

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
November 2, 2016**

All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard;
Please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.

Members Present: Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Richard Lee, Kim Gravel
Members Absent: Eric Furs
Town Employees: Bernard Earle, Skip Patten
Public: Jim Holton, Don Lowell, Michael Shedd
Reporter: None

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:00

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Bridge Inspections Report**
- **Unemployment Report**
- **Union Bank Insured Cash Sweep Account**
- **Transfer Station Update**
- **LCSD Budget Meeting Follow Up**

Tom Martin – Lloyd Phelps Property: Tom was unable to attend tonight’s meeting. Belinda explained that Mr. Phelps, who requested that the town dump fill on his property does not want to provide the necessary compensatory flood storage for the volume of material placed in the floodplain. The State of Vermont has indicated that Mr. Phelps is in violation of the Wolcott Zoning regulations. Discussion. The Board will notify Mr. Phelps that the highway department will remove the fill that they dumped on his property at the expense of the town due to the fact that he was given permission by the Zoning Department. Skip was present for the discussion and was asked to remove this by the end of November.

Chad Roy – Crothers Brothers Report- Historic School House: Don Lowell represented the committee at tonight’s meeting. He was unaware that the Board had not received a copy of the report from the Crothers Brothers and did not have a copy on his person. He did state that in the report there were good findings, such as insignificant amounts of lead and possible insignificant amounts of asbestos that might be in the old tile. Don will contact Chad and have him email a copy of the report to Belinda so that she can forward it to the rest of the Board.

BUDGET HEARINGS

- **Fire Department:** Jim Holton and Michael Shedd presented the Fire Department’s budget to the Board. Lengthy discussion. The department is requesting an increase

of \$5200, which they adjusted from \$7500 they originally asked for. Last year's budget was \$58,700. With the increase request, the department's budget will be \$63,900. Discussion on the money that the department will get from the two trucks that they will sell, once they get the new truck and how much will be given back to the town and when, will be discussed between the Board and the department by November 2017 at the latest.

- **Highway Department:** Skip and Belinda presented the highway budget. Due to a decrease in labor, a decrease in fuel usage, tires on hand, a decrease in the need for chloride use and no need for pest control, the budget proposal is a decrease from last year of \$4670. There was an increase of \$1100 for electricity. Both Skip and Jim were asked about this and both stated that lights are turned off when the departments are not there, so it is not clear as to why the large increase. The proposed budget is \$545,320 compared to \$549,990 for 2016.

Comments from the Community: Bernard and Belinda discussed a situation between two families in which one family came home to find their neighbor's dogs attacking and killing their pet goose on East Hill. Art & Lisa Lefevre have been asked by Jim Ryan and Katie Black to apologize and reimburse them \$75 for the goose, which is less than what it actually cost. The Lefevre's have not apologized and Ms. Black and Mr. Ryan want the town to take action. Since this incident, several neighbors have contacted the town regarding the dogs and the fear that they have and how it affects them. The dogs have since been hitched. Belinda researched with area towns and the LCSD. Discussion. Although the town is not responsible, Belinda will call the Lefevre's and let them know that if an apology is not given and the cost of the goose reimbursed, the town does have the right to violate each dog for running at large with a cost of \$100 for each dog, since the Lefevre's had been given prior warning to keep the dogs hooked. Belinda will also contact the Wahler's to let them know that the dogs are now being hooked. Belinda stated that she will email the Board once she has contacted all of the involved parties.

Approve the Minutes of October 19, 2016: Discussion. Motion by Kim to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against.

New Business:

- **Wolcott Garage – Remediation Project:** Skip and the Fire Department have signed off on the application for a grant to fix the erosion issue at the highway department/town garage, so that it will be contained. LCPC's proposal for the project is \$15,887.85. The town's portion is \$3,971.96. The Board will now wait to hear back on whether or not the grant is received.
- **Floor Drains – Regarding the Fire Department:** Discussion. Belinda will research prices.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Town Hall Permit:** Seth Yacovone for December 4, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. with 100 people attending at maximum. He will provide the necessary insurance, as he is asking to have catered alcohol. Seth Yacovone is a successful

Wolcott musician who is touring town halls in Vermont. Discussion. Motion by Bessie to approve the request. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against.

- **Public Protection Classification 8B/10:** Discussion on this survey analysis that sets the insurance fire rates in town with an effective date of February 2017 that Jim Holton and Eben Merrill completed. Jim stated that Wolcott received a better classification over the last survey, due to response time to fires. Jim Holton will get back to us with more information.
- **LCPC Appropriations request:** A letter was submitted by Tasha Wallis, Executive Director of LCPC requesting \$1031 for an appropriation from the town for their services in their 2018 operating budget. This is the same amount as last year. Discussion. Motion by Richard to approve the appropriation of \$1031 for LCPC for the town's 2017 town meeting. Seconded by Belinda. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Bridge Inspections Report:** Bridge #4 on Reed Road requires that rip rap and rails be placed. Skip has already received the permit from the State of Vermont so that they may begin the repairs.
- **Unemployment Report:** Unemployment claims were discussed per Belinda's request. Belinda will follow up with one town employee.
- **Union Bank Insured Cash Sweep Account:** Belinda handed out an explanation of a Union Bank Insured Cash Sweep Account that was emailed to the town office following a discussion that took place between Linda and Rhonda Bennett of the Union Bank. This account is insured, a free service and includes interest earnings. The account would be used to deposit money when the FDIC insured limit on an account had been reached of \$250,000. This new account would keep all the town money insured. Motion by Richard to give Linda permission to pursue this. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against.
- **Transfer Station:** Richard wanted to inform the Board that upon arriving at the Transfer Station this past weekend, he found Scott on the recycling platform, even though there was a community service worker there. The bottles were being given to him instead of to the LACN shed. Belinda will re-communicate to Scott. If necessary, the Board will request a no trespass order. The liability waiver has not been signed or handed into the Board. By sorting through the recycling he is performing an act that involves liability.
- **LCSD Budget Meeting Follow Up:** Belinda updated the Board about her last meeting with the LCSD. Sherriff Marcoux lowered the proposed budget, which is lower than last year. Sherriff Marcoux reduced his income and department benefits by \$29,000. A letter will be sent to the Eden Selectboard Chair informing them that the LCSD responded to 22 calls last month to their town. Eden does not pay for the LCSD's services. Wolcott, Hyde Park and Johnson share the cost. The letter will state that this was time taken away from the three towns that pay for the service. Belinda will email a copy to the rest of the Board.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Kim to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against. The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Val Mason.

DRAFT