

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
April 20, 2020

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, John McClallen, Patricia Pranger, Rose Regula, and Nelson Tift. The meeting was held via audio conference call.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Phil Baker, and Cecile Betit.
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Amendments. Add Victorian Inn third class liquor license.

Minutes. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 04/06/20 Minutes. Motion approved (4-0). J. McClallen did not vote as he was not at the meeting.

Pay Orders. R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to approve the pay order total of \$19,582.84 after \$9 was added for VT Dept. of Motor Vehicles for a license plate for the 2016 Kenworth. Motion carried (5-0).

Liquor License. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to approve a third class liquor license for Victorian Inn. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker informed the board he had obtained estimates of \$6.80/ton from Pike Industries, Inc. and \$8.25/ton from SLC for winter sand. Mr. Baker said there would be no obligation to buy the sand from Pike if the Town signed the agreement, but he said it would lock in the price. B. Duchesne suggested the road crew haul the winter sand in June or July rather than wait until the fall. P. Baker agreed. By consensus, the board authorized N. Tift to sign the Pike winter sand agreement.

There was a brief review of the extended warranty offer for the 2016 Kenworth. No action was taken.

Excavator. Mr. Baker explained Kubota did not provide an estimate for a new excavator. He said he preferred the Milton CAT over the John Deere as the Milton CAT \$97,000 price was \$10,000 less than the John Deere. Mr. Baker said he would like to order it immediately so it could be used this summer. J. McClallen said he preferred to wait until next year to get a better handle on town finances. R. Regula agreed with J. McClallen. N. Tift said the current CAT price included a \$6,700 discount that would not be available next year. He added the \$40,000 down payment would come from the municipal Equipment Fund and the balance would be financed over 4 years through a loan from the state Equipment Fund at a 2 percent interest rate. P. Baker advised there would likely be a 3 percent or more increase in the price if the Town waited. After further discussion, N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to purchase the Milton CAT excavator at \$97,000 and finance the balance after the down payment through the state Equipment Fund. Motion carried (3-2). J. McClallen and R. Regula voted in the minority.

Third Quarter Financials. J. Sharon provided an overview of third quarter financials noting road crew overtime was over budget and the Board had ordered a freeze on overtime unless absolutely necessary. She indicated winter salt was over budget and gravel was under budget.

J. Sharon said there was a total of \$138,729 in property tax delinquencies to report, but she added she expected \$15,000 to come in by the end of the week leaving a balance of about \$124,000 in delinquencies compared to \$101,081 at this time last year.

COVID-19. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said there would need to be a discussion soon regarding the Memorial Day parade, summer hirings, the Summer Recreation program, and Elfin Lake. No one from the Recreation Committee attended the meeting. It was tabled until May 4.

Water at the Ballfield. B. Duchesne said Chris Hayes had called him with an inexpensive alternative for water at the ballfield. A spigot could be installed at the pump house for less than \$200. Mr. Hayes had informed B. Duchesne that he was at the pump house nearly every day and could monitor water usage and vandalism. S. Switzer said FD#1 indicated there would be quarterly water bills sent to the Town associated with the spigot. By consensus, the Board agreed to instruct Mr. Hayes to install the spigot at a cost not to exceed \$200.

Public Comments. Cecile Betit provided an update on the impact of power outages on telephones in rural areas as being investigated by the Public Service Board.

Zoning Revised Fee Schedule. By consensus, the Board agreed the Zoning Fee Schedule should be simplified to a one page document. The matter was tabled until the May 4 meeting.

Selectboard Concerns. R. Regula asked if the transfer station could accept ewaste and metals. Board members by consensus agreed as long as haulers were still taking it away.

Other Business. None.

Executive Session. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to enter executive session with the town administrator and road commissioner at 7:42 p.m. for a personnel matter under 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(4). Motion carried (5-0).

P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to exit executive session at 7:59 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

By consensus, the Board agreed to revoke the employee letter of reprimand.

N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen that the Town would assist Road Foreman Steve Lanfear with a BCBS supplemental plan once he provided proof of enrollment in Medicare Parts A and B. Motion carried (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.
Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

Date Approved: