

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
December 2, 2019

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, John McClallen, Patricia Pranger, Rose Regula and Nelson Tift.

Others present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer, Stephen Benard, Jamie Consolatti, Michelle Kenny, and Bastian Auer.

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

**Agenda Amendments.** Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan subgrant agreement was added.

**Minutes.** P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 11/20/19 Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

**Pay Orders.** R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to approve the pay order total of \$22,007.87 after \$360 was added for F.A.S. Trucking for mowing services in October. Motion carried (5-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** None.

**Better Roads Grant Applications.** By consensus, the Board approved applying for Better Road grants to repair “very high” priority road segments as identified in the recently completed Road Stormwater Management Plan. Those road segments include White Rocks Picnic Road, West Hill Road, Dugway Road and Mooney Road.

**Public Comments.** None.

**FY’21 Public Safety.** After a discussion about the Dog Warden stipend, B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to level fund line #5408 at \$1200. Motion carried (5-0). Line #5410 was level funded at \$50 and line #5402 was level funded at \$250.

Rutland County Sheriff Stephen Benard provided an overview of the projected 14 percent increase in law enforcement expenses resulting in an estimated \$85,405 for 40 hours per week coverage starting July 1. After a lengthy discussion and input from Michelle Kenny in support of the coverage, R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to budget \$85,405 on line #5406 Special Officers. Motion carried (3-2). B. Duchesne and J. McClallen voted in the minority.

R. Regula shared traffic safety concerns regarding the intersection of Railroad Street and Route 140W. Bastian Auer requested patrols of Prospect Street.

**FY'21 Recreation.** Ms. Kenny, Mr. Auer and Jamie Consolatti presented the draft Recreation Budget of \$79,165 including a \$30,000 new item to repair the basketball court.

There was a discussion regarding whether to budget a salary for the recreation director. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to budget \$10,000. Motion carried (3-2). B. Duchesne and J. McClallen voted in the minority. Board members requested the recreation director submit monthly activity reports to the board and be proactive in seeking grants to offset recreation expenses.

Mr. Auer explained Recreation Capital funds as well as a Certificate of Deposit could be used along with the proposed budgeted amount of \$30,000 to rehabilitate the basketball court at an estimated cost of \$45,000. After Board discussion, it was decided \$5,000 in Capital and \$30,000 for basketball court repairs would be removed from the budget and added as a \$35,000 Special Article on the Town Meeting Warning.

Board members agreed on the following line items: #5801 \$9,000; #5901 \$9,700; #5906 \$10,000; #5803 \$250; #5804 \$450; #5805 \$1,000; #5806 \$1,300; #5807 \$2,000; #5808 \$525; #5809 \$650; #5810 \$1,000; #5811 \$0.00; #5812 \$2,600; #5813 \$0.00 #5814 \$500; #5815 Great Elfin Lake 5K \$3,000; #5816 Wallingford Day \$0.00 resulting in a draft Recreation total of \$41,975.

It was noted Wallingford Day had seed money from last year to plan for the event next summer, so no funds would be budgeted. There was a brief discussion regarding whether Wallingford Day should be listed in the Recreation Budget. No decision was made.

**Assessor Service Agreement.** Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said NEMRC's Ed Clodfelter and John Tiffany were scheduled to begin performing assessor services on December 11. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to sign the Assessor Services Agreement with NEMRC at \$95 an hour, \$47.50 an hour travel, and \$145 an hour for grievance hearings. Motion carried (5-0).

**Selectboard Concerns.** P. Pranger noted NEMRC annual license fees would increase from \$1600 to \$5,000 starting July 1.

**Other Business.** N. Tift mentioned Interstate Refrigerant Recovery prices increased by \$1 to \$9 per unit for Freon removal.

By consensus, the Board authorized N. Tift to sign the state Local Hazardous Mitigation Plan subgrant agreement.

**Executive Session:** P. Pranger made a motion that premature general public knowledge regarding civil litigation with the Town of Tinmouth and Stan Taylor would put the Town of Wallingford at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing negotiation strategy. B. Duchesne seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

B. Duchesne made a motion to enter executive session at 8:36 p.m. with the town administrator to discuss probable civil litigation with the Town of Tinmouth and Stan Taylor under 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(1). P. Pranger seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to exit executive session at 8:57 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to request Lisa Wright of Wright Appraisal Services return her Town Hall keys as her services were no longer needed. Motion carried (5-0).

After reviewing an email from Ms. Wright, J. McClallen made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to rescind a motion made at the September 9, 2019 meeting to bill Wright Appraisal for the labor and materials to correct Ms. Wright's fire protection tax errors. Motion carried (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.  
Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

Date Approved: 12/16/19