

Wallingford Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2025

Selectboard Members Present: Anne Awad, Rob Barker, Carolyn Behrendt, Kathy Luzader, and Glenn Mayer.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Julie Sharon, David Fox, Erika Berner, Bruce Dobbins, and Joseph Elwell.

K. Luzader called the meeting to order at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Amendments. None.

Minutes. G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by R. Barker to approve the 06/02/25 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

Pay Orders. R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad to approve the 06/17/25 pay order total of \$137,582.82. Motion carried (5-0).

Road Commissioner Report.

~Paving Bids – paving bids were opened and reviewed with Road Commissioner Phil Baker. Wilk Paving bid \$103/ton for 905 tons for a total of \$93,215; Pike Industries bid \$114.77/ton for 945 tons for a total of \$108,457.65. After some discussion, R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to award the paving contract to Pike Industries. Motion carried (5-0).

~ Mr. Baker suggested inviting neighbors to the Tifft Road site visit on July 7th at 5:30 p.m. to discuss road repair/road closure options.

~ Board members approved Mr. Baker's request to use the balance of the FY'25 sand and gravel budget for paving.

Rutland County Sheriff's Contract. Sheriff David Fox provided an overview of a new 12-month law enforcement agreement starting July 1 featuring 24 hours of coverage each week at a cost of \$78,725. After a brief discussion, R. Barker made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the agreement and authorized K. Luzader to sign it. Motion carried (5-0).

Honorable Mentions. Charlie Woods for installing the dock at the Elfin Lake public beach; Benjamin Luzader for installing the ropes and buoys at the public beach; Bruce Duchesne for assisting with security systems at Elfin Lake public beach; Carol McCleod for longtime work and dedication to the Town as part of the Conservation Commission.

Public Comments. None.

Annual Financial Investment Report. Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon provided a detailed Investment Report and reviewed with board members a Financial Management Questionnaire. G. Mayer suggested putting the Bridge Fund into a Certificate of Deposit and researching higher interest rate options.

There was a brief discussion about the need for wifi enabled security systems at Town properties.

Animal Control Ordinance- Revise. Animal Control Officer Joseph Elwell provided the Board with a revised Animal Control Ordinance he drafted merging the Town's existing ordinance with a VLCT model ordinance.

R. Barker said he would like Animal Control Officer training language be added. A. Awad suggested training be made part of the job description. After further discussion, A. Awad made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to approve the amended Animal Control Ordinance. Motion carried (5-0).

Development Review Board – Member Attendance, Peddler Permit Regulations. There was a discussion regarding the lack of meeting/hearing attendance over the past year by a member of the Development Review Board (DRB). G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by A. Awad to remove Jason Stone from the DRB. Motion carried (5-0).

DRB Chair Bruce Dobbins recommended the zoning administrator be considered a formal advisor to the DRB and a voting member when necessary to reach a quorum.

Zoning Administrator Erika Berner said she would recuse herself when necessary. After some discussion, G. Mayer made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt authorizing the zoning administrator act as a technical advisor for the DRB and vote on administrative matters (agendas, minutes) until vacancies are filled. Motion carried (5-0).

Board members were provided copies of an email from Joyce Barbieri regarding the Peddler Permit language in the zoning ordinance. E. Berner said the zoning administrator traditionally signed the permits. She said requirements associated with the permit should be handled by someone with knowledge of the regulations. B. Dobbins said at some point the zoning ordinance related to this topic should be updated. He said in the interim the Board could authorize the zoning administrator to sign Peddler Permits as has been the tradition. By consensus, the Board agreed the zoning administrator would process and sign the permits as has been the case in recent history.

Fireworks Displays. A. Awad said fireworks displays caused a number of environmental concerns and frightened animals and she favored limiting displays to July 4th and Wallingford Day. K. Luzader said she would like the Board to be able to approve requests on a case-by-case basis. G. Mayer and C. Behrendt suggested public notices at least a week in advance. C. Behrendt further suggested limiting displays to weekends and recognized holidays. After further discussion, the Board tabled action until research can be conducted on fireworks policies in other municipalities.

Selectboard Meetings – East and South Wallingford Locations. A. Awad said residents in East and South Wallingford often feel left out of municipal matters and she suggested holding at least one Selectboard meeting in each area of Town annually. After some discussion, A. Awad agreed to research possible locations and report back to the Board.

Future Land Use Planning – Act 181/Act 250. K. Luzader made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt for the Town of Wallingford to opt-in for Tier 1B Area Designation. Motion carried (4-1). R. Barker voted in the minority.

Combined Time Off – Employees. By consensus, the Board granted approval to a request by the town administrator to roll over any unused Combined Time Off to the next fiscal year.

Planning Commission Appointment. By consensus, the Board followed the planning commission recommendation and appointed Bruce Duchesne to fill a vacancy.

Planning Chair Erika Berner requested permission to send sections of the draft Town Plan to appropriate municipal committees for input. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Agenda Building. None.

Selectboard Concerns. K. Luzader said Lawrie Roundy requested another microwave at Elfin Lake concessions and the road crew to dispose of the paddle boats.

G. Mayer said he was drafting a Charter for the Capital Fund Committee, and he shared the preliminary version. By consensus, the Board approved his effort.

Other Business. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer said No Trespass Orders would be signed against individuals involved in vandalism at the ballfield. C. Behrendt said the orders should extend to Stone Meadow and the public beach.

G. Mayer said he was researching cell tower lease/purchase options.

C. Behrendt made a motion that was seconded by A. Award to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 7th Day of July in the year 2025:

Wallingford Selectboard

Anne Awad _____

Rob Barker _____

Carolyn Behrendt _____

Kathy Luzader _____

Glenn Mayer _____