

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting

Minutes

July 5, 2022

Selectboard Members Present: Carolyn Behrendt, Bruce Duchesne, Justin Jankus, Kathy Luzader and Nelson Tift.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Phil Baker, Joseph Elwell, Morgan Over, Maria French and Art Peterson.

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

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to approve the Minutes of the 06/06/22 meeting. Motion carried (5-0). B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the Minutes of the 06/13/22 meeting. Motion carried (4-0). C. Behrendt abstained as she was not at the meeting.

Pay Orders. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the 06/29/22 pay orders in the amount of \$128,511.68. Motion carried (5-0).

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the 07/06/22 pay orders in the amount of \$64,281.43. Motion carried (5-0).

Honorable Mentions. Barbara Kaminski for donating \$3,500 toward the fireworks display for Wallingford Day; the Town received a \$22,000 planning grant to address erosion issues at Elfin Lake; the Town received \$27,000 in Grants in Aid for road ditching projects; and the Town received a \$2,500 VLCT Public Safety grant to purchase road sign packages for the Highway Department.

Road Commissioners' Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker recommended using the balance of the paving budget for Homerstone Road starting at the railroad tracks and heading south. He said he stopped by Bastian Auer's property on Prospect Street and found a driveway culvert needed to be replaced. He said another culvert on Centerville Road should be replaced and he added Seward Hill Road needed ditching. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said the \$27,000 Grants in Aid just awarded to the Town could be used for ditching. B. Duchesne said a section of Deerfield Drive needed to be paved.

Public Comment. Animal Control Officer Joseph Elwell provided an overview of a call involving two dogs that he responded to over the weekend. Mr. Elwell asked if the Selectboard would authorize him to issue citations; resources for transporting dogs and temporary kennels; and emergency contact information. The town administrator offered to provide resource and contact information. Mr. Elwell said he would find out more information regarding becoming a certified officer.

Wallingford Day. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to issue a permit for a firework display as part of the annual Wallingford Day event on July 16. Motion carried (5-0).

Maria French provided an overview of the Wallingford Day events with a townwide tag sale in the morning with food trucks stationed around the village; activities and events at the ballfield; food trucks moving to the ballfield in the afternoon; DJ music starting at 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. then fireworks.

There was no discussion regarding the Wallingford Day group becoming a sub-committee of the Recreation Committee.

Morgan Over requested permission for a bike parade down Railroad Street to the ballfield at 3:00 p.m. By consensus, the Board agreed contingent upon the availability of traffic control. Board members suggested contact fire department volunteers to assist.

Maria French echoed the Board's gratitude to Barbara Kaminski for donating funds for the firework display. She thanked everyone who has assisted with in the Wallingford Day event.

Public Comments. Mr. Elwell revisited the dog issue and asked about a veterinary invoice. C. Behrendt advised he work with Rutland County Humane Society and J. Jankus noted the Town was not a clearinghouse for vet bills. B. Duchesne said he could tally the charges and provide the information to the dog's owner.

Flag Football. Art Peterson requested permission to oversee flag football at the ballfield using the south field. He said last year there were 35 youngsters and he hoped to build up the program. He said he would have all participants sign releases and provide copies to the town administrator. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Other Business. Energy Committee appointment tabled and added to the July 18 meeting agenda.

Morgan Over asked about a skateboard clinic. The subject was tabled until the July 18 meeting to give the Recreation Committee time to gather more information regarding dates, number of weekends, the 80/20 cost split, liability issues and more. Recreation Committee members were urged to attend.

Selectboard Concerns. K. Luzader said there was a concerning incident at the Elfin Lake public beach and the Rutland County Sheriff's Department was not available. N. Tift said he would address it with the sheriff. He said this incident required a response. J. Jankus said Summer Recreation Program coordinators should call the sheriff department first then Vermont State Police if the sheriff does not respond.

J. Jankus thanked Aiden Cote and Jesse Dickerman who helped remove a tree/limbs from the portable restroom at the ballfield.

B. Duchesne asked the town administrator to remind Fire District #1 officials that a permit is required for firework displays at the Wallingford Lodge and guests renting the facility should be made aware.

N. Tift noted a Public Record Request received by the Town that would be responded to within 10 business days.

Executive Session. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to enter Executive Session with the town administrator and road commissioner at 7:58 p.m. as allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) “the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.” Motion carried (5-0).

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to exit executive session at 8:08 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to increase town employee salaries as agreed upon at budget time and approved by voters at Town Meeting in March. Motion carried (5-0).

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 18th Day of July, 2022 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Nelson Tift _____