

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
September 20, 2021

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, Kathy Luzader, John McClallen, Rose Regula, and Nelson Tift.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Chelsea Tice, Sarah Nadler, and Steve Lynch.

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

**Agenda Amendments.** None.

**Minutes.** R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the 09/07/21 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

**Pay Orders.** R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by K.Luzader to approve the 09/21/21 pay order total of \$21,584.13. Motion carried (5-0).

**Road Commissioner's Report.** None.

N. Tift noted new road crew member Laurie Phillips started work today.

It was agreed the Board would discuss plans to replace the salt shed at budget time.

**Public Comments.** None.

**PEG TV Request.** Chelsea Tice from Peg-TV explained she had received several requests to record Wallingford Selectboard meetings. She described recording procedures and said meetings would not be edited and would be available On Demand on the Peg TV website and YouTube channel.

B. Duchesne asked if comments on the YouTube channel would be turned off. Peg-TV's Sarah Nadler responded they would not, but any outrageous or offensive comments would be removed.

B. Duchesne said he was aware the Town had no legal authority to prohibit recordings, but he said he was not in favor of it. J. McClallen indicated he did not support recording meetings and thought it might be intimidating for Board members and visitors. K. Luzader expressed her support for the recording request. N. Tift said he was strongly opposed as it could stifle discussions among board members and visitor interactions with the Board. He added he was aware of Peg-TV's First Amendment right to record, but added he hoped they would not. R. Regula said she opposed it.

After further discussion, Ms. Tice said Peg-TV sought Selectboard approval as a courtesy and agreed to not record meetings at the Board's request.

N. Tift thanked Ms. Tice and Ms. Nadler. B. Duchesne thanked them for respecting the Board's decision.

**Hartsboro Solar.** Steve Lynch indicated Hartsboro Solar had submitted a petition for a Certificate of Public Good to the Public Utility Commission. He said he was concerned about wetland and environmental issues. He added the location of solar panels had been moved closer to his property and in a partially shaded area, which he said would likely result in the removal of trees. He said it was his understanding the property was under Act 250 jurisdiction and those mandates should continue.

K. Luzader said she wanted to review the Hartsboro Solar application and maps and would consider writing a letter to the Public Utility Commission.

**Property Map Updates.** CAI Technologies offered to update Town Property Maps at a cost of \$1,650 for 2021 or \$3,300 for 2022 if the Town skipped a year. The Board tabled the matter and invited CAI Technologies' Franco Rossi to the next meeting.

**Employee Handbook Update.** Board members by consensus agreed to adopt Employee Handbook language amendments as follows: page 2 weekly road crew hours; page 9 separation from employment; page 13 computer/tablet passwords; page 21 add \$4,000 annual buyout for health insurance; and page 22 amend years of service to 25.

**Selectboard Concerns.** K. Luzader expressed concern regarding the lack of a quorum at Recreation Committee meetings as well as issues with leadership and follow through on goals.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to issue letters to Recreation Committee members who were absent from more than half the meetings this year.

**Other Business.** VLCT was reviewing an insurance claim as a result of the vandalized fence at the ballfield.

N. Tift noted he had received a complaint regarding visitors and employees not wearing face masks at the transfer station. No action was taken.

N. Tift said he along with the town administrator and B. Duchesne met with Emergency Management Director Jim Bagnall to review expectations for the post.

By consensus, the Board moved the October 4 Selectboard meeting to October 11.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator    Date Approved: 10/11/21