

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting

Minutes

August 1, 2022

Selectboard Members Present: Carolyn Behrendt, Bruce Duchesne, Kathy Luzader and Nelson Tift. Justin Jankus did not attend.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Sumio Seo and Morgan Over.

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

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the Minutes of the 07/18/22 meeting. Motion carried (3-0). K. Luzader did not vote as she was not in attendance at that meeting.

Pay Orders. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the 08/02/22 pay orders in the amount of \$12,786.37. Motion carried (4-0).

Honorable Mentions. Tucker Moody, Jonathan Eno, Emily Sunderland, Gregory Delaney, and Riley Quesnel along with master sculptor Nora Valdez for creating the stone bench at Gilbert Hart Library as part of the Carving Studio bench project; the Wallingford Road Crew for installing the bench; Laurie Phillips for obtaining the marble base free of charge for the bench; and Bert Jones and Mary Bilz for donating \$50 to the food shelf.

Road Commissioner Report. None.

Line Striping. Board members reviewed pavement marking quotes as follows: Green Mountain Line Striping, LLC - \$2,380; L&D Safety Markings \$7,200. Pavement markings to include four crosswalks, stop bars, No Parking markings at Cumberland Farms, a yield sign marking near Route 140W and Depot Street, and a double yellow line by the fire station. N. Tift noted the Town received Highway Supplemental Income from the state that could be used for this expense.

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to accept Green Mountain Line Striping's low bid. Motion carried (4-0).

Roadside Mowing. By consensus, the Board approved Phil Baker and Sons quote to perform roadside mowing at \$100/hour for equipment and operator for up to 80 hours since David Hosely is no longer available to mow.

Stone Meadow Bike Jumps. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer reported Mr. Baker said he would remove the bike jumps at Stone Meadow as soon as possible. She said she would contact Mr. Baker to request he speak to Morgan Over from the Recreation Committee before commencing the work.

The town administrator noted she received a call of concern from a Creek Road resident regarding the condition of the Creek Road Bridge. N. Tift said he had fielded several calls about that bridge.

There was a discussion regarding a letter sent by Gary Fredette to the Board regarding visibility issues at the Florence Avenue and Route 7 intersection. Mr. Fredette suggested making Florence Avenue a one-way street traveling west bound. The town administrator said Carol Macleod had recently raised similar concerns about that intersection. B. Duchesne said a year ago he had proposed the same remedy as Mr. Fredette. N. Tift said several intersections along Route 7 had similar issues. After discussion, the Board by consensus agreed to amend the Traffic Ordinance at the August 15 meeting to make Florence Avenue a one-way street.

C. Behrendt questioned whether that would impact a bus route. The town administrator would research it.

Salt/Sand Shed Update. Otter Creek Engineer's Brent Rakowski did not join the meeting via telephone as expected. The matter was tabled.

Public Comment. None.

Municipal Tax Rate. Board members reviewed a memo prepared by Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to set the municipal tax rate at \$0.3939 (last year the rate was \$0.3936). Motion carried (4-0).

Concession Stand Update. Recreation Committee member Sumio Seo presented a proposal featuring diagrams and some cost estimates to upgrade the Elfin Lake public beach concession stand by purchasing a storage building, creating dedicated space for the recreation program as well as a men's restroom with changing areas, replace existing garage door with a standard door, and add a closet. Mr. Seo proposed applying for a 50/50 grant through a Building Communities Grant Program with ARPA funds for the local match. The garage was estimated at just under \$25,000 for a 20'X16' structure and site work.

B. Duchesne said state environmental regulations including Shoreline restrictions could hinder installation of the storage unit. After some discussion, the matter was tabled.

C. Behrendt, B. Duchesne and K. Luzader along with the town administrator encouraged the Recreation Committee to consider reworking the project to address issues with the existing garage door and other areas of the facility.

Late Filing Penalty. State statute allows towns to charge 3% of the education property tax on property if the nonresidential rate is higher than the homestead; or in any other case the penalty is an amount equal to 8% of the education property tax on the property.

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to assess the 3% penalty (since the nonresidential rate is higher than the homestead). Motion carried (4-0).

Elfin Lake Public Beach Grant Agreement and Request for Proposal. By consensus, the Board authorized N. Tift to sign the Watershed United of Vermont (WUV) grant agreement in the amount of \$22,000 for preliminary and final design of an erosion reduction system at the Elfin Lake public beach. Motion carried (4-0).

By consensus, the Board approved issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for qualified consultants to perform the WUV grant work. B. Duchesne thanked the town administrator for drafting the RFP.

Town Hall Concert Series. By consensus, the Board approved the town administrator's request to start up the Town Hall concert series this fall.

Selectboard Concerns. B. Duchesne said a donor should not be asked for a specific amount in order to cover the cost of replacing basketball backboards and hoops at the ballfield off Meadow Street. He said donors should give whatever they choose. Morgan Over said she was taking over a project from Jordan Jankus and would show the potential donor the cost estimates for the new backboards and hoops. B. Duchesne asked about disruption to the new pavement at the basketball court. Ms. Over said the pavement would not be impacted. She said new backboards would go onto existing poles.

Other Business. None.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 15th Day of August, 2022 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Nelson Tift _____