

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
January 20, 2015

Selectboard Present: Nelson Tift, Gary Fredette, Tom Phillips, Rose Regula and Mark Tessier

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer and Jay Kenlan

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

Agenda Amendments: Added to agenda Earth Waste interest in privatizing transfer station operations.

Minutes. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to approve the minutes of the January 5th meeting. Motion carried (5-0).

Selectboard Orders. G. Fredette made a motion to approve pay orders totaling \$34,535.82; R. Regula seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

FY'16 Warning. Town Moderator Jay Kenlan suggested revising the language in Article IV related to the expenditure budget.

G. Fredette made a motion to approve the revised language for Article IV; N. Tift seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

Town Administrator Sandi Switzer revised the Warning and provided an updated copy to Mr. Kenlan, who approved it as written.

The board approved the FY'16 Warning by consensus.

Road Commissioner Report. None

Public Comment. None

FY'16 Budget. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon reported the proposed budget was up 2.9 percent. She noted the amount to be raised in taxes would be lower due to increased revenues.

J. Sharon estimated the municipal tax rate would be .2922 compared to the current tax rate of .2944 based on last year's grand list.

The board reviewed budget line items increased in the proposed spending plan, including insurance, public safety, and the reappraisal fund.

M. Tessier made a motion to approve the FY'16 budget of \$1,046,759.44; R. Regula seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

Quarterly Financials. J. Sharon outlined several revenue line items that were higher than anticipated six months into the FY'15 budget, including ordinance fines, transfer station fees, scrap metal fees, copy fees, and delinquent property tax revenue.

J. Sharon noted on the expenditure side that culverts were over-budget. She said there was plenty left in salt and gravel budgets.

J. Sharon said she would be putting funds from an insurance claim for recreation area vandalism into a certificate of deposit.

Town Attorney. The board reviewed hourly rates submitted by three attorneys. J. Sharon recommended hiring Gary Kupferer, who she said had worked for the town in the past.

G. Fredette made a motion to hire Gary Kupferer as the town attorney; M. Tessier seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

Certificate of Highway Miles. The board approved by unanimous consent the state Certificate of Highway Miles without changes.

S. Switzer asked whether there were any special weight limits on highways or bridges to report. Board members confirmed the town does not have any special weight limits.

Cell Tower Proposal for Clock Tower. The board agreed to invite AT&T representative Eric Kallio and Preservation Trust officials to the February 2 meeting to discuss a proposal to install six new antennas in the clock tower.

The board directed S. Switzer to request AT&T provide the town with drawings of the proposal as well as photographs of similar projects.

Auditors Resignations. G. Fredette made a motion seconded by T. Phillips to accept with regret Joan Tift and Eileen Tessier's resignations from auditor posts due to spouses on the Selectboard. Motion approved (5-0).

Other Business/Announcements. The board directed S. Switzer to attend the VLCT workshop in April related to Municipal Construction contracts.

No members expressed interest in attending VLCT's Solid Waste Act 148 workshop.

The board discussed Earth Waste's interest in offering the town a proposal for privatizing the transfer station. Board members indicated the town had contracts with Casella Waste Systems for Zero Sort recycling and to lease a trash compactor. They agreed not to move forward with discussions to privatize transfer station operations.

N. Tift noted the town had booked a roadside mower from Fairfield for the first week of September since there were no weeks available in July and August.

No board members expressed interest in attending Government Day in Montpelier on February 18 or the PACIF Workstrong webinar on January 21.

M. Tessier made a motion seconded by T. Phillips directing S. Switzer to send a letter to Casella Construction regarding compensation for a damaged culvert on Deerfield Drive. Motion carried (5-0).

There was some discussion regarding the purchase of compost bins for resale to townspeople. The board agreed to revisit the matter in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator

Dated Approved: 02/16/15