

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
September 6, 2016

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

Others Present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Jeff Biasuzzi, Rob Aines, and Kathi Aines

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

Agenda Amendments. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer added a coin drop request by Gary Wells on behalf of the Wallingford Fire Department.

Minutes. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the Minutes of the Selectboard meeting on August 15, 2016. Motion carried (4-0).

Pay Orders. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 09/07/16 pay orders totaling \$69,861.82. Motion carried (4-0).

B. Brooks suggested the town consider adding the West Hill and Route 103 cemeteries to the annual mowing contract.

Highland Beach Association Water Drainage Concern. The board reviewed a memo and photographs from Brian Plumer detailing the Highland Beach Association's concern regarding water draining from Route 140W resulting in silt and sand issues on the group's tennis court.

Road Commissioner Phil Baker offered to meet with Mr. Plumer to discuss the matter further.

Road Commissioner's Report. Mr. Baker said Pike Industries would begin paving Church Street on September 8 and then pave High Street and a portion of Nash Drive. He questioned whether Pike should pave the corner past the railroad tracks on Homerstone Road or wait until the state repairs the crossing. After some discussion, Mr. Baker said the road crew could apply some cold patch for temporary repairs.

B. Brooks noted Road Foreman Steve Lanfear indicated the town could use a portion of the gravel budget for paving projects. G. Fredette said some of the gravel budget may be used to offset the cost of the Earl Wade Road culvert replacement project.

Mr. Baker informed the board the state Agency of Natural Resources conducted a site visit to Earl Wade Road and agreed the length of the new culvert could be reduced from 40 to 30 feet and the height and width could also be reduced. Mr. Baker said this would save the town about \$2000.

There was a discussion regarding John Shaw's request to install No Parking signs on Sugar Hill Road near a pull off often used by hikers accessing the Long Trail. After some discussion, the matter was tabled until Mr. Shaw could provide more details regarding his request.

The board discussed numerous complaints regarding roadside mowing on East Street, Hartsboro Road, Earl Wade Road, and High Street. It was noted John Squier was repairing the town's mower.

Public Comments. Robert and Kathi Aines were in attendance to address an odor complaint emanating from an adjacent property on Sugar Hill Road. Mrs. Aines said the odor was a combination of garbage, animal manure and burning trash.

Mr. Aines said the garbage was attracting wildlife and the entire area smelled like mold when it rains. He said they could not enjoy the outdoor use of their property due to the odors.

Zoning Administrator Jeff Biasuzzi said he notified John Wakefield of the state Air Quality Division. He provided the board with Mr. Wakefield's email response. Mr. Biasuzzi said local zoning regulations and ordinances do not address odors or animal waste. He added opening burning without a permit was prohibited.

After extensive discussion, it was agreed Mr. Biasuzzi would arrange a site visit with the town's health officer to the property in question.

Gary Wells requested permission on behalf of the Wallingford Volunteer Fire Department to operate a coin drop on Saturday, October 8 near St. Patrick's Catholic Church on North Main Street. N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette to approve the coin drop request. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Biasuzzi requested permission to attend Vermont Municipal Day in Montpelier on Friday, September 9 with the cost split between the four towns he serves. He estimated Wallingford's portion would be \$60. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by B. Brooks to approve Mr. Biasuzzi's request. Motion carried (4-0).

Veteran's Exemption Request. The board reviewed a recommendation by assessor Lisa Wright Garcia to grant the Veteran's tax exemption to Jim Marquis that was approved by the Office of Veterans Affairs on May 26. The exemption would reduce the Marquis property assessment by \$40,000. B. Brooks made a motion that was seconded by G. Fredette to approve the assessor's recommendation. Motion carried (4-0).

Selectboard Comments. None.

Other Business. N. Tift noted he provided a key to Rutland County Sheriff deputy Jessica Ryan-LeBlanc for the Elfin Lake gate to monitor lake activity now that the beach has closed for the season.

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to have Town Administrator attend the annual VLCT Town Fair on Thursday, October 6. Motion carried (4-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Date Approved: 09/19/16

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator