

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting October 7, 2015

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

Selectboard Members: *Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Todd Harris, Eric Furs*
Public: *Greg Williams, Peter Burgess, DJ Masi*
Reporters: *Kayla Friedrich & Ben Collier of the News & Citizen*
Correspondent: *Val Mason*

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

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Executive Session – Highway Department and Maintenance Update Report**
- **Grading of School Parking Lot**
- **DJ Masi – Road Issues:** Mr. Masi approached the Board with his concerns and experiences of drainage, especially during heavy rain storms on the Richard-Wolcott Road where he resides. He stated that water runs off the road and onto his property. He described that the water on either side of the road pools up and has nowhere to drain. He stated that Todd and Skip had looked at the problem but asked that the road crew address this issue as soon as possible. Discussion followed. Todd will schedule a temporary fix until a permanent solution can be done in the spring. There was discussion around the road crew not getting to all the road maintenance needed, discussion on farming out some of the maintenance on equipment. Town will do a cost study to see if it would be cheaper to have a mechanic change the tires on the town's trucks that need to be done twice per year and as Belinda mentioned it would free up the road crew to do their work.

Approve Minutes September 16th, 23rd and 30th: Bessie made the motion to approve the minutes of all three meeting with the following corrections. The meeting of September 16th, page, 2, paragraph 3, under "Comments from the Community, line 15 should read "Gates who owns" instead of "own". Also on page 2, under "Review Correspondence/Sign", "Correspondence – Attorney O'Hagin", line 1, should read "received from attorney" not "received attorney". Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments from the Community: None

Adopt – ROW Excavation Permit and Policy: Discussion. Bessie made the motion to adopt the policy. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Assurance of Discontinuance and Order – Deadline to Comply: Belinda informed the Board that the State of Vermont, Environmental Court has accepted the town's plea agreement for the fines issued on the Transfer Station. Belinda explained that the entire amount of \$13,500 is expected in full by October 14, 2015. After a conversation with the town's auditor, it was recommended that the town make a loan to the Transfer Station. The Transfer Station will pay \$562.50 per month for two years, interest free back to the town. Discussion followed. Belinda made the motion to loan the Transfer Station the \$13,500 and a re-payment plan that will begin in

November. Todd seconded the motion. All present Board members reviewed and signed the required agreement.

Highway Department Discussion:

- **Turcotte Road – Reply to Attorney O’Hagin:** Discussion for response to Turcotte road- the class four sections and all Class four roads in general. Belinda shared the information that she found regarding class four roads. The question was asked, what is the Town’s plan for Class four roads? It was recommend that the one culvert that has come apart needs to be replaced by the town and gravel over the other exposed culverts would solve the problem. Belinda made the motion to reply to attorney O’Hagin with the Board’s decision to replace the one culvert and add material over the remaining culverts to be completed by the spring of next year. Eric seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Town Road Crew Member:** The Board interviewed two candidates and hired one, but he declined the offer. After reviewing the other applicants, the town has temporarily hired a former experienced employee to help. This person may possibly be interested in a permanent position. Discussion. Belinda recommended addressing this in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.
- **Tire Storage – Fire Department:** Belinda received a call from the Fire Chief questioning the status of a tire storage unit that was decided this summer to be purchased. Discussion. Belinda asked that the Highway Department move forward and buy a tire storage container that will be used by the town and Fire Dept. to store tires.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Scoping Study – North Wolcott Road – Approved:** The scoping study grant would be to research deeds, right of way and possibly widening the road for both bicyclists and the general safety for everyone who travels it has been approved. The amount of the grant is \$35,000. The required match for the town is ten percent which equals \$3,520. \$2000 to be in-kind and \$1520 in cash. Discussion. Belinda made the motion to accept the grant. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Insurance – Loss Control Report:** The board reviewed the required action plan for the town hall (2), town office (1) and the town garage (6) areas that require immediate action. Discussion. Board members agreed we need to comply with this report.
- **New Business:**
- **Adopt FEMA Plan:** The town’s FEMA plan was approved and meets the requirements needed for a resolution. Discussion. Belinda made the motion to sign the resolution to adopt the Hazzard Mitigation Plan. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Board members signed.
- **Review and Approve Insurance Renewal:** Belinda read the current values that the insurance has indicated for each town building and she provided the town’s assessment to compare. Discussion. Eric made the motion to approve all of the agreed values on each of the town buildings except the Highway Department building, which the Board decided to lower to \$700,000. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed the renewal. .

Old Business:

- **LRSWMD – Comments on Transfer Station:** Belinda reviewed Susan’ Alexander’s letter from the LRSWMD of the Transfer Station. She suggested that the town not take any appliances containing Freon and since there is no longer a burn permit that the town takes care of the existing wood and yard waste by chipping or composting it. She thinks that the

town has a great location and if it is managed closely it has great potential. She provided a job description for the site attendant(s) to be hired and recommended that the new hire go through the LRSWMD training program. Discussed position. The Board is asking that the job description be revised to fit Wolcott Certification requirements and the new hire be trained under the district's direction. Todd made the motion to advertise on the town's web site, Front Porch Forum, News and Citizen, Hardwick Gazette, Transcript and possibly the Stowe Reporter for a site attendant with a starting hourly rate of \$11.00. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Transfer Station – General Discussion:** Tom brought attention to some missing fees to the Board's attention. Discussion. It was decided that white goods, i.e. washers and dryers be \$10 each, utility or lawn mower tires be \$2 each, recycling bins \$5, the word "or" be added to \$8 each for twin mattress or twin box spring, \$12 each for all other mattress or box spring and the cost to drop off good quality items for re-use by another patron at Tom's discretion, be \$1 per item. Belinda made the motion to change these fees to be effective immediately and add them to the sign at the Station. Eric seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Tom has requested that his hours be cut back to one day beginning in November, if an attendant has not been hired. Bessie also stated that after spending many days and weekends at the Station, that she will also be cutting back her time that she spends there. Discussion. The board will hire someone to work one day and Tom will continue to work the other day each weekend.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Executive Session – personnel:** Belinda made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:41 p.m. Eric seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board came out of executive session at 8:00 p.m. Belinda made the motion to advertise for a new handy man. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. As the new hire will be getting \$11.00 per hour at the Transfer Station, effective immediately so will Tom. The Board has given Todd permission to negotiate with a former road crew member who approached the town for a full time position, who is currently working temporarily for the town. Todd will apprise the Board of what occurs from his negotiations at the next meeting.
- **School Parking Lot –** Belinda was approached about the school hiring the highway department to grade the school parking lot. Discussion. It was decided that Belinda will let the school Principal and/or the School Board know that the town will grade the parking lot at a cost of \$600. The grading would be done by November 1st.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next Select Board Meeting – October 21, 2015