

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
December 21, 2020

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Steve Lanfear, Julie Sharon, Lyle Jepson, Michael Luzader, and Jay White.

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

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to approve the 12/07/20 Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to approve the 12/22/20 pay order total of \$47,226.64 after \$252 was added for Interstate Refrigerant. Motion (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the snowstorm created a number of road issues. He said both him and his son assisted the road crew with plowing. Mr. Baker indicated he ordered two sets of chains for the grader and would need to order more chains for next winter. He said the loader and backhoe needed chains, too. Mr. Baker indicated four bald tires were replaced on the 2016 Kenworth. P. Pranger praised the road crew on doing a great job.

Public Comments. None.

FY'22 Highway. Board members by consensus agreed to the following line items: #5301 \$9,500; #5302 \$2,000; #5307 \$3,000; #5308 \$2,000; #5310 \$2,000; #5314 \$7,600; #5315 \$25,000; #5316 \$1,000; #5317 \$2,500; #5318 \$37,000; #5319 \$50,000; #5320 \$750; #5321 \$7,500; #5322 \$2,500; #5323 \$85,000; #5324 \$2,500; #5325 \$50,000; #5327 \$500; #5328 \$1,500; #5332 \$2,000; #5336 \$5,000; #5337 \$4,000; #5338 \$1,000; #5339 \$1,350; #5340 \$21,000; #5342 \$22,150; #5343 \$12,700.

During discussion it was noted grader tires would need to be replaced next year and a couple of backhoe tires would need to be replaced. The Board added \$500 to #5310 because some of the blades will likely need to be replaced; #5314 includes \$2,500 for Mt. Holly plowing and \$250 for Mt. Holly grading; #5317 was increased by \$500 for tree work at the transfer station; \$1,000 was added to #5324 to purchase the needed chains for vehicles; #5332 was level funded and will be used to clean manholes and replace planks on the Carrara Camp Road bridge; both the 2014 and 2016 Kenworth trucks will need new tires next winter.

Rutland Marketing Initiative. Lyle Jepson, Executive Director of the Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region, provided an overview for a \$1,993 funding request for the Rutland Marketing Initiative that, he said, would help to expand the region's tax base. He

said with or without the funding, Wallingford would be included in the initiative and he would work with a Town representative to populate the Real Rutland website with Wallingford highlights. N. Tift responded the Board was trying to be as fiscally conservative as possible given economic and unemployment pressures.

After further discussion, Board members agreed not to add the request to the Warning. Mr. Jepson said he respected the Board's fiscal responsibility and offered to revisit this matter at some point in the future.

FY'22 Appropriations. Board members discussed the economic impacts and uncertainties related to COVID-19 as they reviewed an extensive list of funding requests. They agreed to the following: Gilbert Hart Library \$38,000; Rutland County Humane Society \$300; Wallingford Rescue \$21,000; Regional Ambulance Service \$1,000; Mt. Holly Rescue \$2,500; Green Up Vermont \$100; Rutland Nat. Resources Conservation District \$250; Wallingford flags \$150; Preservation Trust \$100; Vermont Council on Rural Development \$100.

Funding requests were denied to: VNA & Hospice, South Western Vt Council on Aging; Rutland Mental Health; BROCC; RSVP; NewStory; VT Center for Independent Living; Vermont Adult Learning; VT Association for the Blind; NeighborWorks; Advocacy Resources Community; American Red Cross; VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force; Child First Advocacy; and Vermont Family Network.

No action was taken on a \$2,000 request for Wonderfeet Kids' Museum.

Certificate of Occupancy. Energy Committee member Jay White provided a brief overview of the committee's request to add a Certificate of Occupancy component to the Zoning process as a vehicle to enhance collection of the mandated energy certifications as required under 30 V.S.A. Section 51. He said the certificate signals the end of the zoning process and does not include issues of life safety or building codes.

After some discussion, board members tabled the matter and directed Mr. White to meet with the zoning administrator for review and input.

Transfer Station 2021 Fees. R. Regula requested – and the Board agreed – to table this matter to give transfer station employees time to review the fee schedule.

Town Meeting 2021. Board members agreed by consensus to require signatures on Special Article petitions. They further agreed a remote informational meeting would be held on Monday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to review Town Meeting articles all to be voted by Australian Ballot.

RRPC Contract Extension. By consensus, the Board authorized N. Tift to sign Amendment #1 for a contract extension related to Rutland Reg. Planning Commission services for the update of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

WES Stormwater Manhole. By consensus, the Board authorized N. Tift to sign a letter addressed to Nanci McGuire of Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District expressing interest in pursuing funds to construct the WES stormwater project if issues related to ownership and maintenance were resolved.

Selectboard Concerns. None.

Other Business. Board members agreed to wait until the reorganizational meeting to decide on a grand juror appointment.

N. Tift said he was unhappy with Rutland County Sheriff's Department total of \$418.50 in Ordinance Fines for November.

Executive Session. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to enter executive session at 8:53 p.m. for a personnel matter under 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(4). Motion carried (5-0). Board members exited executive session at 9:32 p.m. No action was taken.

P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

Date Approved: 01/04/21

Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator