

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2023

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Shannon Pytlik, Sumio Seo, and Greg McCormack from Peg-TV.

Selectboard Chair Bruce Duchesne called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Amendments. By consensus, VEM grant agreement for emergency generator.

Minutes. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the 01/17/23 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (4-0). J. Jankus was not present yet.

Pay Orders. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the 02/07/23 pay order total of \$26,974.07. Motion carried (4-0).

Honorable Mentions. Jordan Jankus for hosting the Film Noire series at Town Hall.

Road Commissioner's Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker provided an overview of repairs to the sander and the 2016 Kenworth.

The Board reviewed three quotes for a debris blower with Grants in Aid Equipment funds covering \$5,600 of the cost with June 30 the deadline for delivery. After some discussion, K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to purchase the Finch Turf debris blower at a cost of \$7,394. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Baker agreed to obtain a detailed specification sheet for the roadside mower attachment.

There was a discussion regarding Bill Lohsen's invoice for vehicle damage that he had indicated was caused by a tree limb near Route 140W. M. Tessier said debris from a storm was an act of nature, therefore, he said the Town was not liable. B. Duchesne said board members had never approved payments for vehicle damage in the past. By consensus, the Board agreed no payment would be made.

There was a discussion regarding snow mounds along Route 7. Mr. Baker said that was the state's responsibility on a state highway.

Public Comments. None.

Recreation Committee. Board members reviewed estimates for basketball court backboards and rims. Shannon Pylik said the Recreation Committee recommended the lowest bid from American Super Sport \$2,751.60 including shipping. She noted one of

the old backboards could be used at Elfin Lake. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to accept American Super Sport's estimate. Motion carried (4-0).

Board members reviewed a draft survey prepared by S. Pytlik. She indicated she had revised the survey after feedback from the Selectboard and town administrator. She explained she wanted to distribute the survey digitally with hard copies available at Town Hall. She said the Recreation Committee wanted to prioritize community interests and they needed to know what people wanted.

B. Duchesne expressed concern regarding an online reservation system for ballfields as well as the tennis and basketball courts. M. Tessier suggested using signage to alert residents a court would be in use at certain dates/times. He further suggested installing one of the replaced backboards in another location (possibly near the skateboard area) for added recreational opportunities or use when courts were busy.

By consensus, the Board approved the survey.

There was a brief discussion regarding a proposed cross country running track at the ballfield and Stone Meadow proposed by track coach Brian Ferguson. S. Pytlik said the Conservation Commission was not in favor of it at Stone Meadow. B. Duchesne expressed opposition to use of Stone Meadow for the track. K. Luzader said the Rim Trail was very steep and narrow in some parts. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said Conservation Minutes related to this topic indicated they opposed construction of a track. She said perhaps they are not aware no construction was needed. K. Luzader added they may not understand this was a one-time event. The matter was tabled.

Recreation Committee Appointment. This matter was tabled as Raven Crispino had not returned the signed Mission Statement. S. Pytlik questioned why other municipal groups were not required to sign similar documents. She also asked about the Recreation Committee not being allowed to carryover funds as she said was the case with the Conservation Commission.

S. Pytlik requested concession employees track Elfin Lake daily usage. The town administrator responded workers submitted daily reports tracking receipts for the number of adults and children who paid attendance. S. Pytlik asked if seasonal pass usage could be tracked as well. Board members agreed.

Casella Zero Sort Agreement. Board members reviewed the updated Zero Sort Agreement for a five year term starting March 1, 2023.

M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the Zero Sort Agreement. Motion carried (5-0).

Property Map Maintenance Agreement. The Board reviewed Cartographic Associates, Inc. (CAI) Tax Map Maintenance Proposal at a cost of \$2,000 for 2023-24.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to approve the agreement. Motion carried (5-0).

Coin Drop Request. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve Wallingford Rotary’s coin drop request for Saturday, July 22, 2023 with a rain date of Saturday, Sept. 23. Motion carried (5-0).

Generator Grant Agreement. By consensus, the Board authorized B. Duchesne to sign the Vermont Emergency Management Enhancement Grant agreement to purchase a generator for Town Hall with grant funds paying \$20,700 of the estimated \$41,400 cost.

Lifeguard Job Description. There was a review of the updated lifeguard job description. K. Luzader said she agreed with the added language detailing season opening and closing tasks. C. Behrendt recommended adding a line reimbursing employees for lifeguard certification at the end of the season after a specified percentage of hours worked (75 percent of eligible hours with exceptions for rain dates).

It was also noted “unexplained absences” could lead to termination.

The Board tabled a decision on lifeguard coverage until applications were submitted.

Second Meeting in February. By consensus, the Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 as the second Monday is a holiday.

Selectboard Concerns.

Other Business. The Board reviewed a Reappraisal Funding chart reflecting the amount in the Reappraisal Fund compared to the cost of NEMRC’s townwide reappraisal (\$133,080) leaving a shortfall over the next couple of years of \$13,220 to be made up in future budgets.

B. Duchesne said he met with the town administrator and Jim Bagnall (who has extensive experience with insurance and workers’ compensation claims) to discuss coverage for the road foreman in the event of injury or damage to vehicles/equipment. He said following Mr. Bagnall’s advice, the town administrator would contact VLCT to explore coverage options when Mr. Baker was performing duties as road commissioner on behalf of the Town.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 21st Day of February, 2023 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Mark Tessier _____