

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
November 21, 2016

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

Others Present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer, and Phil Baker

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

**Agenda Amendments.** B. Brooks added a gravel request for Green Hill Cemetery.

**Minutes.** G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the Minutes of the Selectboard meeting on November 7, 2016. Motion carried (5-0).

**Pay Orders.** N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 11/22/16 pay orders totaling \$18,521.50 after \$810 was added for Wright Appraisal Services. Motion carried (5-0).

**Public Comments.**

**FY'18 Capital Budget.** By consensus the Board agreed to add \$30,000 to the Creek Road Bridge fund. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon confirmed the \$30,000 budgeted in the current spending plan would bring the fund to \$120,000. The Board approved all other line items.

R. Regula noted the bridge on Route 155 near Route 103 was in bad condition.

**FY'18 Town Government.** Town Administrator Sandi Switzer notified the Board the Vermont League of Cities and Towns' dues (line #5125) would be \$3350 and recommended Town Hall Operating Expenses (line #5151) be level-funded at \$14,000.

The Board discussed transfer station spending (line #5150). By consensus, they agreed to increase it \$1000 from \$89,000 to \$90,000 in order to cover anticipated costs of accepting food scraps starting July 1 as required by the state. R. Regula said Jim Regula recommended the facility's access and parking areas be paved next summer. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the road crew could patch potholes in the interim. There was a brief discussion regarding eliminating the free 20-punch card given to residents and requiring stickers on all vehicles utilizing the facility.

By consensus, the Board agreed to increase Legal (line #5115) from \$2000 to \$5000. The Board approved all other Town Government line items.

**Road Commissioner's Report.** Mr. Baker presented the Board with an updated culvert plan for Cumberland Farms. He indicated he was waiting for the engineer's response to the plan.

Mr. Baker said he visited Nash Drive near the Dias property and concluded the drainage issue was not the town's responsibility. He suggested the landowners could install a culvert outside of the town right-of-way to alleviate the problem.

Mr. Baker noted he met with Road Foreman Steve Lanfear at the Town Garage regarding state requirements pertaining to floor drainage and wash water issues. He said they agreed a section on the east side of the structure would be dug out and blocked off with concrete to prevent discharge from leaving the building. He said discharge would go into the troughs and either evaporate or be pumped out and spread across the yard. S. Switzer provided the Board and Mr. Baker with copies of the Washwater Discharge Fact Sheet prepared by the state's Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

Mr. Baker indicated he would like the road crew to have the option of getting sand from Pike if they are in that area to save time when roads are icy. He added they would stay within the gravel budget.

The road commissioner said he spoke with Brian Plumer regarding runoff on the Highland Beach Association's tennis court near Route 140W. He said there was little road runoff and suggested Mr. Plumer do some ditching. He added they agreed to meet in the spring.

B. Brooks said Amy Gilbert had asked about the 16,000 pound weight limit on the Van Wyck Bridge. Mr. Baker said he would check into the bridge ratings.

**Mears Meadow Trail.** M. Tessier explained Dean McGee initially wanted to discontinue Mears Meadow Trail and contacted adjoining landowners seeking input. He said Mr. McGee received affirmative responses from just two of the landowners. Therefore, M. Tessier said Mr. McGee now wanted to close just the section of the trail on his property. He added the landowner wanted to improve the trail to make it passable for motor vehicles. M. Tessier said the trail was nearly indistinguishable from the rest of Mr. McGee's property.

The Board reviewed Mr. McGee's written request along with municipal property maps and state Agency of Natural Resources Atlas maps. M. Tessier said ANR's map showed the trail does not go on Mr. McGee's property. M. Tessier made motion approving Mr. McGee's request to close off his property to the trail if the trail does not go on his land. There was no second to the motion. After further discussion, M. Tessier withdrew his motion.

S. Switzer provided the Board with copies of emails Tim Page sent to the town in 2012 regarding access to the Wolf property off Mears Meadow Trail.

The Board agreed not to make a decision on Mr. McGee's request until more research could be conducted.

B. Brooks requested S. Switzer draft a general letter regarding trail maintenance that could be sent out to anyone inquiring about upkeep on Class 4 Roads and Trails.

**Employee Health Insurance 2017.** The Board reviewed Blue Cross Blue Shield and MVP health insurance plans and rates for 2017. After some discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to continue with the current BCBS platinum plan coverage with no changes.

**Prudential Committee Appointment.** The Board reviewed a letter from Fire District #1 clerk Maureen Duchesne written on behalf of the Prudential Committee requesting the full five-member Board consider a recommendation to appoint Charlie Gauthier to the committee. After some discussion, G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by B. Brooks to appoint Mr. Gauthier to the Prudential Committee. Motion failed (2-3). B. Brooks and G. Fredette voted in favor of the motion, while R. Regula, M. Tessier and N. Tift opposed it.

**Errors and Omissions.** G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to approve assessor Lisa Wright's request to amend a 2016 Grand List error for the Williams parcel 0150255. Motion carried (5-0).

**Selectboard Comments.** None.

**Other Business.** S. Switzer directed the Board's attention to an email from Ms. Wright regarding the Chapman appeal.

B. Brooks said Lynn Edmunds had requested a load of gravel for Green Hill cemetery. G. Fredette made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the request. Motion carried (4-0). B. Brooks abstained.

Board members briefly discussed suggestions for the presentation of the education budget at the annual Floor Meeting in March. They agreed it would be helpful if the Wallingford representatives to the Mill River Unified Union School District provided an overview.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Date Approved:

Sandi Switzer, Town Administrator