

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
October 6, 2014

Select Board Members Present: Nelson Tift, Gary Fredette, Tom Phillips, Rose Regula and Mark Tessier

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Steve Lanfear, Erin Mansfield, Mark Pramuk, Lisa Marchinkoski, Keith Shelvey, Dick Trono, Greg McKirryher, and Gretchen Gregory

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

Agenda Amendments. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer added planning commission appointment and zoning violation notice costs to the agenda. The agenda amendments were approved by unanimous consent

Minutes. The September 22 meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent on a motion made by M. Tessier and seconded by R. Regula.

Selectboard Orders. M. Tessier moved to approve pay orders totaling \$84,706.33 after \$8,454.86 was added to pay attorney Kevin O'Toole for tax sale expenses; R. Regula seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner's Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said a road project on Hillside Drive was completed. He said he had not heard from Fuller Sand and Gravel regarding a schedule to pave a section of Hartsboro Road.

Mr. Baker and Road Foreman Steve Lanfear reviewed the recall notice for the Kenworth. Mr. Lanfear said the recall work should be coordinated with annual warranty service on the vehicle.

The board reviewed copies of Derby and Waitsfield winter road maintenance policies. After some discussion, the board agreed winter road maintenance should be left to the discretion of the road crew.

Mr. Baker agreed John Squier should be called upon more often to help with snow plowing to reduce the long hours for the road crew.

Public Comments. Mark Pramuk questioned what was being done to address the vandalism issues in town over the past few months. He said he had spent hours repairing the vandalism of the kayak/canoe launch only to have vandals strike again.

He urged the town to replace signs marked with graffiti and he offered to paint the building at the recreation field if someone donated the paint.

T. Phillips responded the constable and sheriff's department were investigating the vandalism incidences and he said the town was considering a number of options from increased lighting at the recreation field to surveillance cameras.

M. Tessier indicated No Trespassing Orders for the ballfield had been issued to a number of people resulting in vandalism spreading to other areas of town, including the boat launch.

G. Fredette suggested re-energizing the Neighborhood Watch effort and Mr. Pramuk agreed to participate. S. Switzer provided Mr. Pramuk with Rutland County Sheriff Department's Sgt. Jason Allen's contact information. Sgt. Allen coordinates the department's Neighborhood Watch program.

N. Tift said there was no money in the budget to purchase surveillance cameras or to pay for increased police patrols. He said the town should consider a contingency fund in the next fiscal spending plan.

Lisa Marchinkoski said town and school activities create a positive atmosphere within the community and more events should be planned. She suggested the town show its appreciation to volunteers who serve on committees and commissions by offering free lake passes or transfer station punch cards. She also suggested putting an item on the Town Meeting ballot that would fund maintenance and preservation of town facilities.

Keith Shelvey volunteered to contact the Wallingford Elementary School principal about coordinating a community awareness program.

Designated Physician for Workers' Compensation Claims. Dick Trono of Rutland Regional Medical Center's Occupational Health gave a presentation to the board regarding a designated physician program for workers' compensation claims. VLCT's Wade Masure had recommended the town adopt such a policy and recommended Occupational Health be the town's designated physician.

Mr. Trono said Occupational Health would provide the service at no charge to the town and would bill VLCT for services rendered. He said they would manage workers' compensation cases until resolved, provide supervisor training and even meet with employees to review procedures for seeking non-emergency medical attention.

The board will review a draft designated physician policy at the next meeting.

Electronic Waste Agreement. The National Center for Electronics Recycling agreement for the collection of electronic waste from the transfer station was presented to the board for review. It is a one-year agreement that expires next September with a one-year automatic renewal unless the town opts out.

Rutland County Solid Waste District recommended the town sign the agreement since the organization was eliminating that service.

S. Switzer noted some changes would need to be made in the collection, separation and labeling of e-waste. She added a number of details still needed to be hammered out, including who supplied pallets and shrink wrap. She said Art Nemeth and Jim Regula had watched a webinar with her that provided an overview of NERC's operations with recycler Good Point.

R. Regula made a motion authorizing N. Tift to sign the agreement; M. Tessier seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0). G. Fredette left the meeting prior to the vote.

Homestead Declaration Penalty Waiver. Greg McKirryher requested on behalf of his father Donald McKirryher the town waive a \$208 late filing penalty for not filing a Homestead Declaration by the state deadline. He said the accountant was unaware the form still needed to be filed even if annual income tax forms were not filed. Mr. McKirryher said all appropriate forms were filed as soon as they learned of the error.

T. Phillips made a motion to waive the \$208 penalty; M. Tessier seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Trash Compactor. Casella Waste provided an estimate of \$8000 to repair the trash compactor, \$325 per month to rent one for five years, \$220 per month to rent one for 10 years or \$19,386 to

purchase a new one. Maintenance costs would be covered by Casella during rental periods, while maintenance costs would be covered by the town under a purchase agreement.

T. Phillips directed S. Switzer to obtain quotes from Casella for financing the purchase of a trash compactor with a lease to own arrangement. M. Tessier wanted to know the cost to purchase a unit with a maintenance agreement.

Building Use Requests. Wendy Savery's requests to use the second floor of Town Hall for Gilbert Hart Library events on November 22 and December 12 were approved on a motion by T. Phillips that was seconded by R. Regula. Motion carried (4-0).

The November 22 event is a movie and the December 12 event is a production of A Christmas Carol.

FY'15 First Quarter Financial Report. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon provided a report of the first quarter financials. Revenues in several areas are higher than anticipated, so income is good at this point. On the expense side, line item 5302 for highway miscellaneous is more than anticipated and may need to be adjusted in the next budget. J. Sharon indicated the diesel line item 5315 will be over budget, but only about a quarter of the gravel line item of 5323 had been spent. Road salt expenses will likely be higher than anticipated due to a sizable increase in the state bulk prices, she said.

The line items for recreation and Elfin Lake salaries will be adjusted in the next quarterly report, according to the town clerk and treasurer.

J. Sharon said the board can determine what to do with leftover recreation capital funds of about \$200.

N.Tift indicated he would not be drawing a stipend for his work on the selectboard.

November Election Expenses. J. Sharon requested the board's permission to exceed the budget of \$2300 for the elections line item #5112. She said the town needs \$1100 to code the machines for the November elections and there is only \$400 left in the budget. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve exceeding line item #5112. Motion carried (4-0).

Workshop Requests. R. Regula made a motion to approve Lister John Tiffany's request to attend a Standards of Professional Practices and Ethics workshop on October 21 sponsored by the VT Dept. of Taxes, Property Valuation and Review at a cost of \$200 as well as Zoning Administrator Jeff Biasuzzi's request to attend the VLCT zoning forum on October 29 in Montpelier for \$60 plus mileage. The seminar fee, mileage and eight hours of time would total \$248. J. Biasuzzi said the town of Castleton would pay for half, so Wallingford's cost would be \$124. Motion carried (4-0).

Health Insurance. The 2015 Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance rates increased 7.7 percent. The board reviewed the monthly costs for single, couple and family plans. The board was reminded the town pays \$140.70 per month for Joyce Barbieri's health insurance. By unanimous consent, the board agreed to offer the same platinum plan to fulltime employees with the town paying 100 percent.

Planning Commission Appointment. T. Phillips made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to appoint Jeff Biasuzzi to the planning commission. Motion carried (4-0).

Zoning Violation Notices. Zoning Administrator Jeff Biasuzzi sent an email to the board indicating the cost of issuing Zoning Violation Notices that resulted in court action could cost the town \$1000 to \$2000 per case. The board agreed by consensus to direct the zoning administrator to issue the violation notices without court action.

Other Business/Announcements. S. Switzer informed the board she had been exploring options for the abandoned Route 103 Witham property. One possible use would be a community solar

project. The board directed the town administrator to continue looking into the possibility.

The board indicated there were no minimum requirements for committee membership as far as attendance at meetings. The issue was brought to the board's attention by a concerned citizen.

T. Phillips informed the board he was looking at a line boundary adjustment between his property and the town's property near the transfer station on Waldo Lane. He said he would keep the board updated.

The board had no response to Unison's letter expressing interest in a cell site lease conversion program.

The board approved by unanimous consent a request to sign a resolution forwarded to the town by the South Burlington City Council calling for a two-year cap on the Statewide Education property tax rate at 2015 levels.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator

Date Approved: