

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
January 18, 2021

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 Baker, Julie Sharon, Amy Gilbert and Tammy Heffernan.

Selectboard Chair Nelson Tift called the regular 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 01/04/21 Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the 01/19/21 pay order total of \$15,839.99. Motion (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. None. R. Regula requested the road crew clear snow from the transfer station on days of operations.

Certificate of Highway Miles. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said there were no changes in town highway mileage following a review of the state Certificate of Highway Miles. By consensus, the Board authorized adoption of the certificate with no changes.

Van Wyck Bridge Log Truck Usage. Steve Baker requested use of Van Wyck Bridge for logging operations on Amy Gilbert's property. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the bridge was rated for 16,000 pounds. He said replacement of i-beams two years ago had fortified the bridge and it should be rated for 24,000 pounds. He said only half a log truck would be on the bridge at any one time due to the length of the truck and the length of the bridge.

N. Tift asked the weight of the loaded truck. The road commissioner said 70,000 pounds. Board members reviewed VTrans Orange Book and pertinent state statutes related to overweight vehicles on bridges and roads. B. Duchesne asked if there was another access. Steve Baker said there was possible access via East Street that would require landowner approval. J. McClallen said the logging operation would require a great deal of gravel. B. Duchesne suggested half loads to prevent damage to the bridge. Phil Baker agreed half loads would be appropriate.

By consensus, the Board authorized use of Van Wyck Bridge for logging operations with half loaded trucks only. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer requested Steve and Phil Baker submit a completed Excess Weight form to the Town along with the appropriate fee and insurance certificate naming the Town as holder prior to commencing any logging operations. Phil Baker agreed.

Public Comments. None.

FY'22 Budget Proposal. R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the FY'22 budget of \$1,292,013.92 requiring \$894,738.82 to be raised in taxes. Motion carried (5-0).

Town Meeting Warning. Tammy Heffernan, Town Moderator, said she had reviewed the draft Town Meeting Warning after making recommendations for a couple of minor changes. She said she was satisfied with the document. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to adopt the Town Meeting Warning. Motion carried (5-0).

Ms. Heffernan agreed to assist with the March 1 Informational Meeting. Board members noted an Informational Meeting handout to be included in the annual Town Report would provide residents with details in order to participate in the March 1 meeting.

Selectboard Report. By consensus, the Board approved the Selectboard Report to be included in the annual Town Report. P. Pranger thanked B. Duchesne for writing the opening three paragraphs.

Quarterly Financials. Board members reviewed the FY'21 second quarter financials. It was noted Ordinance Fine revenues were significantly lower than anticipated.

Village Designation Center Renewal. Board members reviewed the Village Designation Center packet required to renew the designation. Board members agreed to proceed with minimal changes. N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to pursue renewal. Motion carried (4-1). J. McClallen voted in the minority.

AT&T Cell Tower Agreement. R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger that premature general public knowledge regarding contract negotiations with lessee AT&T would put the Town of Wallingford at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing negotiation strategy. Motion carried (5-0).

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to enter executive session at 7:25 p.m. with the town administrator for AT&T contract negotiations. Motion carried (5-0).

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to exit executive session at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried (5-0). No action was taken.

Selectboard Concerns. None.

Other Business. By consensus, the Board agreed to hire Safety Kleen at \$50 for a truck fee and then a per gallon rate to collect used oil at the transfer station. The Board agreed to halt acceptance of used oil at the transfer station, but agreed to revisit the matter during the facility recertification process.

By consensus, the Board agreed to direct Jim Regula to remove the garbage can at the recreation area off Meadow Street until spring after reports the barrels were filled with personal garbage.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Date Approved: 02/01/21

Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator