time.

B. Brooks commented the industrial zone was incorrectly changed when all the Omya property was erroneously included in the industrial zone.

The board discussed the likelihood of a new industrial operation being initiated in the South Wallingford district prior to the area being re-zoned. B. Brooks requested Ms. Berner forward the town administrator copies of emails from Ed Bove to the South Wallingford resident outlining the steps necessary to request zoning be amended. Ms. Berner agreed to forward the documents.

S. Switzer notified the board Rutland County Solid Waste District rescinded its request to place an Article on the Town Meeting ballot with a one vote per town charter change.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Date Approved:

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator