

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
November 17, 2014

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

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer and Phil Baker

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

**Agenda Amendments.** T. Phillips added lot line adjustment to the agenda. N. Tift added discussion of the Neighborhood Watch special meeting.

G. Fredette made a motion authorizing N. Tift to sign the required documents related to the lot line adjustment between Tom Phillips property on Route 140W and municipal land; M. Tessier seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Minutes.** The November 3 meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent on a motion made by M. Tessier and seconded by R. Regula.

The November 13 special meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent on a motion made by N. Tift and seconded by R. Regula.

**Selectboard Orders.** M. Tessier moved to approve pay orders totaling \$18,402.05; N. Tift seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

**Road Commissioner's Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker discussed the need for electrical work related to the new above ground diesel tank at the Town Garage. The board directed Town Administrator Sandi Switzer to contact Glenn Eno and have him provide an estimate for the job. Mr. Baker said he would meet with Road Foreman Steve Lanfear to discuss construction of a roof over the tank as required by the state.

Mr. Baker indicated the scope of work for the Town Garage bathroom should include a new sink and toilet, sheetrock, floor, paint, eye wash, electrical and possibly a shower.

Mr. Baker suggested jersey barriers be set in place at the Town Garage to prevent people from removing truckloads of sand from the sand pile. Residents are allowed to take buckets of sand. The board directed S. Switzer to see if anyone sells signs locally that would alert residents against unauthorized activities on the property.

**Public Comments.** None

**Trash Compactor.** G. Fredette made a motion authorizing N. Tift to sign a revised 10-year rental agreement with Casella for a trash compactor at a rate of \$220 per month; T.

Phillips seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

**FY '16 Capital Expenses.** Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon explained \$10,800 on line item #5710 Route 140W Bridge and \$23,657 on line item #5714 Stone Meadow Reclamation were loan payments. The \$18,980 on line item # 5713 Town Garage Fund is the amount the town will receive in cell tower income and it is reflected on the Revenue side under line item #4546.

The board discussed how much should be budgeted for line item #5712 Creek Road Bridge Sinking Fund. DuBois and King estimated several years ago it would cost \$130,000 for basic repairs. J. Sharon reported \$30,000 was put into the sinking fund last year and \$30,000 would be put into it this year.

S. Switzer read DuBois and King's bridge condition summary. By consensus, the board agreed to budget \$30,000 for line item #5712.

**FY'16 Town Government Operations.** The board reduced line item #5112 Elections to \$1000 since there would only be Town Meeting and a primary during the fiscal year. Line item #5114 Office Expense was reduced to \$10,075 since dog license fees, civil marriage license fees and records restoration now have separate line items.

Line items #5113, 5114A, 5115, 5116, 5117, 5123, 5150, 5153, 5157 and 5158 were all level funded.

Line item #5118 Seminars & Meetings was doubled to \$1000, line item #5151 was increased to \$17,000, line item #5155 Rutland County Tax was increased \$250 to \$15,750, line item #5125 VLCT dues was set at \$3200 and line item # 5126 Rutland Regional Planning Commission dues was set at \$925.

Line item #5122 Records Restoration is \$1400 and offset by Revenue from line item #4518, line item #5133 Dog Registration fees of \$2000 is offset by Revenue from line item #4510 and line item #5134 Civil Marriage License fees is offset by Revenue from line item #4512.

J. Sharon indicated she would take another look at the Town Hall Office Expenses and Town Hall Operating Expenses.

N. Tift said he would like the town to create a Contingency Fund for unexpected expenses. He said other municipalities have emergency funds set aside. He said the funds could be used to reduce taxes in the next budget or put in a CD if not used during the fiscal year.

N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to establish a \$10,000 Contingency Fund. Motion carried (5-0).

**EyeMed and Health Reimbursement Accounts.** EyeMed rates will increase 3 percent on January 1 for all eligible employee plans. The board by consensus agreed to continue

offering EyeMed packages to eligible employees.

The board agreed by consensus to continue offering Health Reimbursement Accounts in 2015 to eligible employees at \$1000 per employee.

S. Switzer asked whether eligible part-time employees would be allowed to join town eye care and dental programs if they reimbursed the town 100 percent of the costs. The board by consensus agreed and directed S. Switzer to create a policy to be reviewed at the next meeting.

**New England Clean Power Link.** Public Service Board attorney Sheila Grace contacted the town to find out whether they would like her to attend a meeting to answer questions regarding the proposed transmission line from Canada to Ludlow with a section along Route 103 in Wallingford. The board agreed to invite Ms. Grace to attend a meeting.

The town of Fair Haven filed a Motion to Intervene with the PSB in order to be kept informed of the project's status. The board by consensus directed S. Switzer to file a similar motion with the PSB.

**Business/Announcements.** Energy Committee co-coordinator Ken Welch and Constable Jerry Tift requested their own sets of keys to Town Hall for meeting purposes. The board agreed arrangements should be made to borrow keys as needed.

G. Fredette said he liked Glenn Eno's presentation at the Neighborhood Watch forum regarding lights with motion sensitivity. The board directed S. Switzer to request estimates from Mr. Eno for lights at the recreation area and lake.

The board agreed vegetation around the tennis courts should be removed to provide a clear view of the ballfield from the road.

N. Tift directed J. Sharon to dedicate his annual salary to the Neighborhood Watch program.

The board discussed ways to extend the town's appreciation to volunteers for all their work. T. Phillips said letters of appreciation would be appropriate.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator

Minutes Approved: