

## Wallingford Selectboard

### Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2025

**Selectboard Members Present:** Anne Awad, Carolyn Behrendt, Kathy Luzader, and Glenn Mayer. Rob Barker did not attend.

**Others Present:** Sandi Switzer, Jill Stone Teer, Joyce McMahon, Michael McMahon, Heather Johnson, Bob Jones, and Greg McCormack from Peg TV.

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

**Agenda Amendments.** None.

**Minutes.** Approval of 08/18/25 meeting Minutes was tabled.

**Pay Orders.** A. Awad made a motion that was seconded by G. Mayer to approve the 09/03/25 pay order total of \$41,315.25. Motion carried (4-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker was not present. Michael McMahon asked about a timeframe for Tifft Road repairs. K. Luzader responded the Highway Department had not set a schedule. Mr. McMahon requested the top of Tifft Road be graded.

**Highway Department Sand Shed – Replacement Plan.** K. Luzader reported G. Mayer and Town Administrator Sandi Switzer would join her along with DuBois & King engineer Tim Dall in a virtual meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to explore design/bid/build options.

**Honorable Mentions.** Wayne Jones for his outstanding work restoring the iconic Boy With the Boot statue. A. Awad added Mr. Jones brought the finished statue to Wallingford House to give residents the opportunity to view it.

**Public Comments.** K. Luzader said the local NBC affiliate would be in Wallingford on Thursday for a feature of the community.

**Grants in Aid Agreement.** K. Luzader indicated the Town was awarded FY'26 Grants in Aid (GIA) funds totaling \$24,000 with a \$6,000 in-kind local match for upgrades to hydrologically connected roads in order to meet state Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) standards.

She said the town administrator on behalf of the Town had applied for and received \$156,400 in GIA funds since 2017 when the MRGP became state law. Road segments improved since that time, include: several segments over multiple years on Sugar Hill, Wallingford Pond, Hartsboro, Dugway, Chapin, Blackwood, Maranville, White Rocks Picnic, Hawkins, Van Wyck, Parker, and Haven Hill.

By consensus, the Board authorized K. Luzader to sign the GIA FY'26 agreement.

**3D Printing Presentation for Boy With the Boot.** Tyler McNaney presented an overview of a collaborative effort to recreate the Boy With the Boot using 3D printing technology. Mr. McNaney indicated Vermont Technical College (VTC) could 3D scan the statue for an estimated \$375 to \$500; Massive Dimension (MD) would 3D print the replica at an estimated cost of \$9,000 to

\$18,000; Arcana Workshop would provide artistic finishing and surface treatment at an estimated \$5,000.

K. Luzader asked if the Town would own the files and Mr. McNaney confirmed Town ownership. G. Mayer asked about the finished material and Mr. McNaney said it was a high engineer grade plastic similar to fiberglass. G. Mayer asked if the cost included a water feature and Mr. Naney confirmed it did. The town administrator asked if the scan would take place onsite and if there were any additional charges. Mr. McNaney replied the scan would take place at Town Hall with no travel fees. He also suggested a number of fundraisers to offset costs. The Board thanked Mr. McNaney for his presentation.

**Boy With the Boot Update.** A. Awad said the base of the fountain needed repair. The town administrator suggested a brick fundraiser whereby people purchase individualized bricks to be placed around the fountain base to cover repair costs. C. Behrendt said there were companies that specialize in those types of fundraisers. A. Awad asked the town administrator to post an item on Front Porch Forum seeking assistance with the fountain restoration from anyone with experience. The Board directed the town administrator to request Bill Lohsen inspect the water features and plumbing that runs from the fountain to Wallingford House.

A discussion ensued regarding the permanent location of the original Boy With the Boot statue. It was agreed it would be placed in the Town Clerk's office with a possible relocation to the front lobby in the future.

K. Luzader said the town administrator was working with VLCT on the vandalism claim for the statue following Wayne Jones' submission of the final repair invoice.

**Agenda Building.** A. Awad requested Sinking Fund be added to an upcoming agenda; C. Behrendt requested policy discussions related to recreation committee residency requirements and municipal employee minimum age limits be added to a future agenda.

**Wallingford Day – Appointment/Possible Two-Day Event.** Wallingford Day Co-Chair Heather Johnson said the subcommittee recommended the appointment of Sierra Stocker. A. Awad asked about vacant seats and Ms. Johnson said there would be five members with the addition of Ms. Stocker. By consensus, the Board appointed Sierra Stocker.

Ms. Johnson said Wallingford Day members were discussing a two-day event next summer in keeping with the tradition of Wallingford Days long ago. While no decisions have been made, she said the subcommittee discussed adding more music, a carnival, hayrides from designated parking areas, and different events each day. C Behrendt asked if it would take place on a Saturday and Sunday. Ms. Johnson replied it would be a Friday-Saturday event. A. Awad suggested a kickoff on Friday evening with K. Luzader agreeing and indicating it could be similar to Rutland City's Friday Night Live. The town administrator suggested a chicken barbecue on Friday with Ms. Johnson adding a movie could be scheduled.

Board members indicated interest in hearing more about the two-day events in the coming months.

**Selectboard Concerns.** G. Mayer said he along with A. Awad attended a webinar focused on operating budgets and Capital planning. He said an inventory of assets would be useful in order to plan strategically and financially for replacement. G. Mayer said VLCT had templates that would assist with this effort. A. Awad said two Vermont municipalities had shared Capital plans in the

webinar that could also be helpful. After further discussion, the Board by consensus agreed G. Mayer, A. Awad and Robert Allen, who volunteered to be on a Capital Committee, may initiate work on a Capital plan including inventories.

**Other Business.** K. Luzader read the following statement written by the town administrator related to retired Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Sharon; *Julie officially retires August 30<sup>th</sup> and Jill takes over as Town Clerk and Treasurer. Eleven years ago, the Selectboard followed Julie and Joyce Barbieri's recommendation to hire me as part-time town administrator. Two years later, Julie hired me as her assistant clerk/treasurer creating a full-time job between the two positions. My town administrator job eventually morphed into a full-time position. Julie has been a wonderful boss (when I was her assistant) and co-worker since the first day I arrived at Town Hall. She is incredibly capable at all her tasks, generous with her time assisting everyone who walks through the front doors, a font of knowledge within Town Hall and the community at large, she is gifted with patience and determination to complete every facet of her job, she accomplishes more in one day than most do in a week, and she does it all with a smile. Julie has earned a long and restful retirement with her husband, Larry, and I hope she gets to experience lots of travel adventures. I wish her the very best as that is what she deserves. Julie, please don't be a stranger here at Town Hall and visit us often. Best Wishes, Julie. You will be missed.*

A. Awad said Ms. Sharon had contacted her to volunteer as a gardener at the Boy With the Boot fountain and garden starting next Monday morning.

A. Awad made a motion that was seconded by C. Behrendt to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

APPROVED THIS 15th Day of September in the year 2025:

Wallingford Selectboard

Anne Awad \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Glenn Mayer \_\_\_\_\_