

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting

Minutes

October 24, 2022

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Steffanie Bourque, Jim Bagnall, and Julie Sharon.

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

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the Minutes of the 10/24/22. Motion carried (3-0). K. Luzader did not vote as she was not at the meeting.

Nominate and Elect Chair and Vice Chair. C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to nominate B. Duchesne as Chair. There were no other nominations. By a vote of 4-0, B. Duchesne was elected Chair.

J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to nominate K. Luzader as Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. By a vote of 4-0, K. Luzader was elected Vice Chair.

Notice of Vacancy. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to post a Notice of Vacancy for the Selectboard with Letters of Interest due November 2, 2022. Motion carried (4-0).

By consensus, the Board agreed to schedule candidate interviews for the vacancy on November 7, 2022.

Road Commissioner Report. None. Road Commissioner Phil Baker did not attend the meeting.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus authorizing the town administrator to sign the Cargill Winter Road Salt agreement at a price of \$85.50/ton. Motion carried (4-0).

Town Administrator Sandi Switzer noted an alert from VLCT that a pending rail strike could disrupt the distribution of road salt and advised highway departments to stock up on supplies.

Public Comments. None.

Hot Weather Annex. Rutland Regional Planning Commission's Steffanie Bourque provided an overview of the final draft of the Hot Weather Annex to the Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP). Ms. Bourque detailed the Overview of Triggers, Extra

Assistance, and Formalizing Communication sections. She said the document would be updated annually along with the LEMP. She said final comments would be accepted through November 7 if the Board agreed. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Ms. Bourque thanked Wallingford Emergency Management Director Jim Bagnall for his assistance along with state officials and Council on Aging representatives. She said Wallingford was one of two Rutland County towns to participate in the pilot program.

J. Jankus asked who would be the primary contact. Ms. Bourque responded Mr. Bagnall as EMD and the town administrator.

Grants in Aid Equipment. Ms. Bourque provided a brief overview of the Grants in Aid Equipment grant program to be used by the Town for a debris blower. She said the purchase must be completed by June and she said the program would not be available next year.

B. Duchesne indicated the road commissioner would need to provide updated prices for a debris blower.

Quarterly Financials. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon provided an overview of the first quarter financials for FY'23. She reported 93 percent of the property taxes owed by the October 17 deadline were collected.

B. Duchesne noted the Recreation field trip line item was over-budget.

ARPA Fourth and Final Payment. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to transfer the fourth and final ARPA payment in the amount of \$189,479.44 from the general account to the subaccount set up for the ARPA funds. Motion carried (4-0).

Town Hall Concert Series. By consensus, the Board agreed to continue Nelson Tift's tradition of donating his Selectboard salary to a worthy cause by paying \$200 each to five musical groups to perform at Town Hall with the balance to be used for a bench dedicated to the longtime municipal officer. J. Jankus said Mr. Tift's calm presence at meetings and civic mindedness would be missed. There was also a discussion regarding the establishment of a scholarship fund in his name. C. Behrendt suggested scholarships be awarded to individuals exploring careers in the trade industry or as first responders.

Board members agreed to revisit the scholarship idea at budget time and K. Luzader offered to look into the cost to construct and install a bench.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Selectboard Concerns. By consensus, the Board authorized J. Jankus to expend up to \$150 for an assessment of Town Hall's cybersecurity for an ARPA application.

Other Business. B. Duchesne noted there was a kickoff meeting on November 25 at Elfin Lake with Fitzgerald Associates as part of the erosion reduction design project.

The town administrator mentioned Assessor John Tiffany said it was likely the Town would receive a letter from the state within the next year mandating a reappraisal.

APPROVED THIS 7th Day of November, 2022 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____