

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2023

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Gary Fredette, Patty Bowen, Alyssa Williams, Jane Duda, Maria French and Sabra Shulman.

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

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to approve the 05/01/23 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (3-0).

Pay Orders. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the 05/16/23 pay order total of \$48,342.11 after \$598.82 was added for attachment plates and a latch box for the debris blower. Motion carried (3-0).

Road Commissioner's Report. None. Road Commissioner Phil Baker did not attend. By consensus, the Board approved A1's estimate of \$3,000 for a single day of storm drain cleaning in the village. The Board would like the road commissioner to follow up with A1 to see if cleaning was required annually.

Honorable Mentions. Jim Regula and Art Nemeth for putting up the tennis court net; John McClallen for putting up the flags in the village and in East Wallingford; Allen and Sandra Hochberg for donating funds for a Summer Recreation Program Scholarship; and Eve Freidl for donating to the monthly newsletter.

Public Comments. None.

Board of Civil Authority Request. There was a brief discussion regarding the Board of Civil Authority's request to seek the town attorney's opinion regarding the Bruce Moreton residency status matter. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier authorizing Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon to seek advice from Town Attorney Gary Kupferer. Motion carried (3-0).

Wallingford Day Requests. The Board tabled the appointment of Monica DeLorme to the Wallingford Day Committee until Jenn Galusha submits her resignation.

Jane Duda requested the Board's permission to seek approval from VTrans and local landowners to display a banner(s) advertising Wallingford Day's annual event across Route 7 in the village. M. Tessier asked the location of the banner(s). Ms. Duda said there were structures the banner(s) could be attached to that would meet VTrans height

restrictions. B. Duchesne said the event had been advertised in the past without banners across the state highway. M. Tessier cautioned it should not be located near the Routes 7 and 140 intersection and it should not be attached to utility poles. J. Jankus said the Town would require an exact location and copies of landowner permission notices. After further discussion, J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the request upon submission to the town administrator copies of the approved VTrans permit detailing regulations and location of the banner(s) along with signed/dated landowner permission forms. The vote was initially 2-1 with B. Duchesne voting “no” but after subsequent discussion he changed his vote to “yes” and the motion passed (3-0).

Investment Policy. Board members reviewed the Investment Policy and Ms. Sharon’s annual report featuring fund balances as required by the Investment Policy.

Security Policy. Board members conducted the annual review of the list of people with keys to Town Hall and other Town facilities per the Security Policy. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the list. Motion carried (3-0).

Summer Recreation Program Counselor Application. The Board reviewed Co-Director Lisa Cotrupi’s recommendation to hire Olive Skiathitis as a part time junior counselor. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding hourly rates and total labor hours for each Summer Recreation employee during the four-week summer program. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to set the following pay rates and maximum labor hours for the entire summer: Lisa Cotrupi \$19.85/hr up to 118 hours; Lawrie Roundy \$17.32/hr up to 207.5 hours; Samuel Groom \$16.25/hr up to 116.5 hours; and Olive Skiathitis \$15/hr up to 52 hours. Motion carried (3-0).

Town Hall Use Requests. By consensus, the Board approved a request by Virginia Westbrook to use Town Hall as a rain location for an event on Sunday, June 18, 2023 upon submission of the required \$25 user fee and \$75 deposit along with a Certificate of Insurance with the Town named as additional insured.

Ms. Sharon offered to unlock the building as needed.

Selectboard Concerns. None.

Other Business. Board members reviewed the monthly financial statement. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer noted transfer station expenses were down significantly from a year ago. B. Duchesne said the zoning salary is nearly spent and the road crew had exceeded the overtime line item.

B. Duchesne said the Sidewalk Committee had reviewed a design bid for the School Street sidewalks that was significantly more than the budgeted amount. The firm was asked to review costs and submit a revised bid.

There was a brief discussion regarding Jason Stone’s appeal of the Williams Building Permit to Environmental Court. Alyssa Williams said she was unaware the Development Review Board had not followed normal protocol.

J. Jankus noted the Town had received complaints about a banner on a house on Railroad Street. B. Duchesne responded the sheriff said it was considered free speech under the First Amendment.

Executive Session. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to enter executive session as allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) “the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee” at 7:51 p.m. Motion carried (3-0).

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to exit executive session at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried (3-0). No action was taken.

M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by B. Duchesne to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Motion carried (3-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 19th Day of June, 2023 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Mark Tessier _____