Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2025

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

Selectboard Members Present: Rob Barker, Carolyn Behrendt, Justin Jankus, Kathy Luzader and Mark Tessier.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Anne Awad, Shannon Pytlik, Mark Noble, Ron Bouchard, and Greg McCormack.

Agenda Amendments. By consensus add Arts and Community Flood Grant funds to the Recreation portion of the agenda.

Minutes. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by R. Barker to approve the 01/20/25 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (4-0). J. Jankus abstained as he was not at the meeting.

Pay Orders. J. Jankus made a motion that was seconded by R. Barker to approve the 02/04/25 pay order total of $19,160.35. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. Road Commissioner Phil Baker reported the road crew would likely be using all of the salt and sand budget this year.

Certificate of Compliance – Town Road and Bridge Standards. M. Tessier made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve and sign the annual Certificate of Compliance for the Town Road and Bridge Standards adopted in 2019. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report. There was an extensive discussion regarding replacement of the salt/sand shed on River Street. M. Tessier recommended and the full Board agreed by consensus to request the Energy Committee draft the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new sand shed. Mr. Baker agreed to contact the zoning administrator and floodplain manager regarding setback, variance, and elevation issues, which would be needed for the RFP.

Honorable Mentions. Jack and Mary Ellen Ford, Michael and Janet Keefe, Jane Brown, Mary Brown, Jeanne Gilbert, Virginia Marconi, Denise and Dawn Eddy, Lynn and Paul Guare for their donations to the Boy With the Boot fund; Linda Mercado for donating to the Wallingford food shelf;

Public Comments. Rob Bouchard extended his appreciation to the road crew and transfer station employees for their dedication to the Town. He said there was very little recognition when people do good work.

Recreation Committee – Skating Rink, WUV Implementation RFP, and Update on the Concession Stand Grant Application. Recreation Chair Shannon Pytlik requested permission to install a small 50'X100' ice rink at the ballfield. She said volunteers would pump the water from the river (after checking for state permissions). J. Jankus requested a Use at Own Risk sign be posted. Mark Noble said the likely location would be adjacent to the basketball court where the mini soccer field was established last fall. By consensus, the Board agreed to the ice rink request with appropriate signage.

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Ms. Pytlik said she was working on a draft Request for Proposal for a project manager to oversee the Elfin Lake public beach erosion reduction project paid by a Watersheds United of Vermont grant. The project manager would be responsible for the RFP process for a contractor and ensure all work is completed on time and on budget. By consensus, the Board approved Ms. Pytlik request to draft the RFP for a project manager. Final review/approval would be on February 17.

The Board reviewed feedback from the preliminary submission to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LCWF) for a grant to upgrade the Elfin Lake concession stand. Ms. Pytlik will be submitting the final grant application in mid-March. She noted funds required the structure to be used in perpetuity for recreation. She said she was seeking an estimate as LWCF requested more details on costs. She noted there was a 50 percent local share (in-kind and cash contribution). She said she would have more details on those figures once an estimate was obtained. After some discussion regarding the challenges of getting an estimate, the Board agreed by consensus that Ms. Pytlik could spend up to $500 from the Building Fund to pay for an estimate or up to $1,000 for a qualified contractor to draft a Request for Proposal.

Ms. Pytlik said the Recreation Committee will be hosting a Chess Club throughout the month of February in the Klock Room at the Gilbert Hart Library.

She said there was a $1,429 balance from the Arts and Community Flood Grant and she would like to seek permission from grant administrators to use those funds to purchase movies for outdoor events this summer and repair the ballfield concession door and window. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Rotary Coin Drop. By consensus, the Board approved Wallingford Rotary's request to hold a coin drop on July 26 or Aug 2 (rain date) in front of their building on Route 7. It was noted Rotary would first obtain all state and VTrans permits.

Review Town Hall Key List Per the Security Policy. The Board conducted the annual review and by consensus approved the Town Hall key list as required by the Town's Security Policy.

CAI Technology Property Mapping Agreement. The Board by consensus agreed to sign CAI Technology's property mapping agreement for annual maintenance at a cost of $2,000.

Boy With the Boot Update. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said she visited Wayne Jones' shop along with Road Crew member Charlie Woods to discuss plans to restore the statute. She said Mr. Jones planned to repair all cracks and fissures, install rods and fill it with epoxy for support. The statue would no longer be hollow. He would also replace the water hoses and paint it. She said his $9,750 estimate was submitted to VLCT along with a second estimate and the police report. She noted there was a $1,000 insurance deductible. Board members approved Mr. Jones could begin work on the statute.

C. Behrendt said the Board would address the creation of a replica as well as installation of a security camera system at upcoming meetings in the spring.

February Selectboard Meeting. The Board by consensus agreed to meet on Monday, February 17 (Presidents' Day) at the regular time.

Selectboard Concerns. M. Tessier raised VTrans' Right of Way concerns regarding the School Street sidewalk project. K. Luzader said the Town would have to wait for the results of the VTrans research into the matter.

Other Business. None.

R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by J. Jankus to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 17th Day of February in the year 2025:

Wallingford Selectboard

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Rob Barker_____

Justin Jankus _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Mark Tessier_____

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