

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
February 7, 2022

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, Kathy Luzader, Patricia Pranger, Rose Regula, and Nelson Tift.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Debbie Scranton, Carol Macleod, Tom Fort, Bruce Dobbins, and Greg McCormack.

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

Agenda Amendments. By consensus, Town Road and Bridge Standards and a Letter of Support for Rutland County Solid Waste grant application were added to the agenda.

Minutes. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the 01/18/22 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (4-0). R. Regula abstained as she did not attend the meeting.

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the 01/21/22 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the 02/08/22 pay order total of \$38,013.61. Motion carried (5-0).

Honorable Mentions. N. Tift noted resident Walter Teer advised the road crew with mechanical issues related to the 2014 Kenworth and the purchase of single axle International from the Town of Clarendon; Steve Drzewiczewski donated blood during a recent blood drive; and Tree Warden Rob Barker was awarded a \$1,000 Canopy Grant for tree plantings.

Road Commissioner's Report. None.

P. Pranger noted Town Administrator Sandi Switzer providing the road crew with information regarding upcoming VTrans paving and structures grant applications and deadlines. N. Tift said she was assisting the Highway Department with a VLCT PACIF Safety Grant application.

Public Comments. None.

Town Road and Bridge Standards. By consensus, Board members approved signing the Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards adopted in July of 2019.

K. Luzader questioned why guardrails were circled “No” while all other questions on the standards were circled “yes”. N. Tift said the standards were adopted two years ago at the recommendation of the road commissioner.

VT Watershed Grant Application - Elfin Lake Beach Erosion. The Board reviewed the Conservation Commission’s draft application for a Vermont Watershed Grant in the amount of \$3,500 (requires a \$500 local match). Conservation Commission Co-Chair Debbie Scranton said years ago the public beach used to be much smaller, but expanded over time. She said sand from the beach had been washing into the lake. She said a rain garden had reduced some of the erosion, but more needed to be done. Ms. Scranton said the grant would enable the Town to hire a consultant to evaluate the beach and make recommendations to reduce erosion to improve the health of the lake.

R. Regula said Shannon Pytlik had communicated with state Lakes and Ponds’ Oliver Pierson regarding removing material from the lake bottom while collaborating with the commission on the grant application. R. Regula said she supported efforts to reduce erosion, but opposed any language in the grant application related to dredging the lake.

K. Luzader suggested rewording the grant application and she noted noted Mr. Pierson stated his preference for reducing erosion and letting the lake heal itself over dredging.

Conservation Commissioner Carol Macleod agreed to eliminate the relative language from the application. B. Duchesne said prior to the meeting he had expressed similar concerns to the commissioners and requested language regarding the lake bottom be omitted.

After further discussion, the Board by consensus authorized N. Tift to sign a Letter of Support for the Conservation Commission’s Watershed Grant application.

ARPA Mission Statement. ARPA Committee member Bruce Dobbins said the Selectboard could write a Mission Statement for the ARPA Committee or the ARPA Committee could draft a Mission Statement at the February 15 meeting then present it to the Selectboard for review.

He outlined a plan to provide guidance to citizens while seeking their input on spending ARPA Funds (\$583,202). Mr. Dobbins noted the ARPA Committee would use a set of criteria during the selection process then forward recommendations to the Selectboard. He said it was the ARPA Committee’s intention to do due diligence in order to make recommendations allowed under the U.S. Treasury’s Final Rule. The town administrator noted the Final Rule’s Revenue Replacement language offered a standard allowance up to the full amount would provide the Town with greater flexibility regarding spending.

After further discussion, board members agreed the ARPA Committee should proceed with drafting a Mission Statement for Selectboard review at a future meeting.

Property Map Maintenance Agreement. By consensus, the Board approved an agreement with CAI Technologies to update the Grand List in the spring of 2023 at a cost of \$1,850.

Building Funds. By consensus, the Board agreed to notify the Building Committee of any plans to use Building Funds on municipal projects.

Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement. Board members reviewed the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement as requested by Rutland Regional Planning Commission's Steffanie Bourque in an effort to revise language for future agreements. There were no suggestions.

Public Records Request Policy. After a review of the draft Public Records Request Policy, K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger to adopt the policy with no changes effective immediately. Motion carried (5-0).

Second Meeting in February. By consensus, the Board agreed to meet Tuesday, February 22 rather than Monday, February 21 due to the Presidents' Day holiday.

Letter of Support for Rutland County Solid Waste District Grant Application. R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne authorizing N. Tift to sign a Letter of Support for a grant application to assist with RCSWD's purchase of a grader. Motion carried (5-0).

Selectboard Concerns. K. Luzader said she may not be available for the February 22 meeting.

Other Business. None.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 22nd Day of February, 2022

WALLINGFORD SELECTBOARD

Bruce Duchesne _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Patricia Pranger _____

Rose Regula (Vice Chair) _____

Nelson Tift (Chair) _____