

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
February 22, 2022

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Carol Macleod, Debbie Scranton, Ralph Nimitz, Dennis Duhaime, Tom Fort, Jane Quigley, and Greg McCormack.

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 P. Pranger to approve the 02/07/22 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the 02/23/22 pay order total of \$20,363,41. Motion carried (5-0).

P. Pranger asked about a Highway Department vehicle maintenance charge. B. Duchesne asked about a Wallingford Day expense and questioned when those expenses would stop being filtered through the Town. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said board members agreed funds were to be expended by June 30.

Honorable Mentions. N. Tift said Herb Fredericks used his tractor to clean up Homer Stone Road after snowstorms; Steve George cleaned up Wickham Lane/Nottingham Drive/Carriage Road after snowstorms; and the transfer station passed the annual inspection 100 per cent.

Building Committee Report. None.

Road Commissioner's Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the road crew repaired a number of washouts in East Wallingford. He said there was no update on the injector pump ordered for the 2014 Kenworth.

Mr. Baker noted Waldo Lane was plowed and sanded last weekend and, therefore, was not the cause of the vehicle ending up in Otter Creek. He said the road was not slippery or icy when the incident occurred.

Public Comments. None.

Special Weights. By consensus, Board members and the road commissioner agreed there were no special road or bridge weights to report to VTrans.

Mud Season. By consensus, the Board and the road commissioner agreed there would be no mud season postings in Wallingford this year.

Conservation Commission. By consensus, the Board accepted Nick Bresinsky's resignation from the Conservation Commission.

By consensus, the Board followed the Conservation Commission's recommendation to appoint Dennis Duhaime to fill the seat.

Recreation Trail Program. N. Tift noted the Town did not receive the ERSA Grant for upgrades to the Rim Trail at Stone Meadow. By consensus, the Board authorized the Conservation Commission to submit a Letter of Interest to the Recreation Trail Program for funds to upgrade the Rim Trail.

ARPA Committee. N. Tift said Richard Korchak had withdrawn from the ARPA Committee. K. Luzader suggested posting the vacancy. Board members agreed.

Rutland County Little League. By consensus, the Board approved Mike Robilotto's request to begin the registration process for Rutland County Little League with local fields to be used for games.

Summer Hires. The Board by consensus agreed to start advertising for Elfin Lake concession workers and lifeguards and reimburse for lifeguard certification(s) at the end of the summer.

N. Tift noted the Town would consider paying for certification in advance if a viable applicant could not afford it.

Bulk Mail Request. The Board by consensus approved Susan Cobleigh's request to use the Town's bulk mail permit for a Gilbert Hart Library fundraising letter.

Security Policy. The Board conducted the Key List annual review as required by the Security Policy. The list included the names of employees and individuals with keys to Town Hall. There were no concerns.

Recreation Committee. N. Tift said the Town did not advertise to fill seats on the Recreation Committee, but received emails from Sumio Seo, Daniel Alcorn and Morgan Over expressing interest in being appointed to the committee.

K. Luzader noted Mr. Alcorn did not live in Wallingford but had Wallingford connections. She said she did not have an objection if just one member of the Recreation Committee lived out of town.

B. Duchesne questioned whether the Town should have a Recreation Committee. If so, he said it should be a working committee. He noted he could see value in a Recreation Committee if they came up with ideas and then acted on them.

K. Luzader said the town administrator asked about drafting a Mission Statement for the Recreation Committee. She said this would provide clear goals for the group.

P. Pranger asked if the Summer Recreation Program was separate from the Recreation Committee. The town administrator said it was included in the Recreation budget, but co-directors (Lisa Cotrupi and Lawrie Rounds) ran the program.

R. Regula said Julie Sharon, Jill Stone Teer and Sandi Switzer worked with the co-directors to coordinate the Summer Program and Rutland County Little League organized baseball. P. Pranger said Art Peterson organized football. R. Regula asked what activities the Recreation Committee had arranged.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to appoint a sub-committee to draft a Recreation Committee Mission Statement. Motion carried (5-0).

K. Luzader and B. Duchesne volunteered to be on the sub-committee.

Other Business. N. Tift told Conservation Commission members who just arrived at the meeting the Board had followed their recommendation to appoint Mr. Duhaime. He said the Board had also approved commissioner's request to submit a Letter of Interest for Recreation Trail Program funding to make improvements to the Rim Trail at Stone Meadow.

Conservation Commission Co-Chair Ralph Nimtzt introduced Mr. Duhaime to the Board. Conservation Commission member Carol Macleod said the commission at a meeting earlier in the evening had decided not to move forward with the Recreation Trail Program at this time. She said deadlines were approaching too quickly and they would prefer to work with a trail builder on a clear plan moving forward. She added the grant requirement for a 20 percent local match would be an issue.

N. Tift said the Selectboard appreciated all of the Conservation Commission's efforts and he stated it was one of the hardest working committees in Town.

Selectboard Concerns. B. Duchesne said he would like to publicly thank Pat Pranger for her service on the Selectboard. P. Pranger responded she enjoyed it. R. Regula and K. Luzader thanked her for seeking election to the auditor post.

N. Tift said the Town received a complaint about last year's rate increases at the transfer station. He said he understood it was difficult for people on fixed incomes as well as others. P. Pranger said the Board surveyed neighboring communities prior to making rate adjustments. She added no other municipality provided free punch cards to residents. She said if the Town lowered rates, they would have to raise taxes.

P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 7th Day of March, 2022