

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes**

April 6, 2016

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

Members Present: Bessie Martin, Eric Furs, Kim Gravel
Members Absent: Belinda Clegg, Richard Lee
Town Employees: Bernard Earle
Public: None
Reporter: None
Correspondent: Val Mason

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Comments from the Community: Bernard informed the Board that he has had several complaints regarding the excessive number of junk vehicles at Curtis Lanphear's residence on the North Wolcott Road. Bernard plans to take photos of his residence to show to the Board. While discussing Curtis Lanphear, Kim stated that her two dogs had been attacked by one of his very violent dogs, in which one of her dogs spent three days at the veterinarian and accumulated a bill of \$1200. She did go to his residence but he was not home. Bernard added that he too has had complaints of Curtis's dogs. Discussion. Bernard will contact the State for the junk vehicle situation and he will look into whether Curtis's dogs have been licensed.

Approve the Minutes of March 16, 2016 and March 29, 2016: Discussion. Motion by Kim to approve both minutes as written. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Rutland Resolution:** Eric read the note from Linda to the Board and a copy of the letter addressed to Linda and the attached resolution sent from Paula Piersol of the Rutland Town Office, regarding the new Energy Bill that has passed in the Senate and is currently in the House. The bill gives the towns a voice through zoning and town plans but no veto power. Paula explained that the resolution would give towns the opportunity to have local control of large scale wind and solar projects to protect the town's rights and have a voice in the process as it affects and threatens residents, property values, water quality, natural resources and more. Rutland currently has one hundred and fifteen town signatures in support of the resolution. Linda mentioned that it is important for individuals to express their views to their legislators. Discussion. Motion by Bessie to table this until the next meeting with the full Board. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.
- **Manning Bridge – Request for Information:** Eric read an email from Jen Hilkie, a biologist from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. She asks if the town has a plan for the Manning Bridge

because they have an interest in it. She states that for over a year the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Vermont Agency of Transportation has had several game cameras set up near the bridge that shows that this is a funnel for several kinds of wildlife. She attached photos of these animals. Her department feels that the wildlife would go under the bridge and make Route 15 safer if the large boulders were filled in with finer dirt. She then went on to explain that they are working on a grant proposal to do this work. She states that if the town is not interested in keeping the bridge that they could include the removal and possible relocation of it in the grant proposal. Discussion. The Board would like Linda and Belinda's input on the bridge. Motion by Eric to table a response until the next Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

- **Town Hall Permits:** The first application is for September 30, 2016 and October 1, 2016 for a yard sale to benefit Justice for Dogs. This will be for the entire day on both days. Motion by Eric to accept the permit. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against. The next application is from Jamie Archer for a graduation party on June 18, 2016 for the entire day. Motion by Kim to accept the permit. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against. There will be no alcohol at either event.
- **LCSD – February Report:** Discussed and reviewed. Motion by Eric to have Belinda scan and email the report to all Selectboard members and to the list of tax payers that receive the minutes emailed to them prior to the meeting. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.
- **LVRT Management Plan:** Eric read the cover page notifying the town that the Vermont Department of Transportation along with the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail Committee are holding a public meeting at the Green Mountain Technical and Career Center on Monday, April 11, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. to review the plan and for the community to comment or ask questions regarding it. Attached was a copy of the seventeen page plan. A copy of the plan is available on www.lvrt.com. Discussion. Bessie may possibly attend the meeting. The Board would like Belinda to email them a copy of the plan so that they may read it before the next meeting. Motion by Eric to table this discussion until the next meeting. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

Discussion and Review of Current Highway Policies and Standards and Model C4 and Trail Policy:

Discussion. Motion by Eric to table until the next Selectboard meeting so the Board will have had time to read it, as it is lengthy. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

New Business:

- **Handyman Helper for the Summer:** Bernard's grandson, Chase Earle would like the position of "Handyman Helper" that Bernard had spoken with Belinda about. He would assist Bernard with the list of items that the town needs completed. The pay is \$10.00 per hour with a total of ten to fifteen hours per week, as needed. Eric would like to do a meet and greet and have the whole Selectboard present to make the hire. Bernard stated that Chase can attend the next Selectboard meeting.
- **Athletic Association – Use of the North Wolcott Ball Field:** The Wolcott Athletic Association has requested use of the North Wolcott ball field on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for baseball practice. Discussion. Kim will attempt to contact the Hardwick Area Softball League to see if they are interested in using the field again this year and Eric will ask the Wolcott Athletic Association to email Belinda the exact times and start and end date

for the practices that they are requesting. Kim made the motion to table the answer to this request until more information has been found out. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

- **Appointment of Town Officers:** Discussion. Motion by Eric to sign and appoint all of the officers listed for 2016. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.
- **Acquired Property at Tax Sale:** Eric read the deed of parcel number 060301 which is a half of an acre parcel that the town has acquired. Discussion. Motion by Kim to acknowledge the acquirement of parcel number 060301 from the tax sale. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 3, 0 against.
- **Community Forum:** Eric read an email from Linda to Belinda stating that she had attempted to speak with Sheriff Roger Marcoux of the LCSD regarding a resident who will be returning to his home in North Wolcott, after being imprisoned for fifteen years in which he pleaded guilty to manslaughter. Sheriff Marcoux was not available. Discussion. The Board agreed that it would be beneficial to the town to have Linda follow up with Sheriff Marcoux and to have Belinda call the courthouse to find out what the resident's conditions are and to find out his rights as well as the towns. The information to be found will be kept internally for the time being.

Old Business:

- **Garage Floor Drain Closure – Action Required:** The Board reviewed the existing file regarding the need to plug the drain in the town garage. Per James Gascoyne, Environmental Scientist for Ross Environmental, the town can do the work as long as before and after photo are taken. A form must be filled out once this is complete in which James stated that he will assist with. Motion by Eric to have the town road crew employees plug the drain per the specifications of James Gascoyne, environmental scientist for Ross Environmental with before and after photos taken. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

As a side note, Eric informed the Board that he did speak with Ryan McCall, Environmental Enforcement Officer for the State of Vermont, who stated that the town would not be fined for the hydraulic oil leak because the town acted quickly by having Accuworx do the cleanup and the road crew followed Jeff Simone's instructions for the cleanup. Eric let Ryan know that the town was not pleased with Jeff's aggressive approach. Eric also spoke with Jeff Simone, senior scientist of Accuworx USA who asked Eric to remove the complaint that had been filed against him from a former road crew employee. He explained to Eric that he plans to run for Governor in the future and he did not want this on his record. Eric did not say that the complaint would be removed. Eric will email him to see where he was at in the process of the cleanup and for a final bill so that the town can pay him and be done with this incident.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Kim to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against. The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Val Mason.