

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2023

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

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Dennis Phillips, John Thomson, and Tom Fort.

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 C. Behrendt to approve the 09/18/23 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (3-0).

Pay Orders. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the 10/03/23 pay order total of \$284,021.23. Motion carried (4-0).

Road Commissioner's Report. None. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said Road Commissioner Phil Baker indicated earlier in the day he would be contacting Wilk Paving to schedule summer paving. B. Duchesne said there were a number of sites where work on water/sewer lines across municipal roads needed to be paved. The town administrator said she would remind Fire District #1 Clerk Marianne McClure.

Honorable Mentions. Bill Lohsen for winterizing the Elfin Lake concession stand by draining the water; Tom Fort for collating questions and taking meeting notes for the Elfin Lake public beach erosion reduction design project.

Public Comments. None.

Coin Drop. B. Duchesne said the Wallingford Fire Department planned to hold a coin drop on Route 7 on Saturday, October 7th with a rain date of October 8th. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the coin drop. J. Jankus said there was a precedence for the fire department and Wallingford Rotary to hold coin drops. B. Duchesne noted the state required coin drops to be 750 feet or greater from intersections. Firefighter John Thomson said the state and VTrans had given all the necessary approvals. He said he would verify the location for the next coin drop. Motion carried (4-0).

Conservation Commission Mission Statement. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by J. Tessier to approve the Conservation Commission's Mission Statement - ***Protect Wallingford's land, water, air, and biodiversity.*** Motion carried (4-0).

Preliminary Designs for Erosion Reduction Project at Elfin Lake Public Beach.

Notes compiled by Conservation Commission Chair Tom Fort during a forum September 28th to address comments and questions submitted to Fitzgerald Environmental Associates (FEA) regarding the Elfin Lake public beach preliminary design for erosion reduction were reviewed:

- *Design selected based on approximately 20 citizen ballots.*
- *Southernmost planned regenerative area will be eliminated.*
- *Dock will be moved to the middle of the Northernmost planned regenerative area.*
- *Dock will not be included in the grant.*
- *Jordan provided a link to Dock Doctors from Vergennes, who offer a 4x18' aluminum residential pond dock with timber tops for approximately \$5k.*
- *Trees will be included in grant*
- *Adjustment of gutters on the rec building will be included in the grant.*
- *Gutters will be hard-piped underground into 2 bioretention areas.*
- *Bioretention basins will hold water from 10-year storms and will be filled with a loamy sand mix and planted with wildflower mix.*
- *Lifeguard station will be moved to South side of terraced area. It could be movable rather than permanent.*

B. Duchesne said Evan Fitzgerald and Jordan Duffy responded to questions and T. Fort did a good job of taking meeting notes. He noted the town administrator had participated remotely while on vacation. M. Tessier said the Town should find the best location for a lifeguard station and then anchor it. J. Jankus asked about Anne Awad and the UVM Extension Service participating with plantings. B. Duchesne said FEA had a plant consultant participating in the design. He said the final design should be ready by the end of the month. There were no objections by Selectboard members to the forum discussion and design adjustments as submitted via notes.

Concession Stand Invoices. B. Duchesne said Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon wanted to know whether Lohsen Plumbing and Heating and A1 invoices associated with unclogging toilets at the Elfin Lake concession stand should be paid out of the Recreation maintenance budget or the Building Fund. J. Jankus expressed concern the invoices totaling over \$1,900 would use up the rest of the maintenance budget. B. Duchesne responded maintenance issues would be addressed even if it went over budget. M. Tessier said the Building Fund should be used for planned projects. He added it would be important to charge the maintenance line item for the expenses to get a true picture of the costs for future budget purposes.

By consensus, the Board agreed to direct the town clerk and treasurer to charge the invoices to the Maintenance line #5805.

Public Comments. Tom Fort said there was a good discussion at the Elfin Lake erosion reduction design forum and several good comments/suggestions. He said he thought the designs were going in the right direction. B. Duchesne notified Mr. Fort the Board had approved the Conservation Commission Mission Statement.

VLCT Review of Proposed Zoning Regulations. The Board by consensus tabled this matter until Town Attorney Gary Kupferer's zoning questions were addressed prior to VLCT reviewing the document at an estimated cost of \$1,500 to \$2,000. B. Duchesne directed the town administrator to share Mr. Kupferer's recommendations with the zoning administrator and request her attendance at the October 16 meeting. C. Behrendt agreed the Town should address the attorney's concerns before the legal review. B. Duchesne said the town administrator would set up a call between the zoning administrator and town attorney if there were any questions.

Temporary Zoning Administrator. B. Duchesne said Erika Berner and Bruce Dobbins would be applying for a Bed and Breakfast permit for their home. He said Julie Sharon was willing to serve as temporary zoning administrator for this application. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to appoint Julie Sharon as temporary zoning administrator for this single application. Motion carried (5-0).

Town Hall Painting Agreement. Board members reviewed an agreement with contractor Kevin McNally for Town Hall exterior trim painting (excluding clock tower) and window sealing in the amount of \$14,800 with an additional \$600 for insurance. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt authorizing B. Duchesne to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town. Motion carried (5-0).

Selectboard Concerns. M. Tessier asked about the road crew excavating a ditch for the ballfield water installation. The town administrator said the road crew would excavate Thursday, October 5th. B. Duchesne said Lohsen Plumbing and Heating scheduled the water installation for October 9th.

Other Business. There was a discussion regarding Agency of Natural Resources' (ANR) River Engineer Josh Carvajal, Floodplain Manager Kyle Medash, and Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Leslie Wright visit to Waldo Lane (crack in road) and Elm St Extension bridge (debris, gravel in Otter Creek) and River Street (creek divides behind houses) to address flood concerns and possible state mitigation funding. The town administrator said Mr. Wright should be invited to a future Board meeting to provide an overview of the program and address any long-term Town maintenance questions if the Town proceeds with the debris removal.

B. Duchesne said he joined Jim Bagnall, Steffanie Bourque from RRPC, and the town administrator to collect Right of Way data for the School Street sidewalk project with the information sent to the design firm and the full Selectboard.

M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Motion carried (4-0)

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 16th Day of October, 2023 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Bruce Duchesne _____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Mark Tessier _____