

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
July 1, 2019

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, John McLallen, Patricia Pranger, and Nelson Tift. Rose Regula did not attend.

Others present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer, Connie Berger, Lynn Edmunds, Steve Berger, Trudy Dias, Gail Fallar, Keith Whitcomb, Phil Baker and Steve Lanfear.

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

**Agenda Amendments.** Add Wendy Savery's Building Use Request.

**Minutes.** B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to approve the 06/17/19 Minutes. Motion carried (4-0).

**Pay Orders.** J. McLallen made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne approving the pay order total of \$22,966.95.

B. Duchesne asked about the numerous Wallingford Day expenses. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said donations covered all expenses.

The motion carried (4-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker said a roadside mower rental through H. P. Fairfield would cost \$3200 for one week. He said his charge for a roadside mower with operator was \$75/hour.

B. Duchesne questioned the high rental rate with H.P. Fairfield's averaging \$80/hour plus labor for 40 hours as well as Mr. Baker's \$75/hour rate. Mr. Baker said his rate was for equipment and operator.

N. Tift asked Gail Fallar what the Town of Tinmouth did for roadside mowing. She responded the Town hired Hollis Squier at a rate of \$65/hour.

J. McLallen said the Town should adopt a 10-year roadside mowing program to catch up on all over-grown areas. N. Tift noted the Town could no longer level-fund expenses every year and needed to spend money to address concerns.

After further discussion, N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger approving H. P. Fairfield's rental agreement of \$3200 for one week. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Baker said he met with state Agency of Natural Resources Josh Carvajal at Van Wyck Bridge to review repairs as outlined by FEMA following the July 1, 2017 storm. He said Mr. Carvajal intended to submit a plan to FEMA and the Army Corps of Engineers for

review and approval. Mr. Baker added the Town could re-deck the bridge at the same time. S. Switzer questioned procurement procedures as no contractors submitted bids for the bridge work. She recommended seeking FEMA approval if the Board opted to hire Phil Baker and Sons for the project.

Mr. Baker asked whether the Town should pay to replace a vehicle windshield after a resident claimed a rock from a municipal truck caused damage. After some discussion, the Board agreed by consensus there was no proof the Town was responsible for the damage and the Board did not want to set a precedent.

There was a discussion regarding a plan to address drainage issues on Nash Drive impacting Trudy Dias' property. It was agreed the Town would re-pitch and pave a portion of the road so water flows into a culvert. The work would take place when Pike Industries was in Town paving other roads.

Mr. Baker said he had fielded a number of complaints regarding Seward Hill Road. He said the road crew would tear up a section of old pavement, regrade it and then have Pike Industries pave a new apron.

Ms. Dias asked if the Town would replace the surepak lost in her driveway as a result of drainage issues. The Board agreed. Ms. Dias thanked the road crew.

Mr. Baker said drainage was an issue on Meacham Street. He said ditch work was needed. Road Foreman Steve Lanfear said storm drains needed to be cleaned. Mr. Baker said the Town may need to hire A1 Sewer Drain Cleaning Service to inspect the drains.

N. Tift indicated the Town received a complaint from Eric Davenport regarding overgrown trees on East Street. Mr. Baker agreed to check into it.

**Wallingford Block Agreement.** The Board reviewed the revised agreement between the Town and VMS Construction as part of the Municipal Planning Grant. The agreement was drafted by Michelle Kenny and reviewed by Town Attorney Gary Kupferer. Mr. Kupferer had questioned the Scope of Work, but otherwise approved the agreement. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger authorizing N. Tift to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town. Motion carried (4-0).

**Public Comments.** None.

**Stormwater Master Plan.** This matter was tabled until the next meeting to give the road commissioner and road foreman more time to visit some of the sites.

**Amended Parking Ordinance.** P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to amend the Parking Ordinance to include language prohibiting parking by the sidewalk in front of Cumberland Farms on Route 7 in the village. Motion carried (4-0).

**Rotary Coin Drop.** P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve Wallingford Rotary's coin drop on Saturday, July 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Motion carried (3-1). J. McLallen voted in the minority.

**Town Hall Building Use Request.** J. McLallen made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger approving the use of Town Hall as a venue in case of rain on July 20 for Wallingford Day music events. Motion carried (4-0).

J. McLallen made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne approving Wendy Savery of Gilbert Hart Library's request for a youth theatre event at Town Hall on Friday, August 2 from 5:00 p.m to 9:30 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

**Town Hall Cleaning.** P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to hire Fawn Davenport to clean Town Hall on a bi-weekly bases for \$50 per cleaning and to clean the town garage bathroom once a month for \$10 per cleaning. Motion carried (4-0).

**Tinmouth Selectboard Letter.** Gail Fallar said she was not at the meeting in any official capacity, but she said she wanted to meet with the Selectboard to discuss a process for resolving the town line matter involving the Stan Taylor property as well as other properties.

N. Tift said former Wallingford Town Clerk and Treasurer Joyce Barbieri had conducted extensive research on the matter and located deeds dating back to 1793 showing the Taylor farmhouse and portions of the property were in Wallingford. He said board members were willing to meet with their Tinmouth counterparts and Ms. Barbieri at Wallingford Town Hall where deeds and other documents were readily available.

Ms. Fallar said Wallingford Assessor Lisa Wright contacted her in 2017 and wanted to align the grand list with property maps. She said both towns agreed the Taylor house would be moved to the Tinmouth grand list through the errors and omissions process. She said other properties were impacted and not just the Taylor house. Ms. Fallar said the Wallingford Selectboard's recent decision to reverse the errors and omissions process would result in the Taylors receiving two tax bills for the house. She said the Tinmouth Selectboard wrote a letter requesting the Wallingford Selectboard leave the town line as agreed upon in 2017 and decide on a process moving forward to establish the town line.

She said property maps used the best information available and showed the Taylor house in Tinmouth. J. McLallen said property maps featured disclaimers indicating the documents were not surveys. N. Tift said property maps had a margin for errors. He added there were three new members of the Selectboard since the 2017 decision.

B. Duchesne said the Town had deeds in the vault indicating the house was in Wallingford. N. Tift suggested the two towns split the cost of a survey. Ms. Fallar distributed copies of state 24 V.S.A. Section 1461 outlining a process for determining a town line.

S. Switzer asked about Middletown Springs receiving state budget funds a number of years ago to establish the town line and whether Tinmouth and Wallingford could do the same. Ms. Fallar said Tinmouth was part of that process sharing a border with Middletown Springs. She said the legislature budgeted \$30,000 for the town line survey.

N. Tift emphasized any meetings between the two towns take place at Wallingford Town Hall when Ms. Barbieri was available.

After further discussion, B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to table the matter until a meeting could be scheduled with Ms. Barbieri. Motion carried (4-0).

**Wallingford Day.** The board by consensus agreed with a request to park a town dump truck on Meadow Street for four hours as part of Wallingford Day celebration as long as a road crew member volunteered the time. The board further agreed to authorize use of highway department traffic cones for the event.

**Selectboard Comments.** None.

**Other Business.** Board members by consensus authorized sending a letter to former Delinquent Tax Collector Lee Perry requesting an explanation for the \$3607.95 balance in a bank account.

There was a discussion regarding the road crew moving to a four 10-hour day work week. B. Duchesne suggested employees stagger the days off to ensure coverage five days a week. N. Tift responded the Town went to a three-members road crew to ensure all three would work together.

Board members reviewed a VLCT attorney letter sent to the state regarding the deputy fire warden. No action was taken.

By consensus the board agreed employee evaluations at the July 15 meeting would begin at 5:00 p.m. with the zoning administrator.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.  
Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

Date Approved: