

## Wallingford Selectboard

### Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2024

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

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

**Others present:** Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Tom Fort, Heather Johnson.

**Agenda Amendments.** None.

**Minutes.** R. Baker made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the 10/07/24 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (4-0).

**Pay Orders.** M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Barker to approve the 10/22/24 pay order total of \$30,915.24. Motion carried ( 4-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** None.

**Honorable Mentions.** Kathy Luzader for donating a portion of her Selectboard salary for the Town Hall concert featuring Gypsy Reel; Wallingford Road Crew and road crews across the state for winning the annual Municipal Service award from Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns for all of their hard work during federally declared disasters in 2023 and 2024; all the citizens who continue to donate to the Boy With the Boot fund; Bruce Duchesne for filling in at the transfer station.

**Public Comments.** None.

**Quarterly Financials.** Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon provided an overview of first quarter financials for Fiscal Year 2025: Highway state revenue over budget by \$20,000; Reappraisal Expense will come out of Reappraisal Fund; ARPA expenses will come out of ARPA fund. No questions from Board members.

**Town Hall Heating and Cooling.** The Selectboard reviewed a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) written by Energy Commission members for solar panels to be installed on the town garage as part of a remote net metering system to save on municipal energy costs. Energy Commission Chair Tom Fort provided an overview of the RFP. Mr. Fort said in response to M. Tessier's question at the last meeting, he found out Green Mt. Power fees associated with solar at the garage would total less than \$4,000. By consensus, the Board approved the RFP.

Board members reviewed three estimates for electrical work for a Town Hall heat pump installation project using the siren service:

Jeff Duchesne \$3,265.39  
MEI Electrical Contractors \$3,700  
Rocky's Electric \$2,324.83

M. Tessier said Rocky's labor was less than the other two contractor and he did a site visit. T. Fort said Jeff Duchesne was very familiar with the building. R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by K. Luzader to accept low bidder Rocky's Electric. A discussion ensued. Motion carried (4-0)

Bill Lohsen had made a recommendation Town Hall heat compressors be installed on brackets rather than concrete pads to the rear of the structure. M. Tessier said he had concerns with the historical nature of the structure, but he added the Town Hall foundation was replaced in the location where Mr. Lohsen wants the brackets for heat pumps. By consensus, the Board agreed to allow brackets rather than concrete pads.

**Wallingford Day – Roll Over Funds and Appointment Recommendation.** Heather Johnson requested on behalf of the Wallingford Day Committee that funds/donations for the annual event be rolled over from year to year rather than go into the municipal General Fund. This would require voters approving an article on the Town Meeting Day Warning. Ms. Johnson said this would allow the event to grow from year to year. By consensus, the Board agreed to put the item on the March ballot.

The Wallingford Day Committee recommended appointing Todd Galiano to fill the seat vacated by Jane Duda. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to appoint Todd Galiano to the Wallingford Day Committee. Motion carried, (4-0),

**Selectboard Concerns.** M. Tessier said he would not be running for Selectboard re-election so he hoped someone interested in the post would step forward.

**Other Business.** K. Luzader said a couple of people complained about the speed limit and near misses by hidden driveways by the newly designed intersection at Routes 103 and 140. The Board reviewed a draft letter to VTrans engineer Laura Stone about considering lowering the speed limit and installing Hidden Driveway signs as requested by those residents. R. Barker questioned the distance needed to lower the speed limit. C. Behrendt said the Town was interested in learning more about the plans for Bridge 15 and it should not be left in the current state. M. Tessier said the Town should voice the residents' concerns about the State of Vermont. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said she had emailed Ms. Stone with the concerns. Board members agreed to wait for a VTrans update.

M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Motion carried, (4-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 4th Day of November in the year 2024:

Wallingford Selectboard

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

Rob Barker \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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