

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting

Minutes

September 6, 2022

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Lee Houghton, Nikolaus Houghton, Morgan Over, Carol Macleod, Phil Baker, and Shane St. Claire.

Selectboard Vice Chair Kathy Luzader called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Amendments. By consensus, the Board added transferring the third ARPA installment from the general account to a subaccount to the agenda. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the transfer of the \$102,122.91 ARPA installment to the subaccount. Motion carried (3-0). J. Jankus was not at the meeting yet.

Minutes. By consensus, the Board tabled approval of the August 15, 2022 Minutes.

Pay Orders. C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to approve the 09/07/22 pay order total of \$36,104.58. Motion carried (3-0).

Honorable Mentions.

Public Comments. Lee Houghton requested chloride be spread on East Street. Nikolaus Houghton asked for increased law enforcement patrols on East Street to enforce speed limits. He noted it was a safety issues as motorists had been clocked driving over 55 m.p.h.

Eric Davenport said he had been attending Selectboard meetings for four years requesting roadside trees/brush be addressed on East Street. He said the Town should allocate funds to hire a tree service. Road Commissioner Phil Baker said he planned to cut back brush and smaller trees with his own equipment at no charge to the Town next week. He added he would research the cost of setting up a water tank to spread chloride.

Nikolaus Houghton said lawn signs in the Right of Way detracted from the aesthetics of the community.

Road Commissioner's Report. Mr. Baker said most of the roadside mowing had been completed. He said the road crew would be working on the Carrara Camp Road bridge next week. He requested setting the Homer Stone Road paving limit at \$35,000 using the balance of the paving budget and a portion of the Supplemental Income. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Mr. Baker said he intended to remove the bike jumps at Stone Meadow next week. There was a brief discussion about using the material for the Outer Limits trail. After discussion,

Morgan Over said Mr. Baker should level the jumps and she would create a proposal for materials in the near future.

Mr. Baker said the Highway Department intended to work on the Maple Street retaining wall in-house.

Chainsaw Use at Stone Meadow. K. Luzader read aloud VLCT's Wade Masure's recommendations for volunteers using chainsaws at Stone Meadow, including wearing proper personal protective equipment and signing waivers. By consensus, the Board agreed individuals experienced in the use of chainsaws may operate the equipment at Stone Meadow following Mr. Masure's recommendations.

Fire District #1 Water Rate Concerns. Shane St. Claire questioned the rising water rates within Fire District #1 and the history behind the village water system. K. Luzader explained the district was its own entity and had its own processes and meetings and she noted the Town had no authority over the district's water rates or operations. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said the fire district obtained a number of legislative charters dating back to 1906 giving specific authorities, including water operations.

After further discussion, Mr. St. Claire was urged to address his concerns with the Prudential Committee, which oversees the fire district.

Recreation Committee Appointment. K. Luzader said the Recreation Committee recommended the appointment of Shannon Pytlik and she noted Ms. Pytlik had signed the required Mission Statement and Guidelines. Morgan Over said Ms. Pytlik would be an asset to the committee. B. Duchesne said Ms. Pytlik had expressed concerns the Mission Statement should be updated. He said the document was created to clarify expectations of committee members. K. Luzader that she along with B. Duchesne drafted the statement and the full Selectboard approved it. C. Behrendt indicated Ms. Pytlik would bring varied skills such as grant writing to the committee. K. Luzader said committee members should make recreation the focus of their work.

C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to appoint Ms. Pytlik to the Recreation Committee for a term to expire in March of 2023. Motion carried (3-0).

Hot Weather Annex. There were no additional comments received on the draft Hot Weather Annex.

Elfin Lake Erosion Reduction Design Proposals. This matter was tabled until a Special Meeting on Friday, September 9 at 5:00 p.m.as there were only three Board members present.

West Hill Cemetery Gate. This matter was tabled until a full board would be present.

Military Banners. Liz Filskov said she was visiting Washington County, NY and observed military banners honoring service members displayed in a village and asked about doing something similar in Wallingford. K. Luzader said it was a striking way to honor veterans and other residents had made similar suggestions. B. Duchesne said Ms. Filskov would

have to explore logistics, including VTrans and Green Mt. Power permissions and compile a comprehensive list of veterans. C. Behrendt noted some communities honored high school seniors in a similar fashion.

Ms. Filskov agreed to take the lead on researching the project and report back to the Board likely next summer.

Selectboard Concerns. None.

Other Business. Mr. Baker asked about installing No Through Traffic signs on Church Street. There was a discussion as to whether it was enforceable and if the Traffic Ordinance would need to be amended. More research was needed.

C. Behrendt suggested contacting Casella Waste Management to find out whether they supplied recycling signage for the transfer station.

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

APPROVED THIS 19th Day of September, 2022 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Nelson Tift _____