

WOLCOTT SELECTBOARD MEETING

October 1, 2014

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

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

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- Sign Payroll Orders
- Town Hall Rental Permit
- Request To Set Up Tax Payments
- Village Center Designation
- Review Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual – Town and Transfer Station

Bernard Earle – Turkey Issue: Bernard informed the Board that he had received a call from the LCSD regarding an attack on Carol Lang Godin's turkeys. When Bernard arrived at the scene 5 turkeys were deceased and one was missing after an attack by a dog who had been shot to stop the attack. The dog is not registered with the town and no one claimed the dog although a neighbor wanted to take the dog and took it to the vet. The following day Bernard went back to the neighbor who had taken the dog in. Bernard was told that the dog had been moved to a relative's house in Craftsbury. Ms. Godin would like to be reimbursed for her turkeys and is asking that the town pay half of the replacement cost. Ms. Godin's neighbor, whose dog was loose during the attack is willing to pay the other half. Bernard researched what the replacement cost would be. The total cost of the loss is \$525.00, which is not including the additional cost of these being organic turkeys, which Ms. Godin is okay with as long as the town is willing to pay the \$262.50, which is half of the cost of the six lost turkeys. Bernard informed Ms. Godin that he did not have the authority to issue her any kind of compensation and that he would bring this to the Selectboard. Discussion. The Board asked Bernard to ask Ms. Godin to attend the next Selectboard meeting or write a letter explaining the situation and her reasons for asking the town to compensate her loss. The Board has tabled this issue until they have spoken with Ms. Godin or received correspondence from her giving them more information.

VTRANS Transportation Alternatives Program – Maxfield English: Maxfield approached the Board and informed them that he and Linda agreed to pursue the scoping study on his idea of the connector trails. Belinda informed the Board that she looked into funding for this. The only available money is \$2500 in the Recreation Park fund. Belinda left a message for Ron, the Chair of that Board. She has not heard back from him. Richard

made the motion to entertain using \$2000 to put toward this study. Todd seconded the motion. Bessie informed the Board that there is a trail under Route 15 where the underpass used to be and goes all the way to P&R Lumber which avoids the road except from the Town Clerk's Office to the bridge. Discussion on the feasibility study on how to connect the rail trail to the park and the park to the school. Maxfield pointed out that this is referenced on page 85 of the Municipal Town Plan as a vision for the town, so that students and residents can have an alternative non-motorized way to the library and the school. The Board asked Maxfield if the \$2000 is enough. He stated that he would speak with Rob Moore of LCPC now that he has a number to see if it is a possibility. Maxfield stated that if there is enough money he would like to do the Park to the School first. More discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment – DRB Member: Belinda presented a copy of the Planning Commission minutes from their meeting on September 25, 2014. The Planning Commission recommended the name of Bill Cotten to the Selectboard to fill the open vacancy that is on the DRB Board. Belinda made the motion to accept the DRB's recommendation of Bill Cotten to fill the open vacancy on the Board. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resignation – Cemetery Commissioner: Belinda presented the Board with a letter from Charles Allen resigning as Cemetery Commissioner. He stated that he no longer lives in Wolcott. Cornelius Reed, Jr. was aware of the opening and he approached the Town and said he would like to fill the vacancy and it would be an honor to be on this committee. Belinda made the motion to accept Charles Allen's resignation. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Belinda will send Mr. Allen a Thank You card for his service. Belinda made the motion to accept Cornelius Reed, Jr. as Cemetery Commissioner to fill this vacancy until Town Meeting. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments from the Community: None

Review Paving Bids: Belinda presented the bid from Gray's Paving and Sealing, Inc. for the paving of three tenths of a mile on East Hill Road. This would require 341 tons at \$88 a ton which amounts to \$30,008.00. They will also provide flaggers and a sign package. The \$40,000 that was allotted for Paving of a Class III road will cover this amount. Belinda mentioned that the Town did not receive any Grants to cover paving on the North Wolcott Road. A bid of \$57,2000.00 was given by Gray's Paving and Sealing, Inc. to finish paving School Hill Road where it was left off up to the corner. The Board stated that obviously the Town cannot afford the paving of School Hill. Discussion followed on the need to pave East Hill. Gray's cannot do this paving project on East Hill until spring. The board decided not to accept the bids.. The Town will put it out to bid again.

Approve Minutes Of September 17, 2014: Bessie made the motion to accept the minutes of September 17, 2014. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Payroll Orders – Sign:** Signed
- **Driveway Permit – Sign:** Steve Young requests a driveway be put in at the intersection of East Hill Road and Keeler Pond Road on the right to be able to access his wood lot. Skip did put in some requests and will not sign until these changes have been made. Tabled.
- **Town Hall Permit – Sign:** Joyce Chase for October 18, 2014 from 12:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. No alcohol. Richard made the motion to accept this permit. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Net Metering Proposal:** Belinda read the proposal/notice from the Public Service Board regarding the windmill that is being erected at the Schlosser property on Town Hill Road asking if the Town has concerns or feel that it will cause a hindrance and if the town wishes to have a hearing. Pictures and descriptions were included. Discussion. The Board unanimously stated that they feel that this Net Metering Proposal does not affect the town and the Board does not have any concerns regarding this.
- **Request – Dennis Tribble:** Belinda read a letter from Mr. Tribble regarding his delinquent property taxes. Discussion. Richard made the motion to give Mr. Tribble an extension of 6 months to pay his delinquent property taxes owed. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Town Hall Permit Request:** Amy Touchette for Justice for Dogs for October 3 and 4, 2014 for all day on both days. She asked that the fee be waived. Todd made the motion to accept this request. Bessie seconded. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Request to set up tax payments:** Mr. and Mrs. Dale LaRose sent a letter requesting to set up tax payments. Discussion. Belinda made the motion to deny their request for an eleven month extension, but the Board will accept an alternative of an extension of six months, starting this month in the amount of \$300 a month and will be due by the 15th of each month, which will bring them current and it will be kept in house. Richard seconded the motion.
- **Village Center Designation:** Formal notification was given to the town that the Wolcott Village Center met the requirements for Village Center Designation and recognizes it as such. A summary of benefits was enclosed for this program. Discussion which also included that the sale of Buck's goes through and Belinda briefed the Board on the Historical Society meeting.
- **Review Profit and Loss: Budget vs. Actual – Town and Transfer Station:** Belinda handed out copies for the members to review.

New Business:

- **Review - 2015 Insurance Renewal:** The Board reviewed the 2015 Property Schedule from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. The Board did not make any changes.

- **Employee Recognition:** Belinda informed the Board that Richard had approached her regarding recognizing Mark for his hard work. Belinda stated that both Mark and Richard have worked hard at handling the cash register, whether or not they have help, the price changes and the new compliances that are required with the State. Discussion. Tabled.

Old Business:

- **Citizen Request:** Kelly McKearney sent a letter of request regarding Bernard Earle and an incident that happened on the adopted-dog owner's property that has since moved to Wolcott from Waterbury. Discussion. Bernard will continue to monitor the situation. Bernard explained that he told the owner that if he sees the dog off the owner's property that he will bring the owner of the dog in front of the Selectboard.

Todd made the motion to adjourn. Belinda seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Belinda adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

*Next Selectboard Meeting
October 15, 2014*