

## Wallingford Selectboard

### Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2023

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

**Others present:** Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Cecile Betit, Paul Young, Donna Young, Breanna Franzoni, Mark Shea, Ben Hunter, Craig Hunter, Gretchen Hunter and Jordan Jankus.

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 10/02/23 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (3-0). K. Luzader abstained.

**Pay Orders.** K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier to approve the 10/17/23 pay order total of \$83,193.10 after \$40,000 was added for the Gilbert Hart Library annual appropriation. Motion carried (3-0). B. Duchesne abstained.

**Road Commissioner's Report.** None. B. Duchesne said Road Commissioner Phil Baker had informed the town administrator the road crew could do the flood damage repairs to the town garage this winter. No date from Wilk for paving roads or the Creek Road Bridge.

**Honorable Mentions.** Bruce and Maureen Duchesne and Jim Bagnall for boarding up the Elfin Lake concession stand for the winter; Trisha Nash for volunteering to serve as Health Officer.

**Public Comments.** None.

**Quarterly Financials.** Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon provided an overview of FY'24 first quarter financials. No questions from board members.

**Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD) – USDA Grant Report.** RCSWD's Mark Shea and Breanna Franzoni provided an overview and final report of the USDA 2023 Extended Outreach Grant. Ms. Franzoni said Wallingford's participation rate for the survey was higher than other Rutland County towns and 65 percent of respondents composted daily. Mr. Shea noted Wallingford residents were above the county average in rates of recycling and composting.

B. Duchesne said it would be helpful to find a source for Styrofoam to keep it out of the solid waste stream.

**Vermont Emergency Management Buyout Program.** B. Duchesne said the Board tabled this item at the last meeting to gather more information about long-term maintenance issues should the Town own the Young and/or Hunter properties. The Board reviewed an email response from VEM's Brian McWalters on this issue indicating there would be very little long-term maintenance with possibly some mowing and restricted use, but trails and park benches were options.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by M. Tessier authorizing B. Duchesne to sign VEM Buyout forms for the Hunter and Young properties. Motion carried (4-0).

Cecile Betit asked if there was a way to speed up the buyout process? B. Duchesne said the Town was following required steps. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said Mr. McWalters had informed all parties the process was extensive and could take 18 months or longer.

**Town Hall Weatherization Agreement – Solsaa Building and Energy Solutions, LLC.** The town administrator said Energy Committee member Ken Welch reviewed the agreement and requested removal of the Performance Bond language. After review of the revised agreement with that language removed, K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt authorizing B. Duchesne to sign the Town Hall Weatherization Agreement with Solsaa Building and Energy Solutions, LLC on the Town's behalf. Motion carried (4-0).

**VLCT Pacif Grant.** B. Duchesne said the town administrator had prepared a VLCT Pacif Grant application that would pay up to \$2,500 for workplace safety items with no local match requirement. Items included: a hazardous waste containment pallet; a spill kit; roadside mowing signs; ergonomic office chairs; traffic cones; and a steel drum dolly.

M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt authorizing B. Duchesne to sign the application on behalf of the Town. Motion carried (4-0).

**VLCT Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Coverage.** By consensus, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

**Town Hall Use Request.** Jordan Jankus provided an overview of the Green Mountain Neighbors' organization to assist seniors who wanted to stay in their homes by helping with tasks, shopping and more. He said the group requested use of Town Hall for an educational/outreach event on Saturday, November 4. He requested a waiver of fees and he provided an insurance certificate. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to approve the request and waive the fees. Motion carried (4-0).

**Proposed Zoning VLCT Review.** No decision was made at the last meeting for a VLCT review of proposed zoning to give Zoning Administrator Erika Berner the opportunity to speak to the town's attorney regarding Industrial Zone language. Ms. Berner said she spoke to the attorney and incorporated revised language into proposed zoning permitting the following uses in the Industrial Zone with Administrative Permit issued by the zoning

administrator: 1, 2 or multiple family dwelling, mobile home, retail store, business office, personal service business, and enclosed accessory use. The revised language listed Conditional Use with Development Review Board review and site plan approval for light manufacturing, research and development laboratory, enclosed warehouse, enclosed service and repair establishment, public garage, public utility substation, car wash, sand or gravel pit, quarry, dairy manufacturing, accessory building use, energy generation facilities, and infrastructure and telecommunication facilities.

Ms. Berner provided a copy of the revised language to the Board. She said the planning commission would review it at the next meeting and vote on changes. She said she would then return to the Selectboard to request VLCT review of proposed zoning.

**Selectboard Concerns.** M. Tessier said citizens should bring any concerns regarding the Open Meeting Law directly to the Board rather than air complaints on social media.

B. Duchesne said the road crew was unable to locate the water line after excavating in the marked area at the ballfield as part of a recreation area water installation project. He said the water was turned on to the old spigot and it worked. M. Tessier offered to go to the ballfield to try and locate the water line.

B. Duchesne said the Board should review the Town Hall Building Use Policy to see if any changes were needed.

M. Tessier asked about a Recreation Committee appointment. The town administrator said it would be on the Selectboard's November 6 agenda. B. Duchesne asked the town administrator to invite Mark Noble to that meeting.

The town administrator asked if Mark Tessier would take a Vermont Community Broadband Board survey on behalf of the Board and he agreed.

**Other Business.** B. Duchesne said the town administrator had submitted all the required documents and application to the state for flashing radar signs in the village.

B. Duchesne noted a Rutland County Solid Waste District report showed Wallingford led the county in book collections to divert books from the solid waste stream.

K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. Motion carried (4-0)

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 6th Day of November, 2023 Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt \_\_\_\_\_

Bruce Duchesne \_\_\_\_\_

Justin Jankus \_\_\_\_\_

Kathy Luzader \_\_\_\_\_

Mark Tessier \_\_\_\_\_