

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting

January 21, 2015

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

Board Members: *Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Todd Harris, Richard Lee*
Town Employee: *Bernard Earle*
Public: *Greg Williams*
Reporter: *None*
Correspondent: *Val Mason*

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Town of Rutland Letter**
- **Payroll Orders**

Comments from the Community: Greg Williams questioned the Board regarding the billing of a certain Lister. Belinda answered the question and stated that this particular Lister is right on schedule as far as his billing hours are concerned.

Approve Minutes of January 7, 2014: Discussion. Todd made the motion to accept the minutes as read. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Liquor Control Board – Wolcott Store Renewal Application: Belinda informed the Board that the store's Alcohol and Tobacco renewal begins May 1, 2015 and ends April 30, 2016 with the Department of Liquor Control. The applicant is Fred and Sally Martin DBA Wolcott Store, Inc. They have attended the necessary training and no violations have occurred since the last renewal. Richard made the motion to accept this renewal application. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed the renewal.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Certificate of Highway Mileage – Sign:** Belinda reviewed the annual certificate from the District that needs to be corrected if necessary and signed by the end of February 2015. This certificate states how many miles the town has of Class I, Class II, Class III, Class IV and any legal trails. The town is paid on the total amount of Class I, Class II and Class III miles. The district informed the town that we have a State highway of 7.032 miles that runs through the town. Discussion. No changes from last year's certificate. The Board agreed with the district on the total mileage. Todd made the motion to accept the Certificate as produced, that no changes have occurred and to sign the Certificate. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed the Certificate and will pass it on to Linda to sign as well. More discussion. Belinda informed the Board that they will

have to inform the State of any roads posted that are below what the State allows. Two ordinances/policies will be submitted; one on a speed limit ordinance for 35 miles per hour on all town roads and the second ordinance will be for the North Wolcott Road which had a traffic study done. Todd agreed that the Board at some point needs to discuss some of the town roads in more detail.

- **Transfer Station Profit and Loss Report:** Belinda presented the report that is from July through December 2014. The report shows that the Station is doing very well. Belinda also mentioned that the employees at the Station are doing a great job running the station. Discussion on covers and the new solar system that is set to be scheduled. Belinda mentioned possibly needing a new heater for next year.
- **December Monthly Order Totals:** The total for all monthly orders in December that the Board approved was \$60,677. 64
- **Invitation to LCPC TAC Meeting:** Belinda provided copies of this invitation to each Board member. The meeting is for January 28, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. The Transportation Advisory Committee is hosting this municipal information sharing session about the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail municipal trailhead projects. Linda wrote on the invitation that she will be attending. Bessie is planning to go as well. Belinda did mention as a side note that the Northern Boarders did go out to bid and Linda received two bids. Linda was given the authorization to work with LCPC on this. The plan is to start this summer. The town's proposed amount is \$9,100, which is in the budget for 2015-2016.

New Business:

- **Taylor and Putvain Sand Pit – Status of Reclamation Plan:** Belinda handed out copies of a letter from the Natural Resources Board that was addressed to James Mahoney, Esq. and a copy sent to the Selectboard. The letter is in regards to Land Use Permit 5L1245 and 5L245-I, Town of Wolcott and Taylor and Putvain Sand Pit Status of Reclamation Plan. Belinda first gave the Board a background history before getting to the letter. She informed the Board that the Town had an agreement with Bruce Taylor to remove sand from his Pit. This agreement included an Act 250 Permit from the State. At a later date the agreement was amended to include an increase in the extraction amount and an extension of operation of the Pit until October 30, 2006. During this time, Mr. Taylor sold the land to Dr. Carol Locke, without giving notice to the Town of his intent to sell. Dr. Locke had full knowledge of the agreement between Mr. Taylor and the Town regarding the Pit, but refused the Town access to the already screened material. Upon refusal of the ability to enter the Pit, the Town sent Dr. Locke a letter on October 17, 2006 asking for permission to enter and reclaim from the extracted area. A response was received from Dr. Locke on November 2, 2006 requesting that the Town create a reclamation plan. The current letter from the Natural Resources Board to James Mahoney, Esq. is requesting that the Town submit a required reclamation plan that will clearly state the status of the pit as well as a narrative regarding re-grading procedures and vegetation. The Board states that upon receipt of this required plan and narrative, they will review it and determine its sufficiency. Lengthy discussion. The Board agreed that they will ask Dr. Locke her permission to access the pit possibly along

with an engineer. Belinda will first call the Town's attorney for advice and see if he has any information from his partner who is representing Dr. Locke.

- **Status of the 2014 TA Grant:** Belinda presented a copy of a letter written to Maxfield English from Rob at LCPC regarding a scoping study that the Board authorized \$2000 for him to do a study for a path from the school to the baseball field. After Rob had a conversation with the grant manager at VTrans, the letter stated that not enough money was asked for to fulfill the federal requirements for a scoping study that uses federal money. In Rob's letter he advised three options: Option 1 is that the Town put in the \$7500 for the scoping study and get the grant for the study now. Option 2 is to not do a study with federal money, but just go for construction funding to build the path in next year's grant program. Option 3 is to hire a consultant to do a study without grant assistance. He stated that this option could be combined with option 2 with a study being done for less than \$7500. Belinda let the Board know that she talked at length with Rob at LCPC. LCPC did mention that they possibly could get creative and assist with the cost of the study. Lengthy discussion of options and plan of a path in general. The Board came to the conclusion that this study is not something they wish to pursue at this time due to other infrastructure issues and the additional cost that would be required of the tax payers. Belinda made the motion to not exceed the already approved amount and the Board understands that VTrans will probably deny the grant request. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Belinda will inform Maxfield of their decision.
- **Approve and Sign Town Meeting Warning:** The Board was presented with copies of the Town Meeting Warning. The Board reviewed the Articles. Discussed each Article including Article 7 pertaining to the School Street water system because along with this article a notice of proposed conveyance needs to be placed in three places in town, on the Town's website and in a selected newspaper at least thirty days prior to Town Meeting. Belinda made the motion the Board warn through a notice to the taxpayers of their request thirty days prior to Town Meeting. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. This authorization is necessary from the taxpayers due to the fact that in a 1998 Town Meeting, the voters participated in the School Street Water System issue. Therefore, the voters must be included in this decision. Also discussed was Article 8 regarding the appropriation of funds to several social service agencies. Article 10 was discussed in detail which is the amount of operating funds necessary. The Board is pleased that this amount has decreased since last year. The Board also discussed the questions that will be put on the survey. Belinda made the motion to approve and sign the Town Meeting Warning. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed the warning.
- **Sign Selectboard Budget:** Belinda presented the Selectboard Budget. Discussion. Belinda made the motion to sign the Budget as presented. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Selectboard members signed the budget.

Old Business:

- **Draft Animal Control Ordinance – Final Mark Up:** Belinda informed the Board that she had a lengthy discussion with Ron, the Chair of the Hyde Park Selectboard. He informed Belinda that Johnson and Hyde Park feel strongly in favor of this ordinance in several ways. Johnson and Hyde Park feel that each town would benefit by the increase in support from the LCSD, would eliminate any loop holes and it would give the ability of the Town to issue warrants more than just one time per year, which now occurs currently in May. Discussion that included Bernard who had some concerns and the Board discussed other issues that didn't quite fit with the Town. Belinda was informed that Johnson is changing a part of the Ordinance to suit their needs. The Board concluded that Belinda will phone Ron from the Hyde Park Selectboard and inform him that the Town is still interested in joining them, but the Board is not in total agreement and need more time to make the necessary adjustments for Wolcott's needs.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Town of Rutland Letter:** Belinda informed the Board that she received a letter from the Selectboard of Rutland that explains that they are attempting to, through the enclosed resolution to form a coalition of Vermont communities that supports reasonable legislation to restore local community input to the regulatory process when addressing the Solar Siting in our State. Belinda handed out copies of the letter and resolution, which asked the Board to sign the resolution showing support of this idea. Lengthy discussion. The Board agreed that they feel that more information is necessary before they endorse this idea. Belinda will call the Chairman of the Rutland Selectboard who sent the letter.
- **Payroll Orders:** Orders signed by all present Board members.

Todd informed the Board that the Highway Department had received their new sander, which he feels will save the Town a lot of time and money. He also stated that the 2010 truck is in the garage for repair. Discussion on this truck on how discouraging it has been and the 2007 truck was also discussed. A truck was not available from the repair shop for the Town to use.

Belinda made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Belinda adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Next Selectboard Meeting February 4, 2015