

## Wolcott Selectboard Meeting

May 3, 2017

### Minutes

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

Members Present: Belinda Clegg, Richard Lee, Eric Furs, Kim Gravel, Michael Davison  
Members Absent: None  
Town Employees: Linda Martin, Bernard Earle  
Public: Rob Moore of LCPC, Andrea Day of the Dufresne Group, Greg Williams, Maxfield English, Don Lowell, Chad Roy  
Reporter: None

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Eric called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

#### Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Town Hall Permit:** David & Amy Coolbeth submitted a request for a town hall permit for June 17, 2017 for a high school graduation party with alcohol present. Discussion. Tabled until the next meeting until Belinda researches the alcohol permit liability insurance.
- **Resignation of Transfer Station Attendant:** Diane "Tuffy" Audet submitted a resignation letter dated May 2, 2017 stating that she is resigning from attendant of the Transfer Station. Her last day will be May 14, 2017. Motion by Belinda to accept the resignation. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. The Board will revisit this later in the meeting.

#### North Wolcott Road Scoping Study

**Draft Report Presentation:** Rob Moore of LCPC & Andrea Day of the Dufresne Group presented the Draft Scoping Study Report. This was the final stage of the study working towards the final report by reviewing the project process, reviewing selected alternatives and phases, receiving public comments and input and feedback from the Board. These comments and feedback from the presentation will be submitted to VTrans who will submit feedback to LCPC. These comments and feedback will be used in the final report. This was an informational meeting only. Andrea explained that the initial meeting for the study was June 29, 2016 then a local concerns meeting was held on July 27, 2016, then the historic, archaeological and environmental resources were reviewed, alternatives and preliminary costs were developed and on February 1, 2017 the alternatives presentation occurred. Andrea reviewed the purpose and need statement, the study area, alternatives overview, typical cross-sections, the six segments, the summary of alternatives for each segment and phasing and project costs. Discussion on right of ways as well as grant money available for safety and grant money for bicycle and pedestrians. Rob informed the Board that the state will finally be placing proper signage and restriping the North Wolcott Road this season. He will ask them to include the bridge right before North Wolcott village for signage. Once the comments are received from VTrans the final report will be submitted and the town will receive a copy of the comments as well.

**Chad Roy – School House update, Green Up day, Uses for the School House:** Chad informed the Board that the committee intended to have a sale of the School House inventory on Green Up day. He explained that since this date does not work for him, the committee is planning on another date, possibly May 20<sup>th</sup>. Belinda mentioned that the town is planning a town wide clean up and that the committee may want to plan the sale for that day or Veteran’s Day. Chad mentioned that the committee plans to apply for another grant this year, but feel that it might be better received if the roof has been replaced. He asked if the town might be able to pay for a standing seam metal roof. This would include removing and disposing of the existing roof. The cupola was also discussed. Motion by Eric to place an advertisement in the News and Citizen for bids on the roof with a June 14<sup>th</sup> deadline, to have the amount of the surplus on the fund balance available for the next meeting, for Chad to be present at the next meeting with the bids and for the committee to examine the cupola and if it is possible that they can stay within their budget of \$3900 to repair it. Seconded by Belinda. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.

**Linda Martin – Penalty for Late Filers, Financial Changes with the Library, Election,**

**Signing Orders, Moving Forward with Solar Project:** Linda brought it to the Board’s attention that under 32 V.S.A. 5410(g), when notified by the State that a property owner failed to declare a homestead or declared a nonresidential property as a homestead, the municipality may impose a penalty on late filers and non-filers if a penalty rate of up to 3% of the education tax on the property if a declared property is not a homestead and the homestead rate is higher than the nonresidential rate, a penalty rate may be set up to 8% of the education tax on the property if a declared property is not a homestead and the homestead rate is lower than the nonresidential rate, a penalty rate may be set up to 3% of the education property tax on the property if a homestead is not declared and the homestead rate is lower than the nonresidential rate and a penalty rate may be set up of up to 8% of the education tax on the property if a homestead is not declared and the homestead rate is higher than the nonresidential rate. Discussion. Motion by Eric to retain the penalty of late filers. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor, 1 against. Linda informed the Board that after meeting with the library trustees and again recommending that the town oversee the library finances, it was agreed to have the town oversee the library’s finances. The library will now fall under the town’s tax identification number. The library trustees will still be in control of the funds and the town will provide financial reports to the library. Linda reminded the Board of the upcoming election and hope they can come at 7:00 on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> to count the votes on the school budget. Linda asked the Board to possibly appoint a member to sign the orders since they are not getting signed in a timely manner. This would enable Linda to release the checks on time. Motion by Eric to nominate Kim Gravel as the designated signer of the orders. Seconded by Belinda. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. The remaining Board members will still review the orders at their Board meetings. Linda mentioned that she has heard a lot of positive talk on the proposed solar project and would like to see the board continue to move forward. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss and decide importance and avenues for the project.

**Approve Minutes of April 19<sup>th</sup>:** Discussion. Motion by Eric to approve the minutes with the change of wording that all statutes of persecution on Dennis Tribble’s neighbor have expired and Donna Sargent who has retained ownership of the property through probate court. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.

**Comments from the Community:** Bernard informed the Board that the bus barn is in worse condition than it was thought to be from prior inspections and discussions. Discussion. Belinda will call Rob from LCPC and will report back to the Board at the next meeting. Bernard in the meantime will look over the contents of the building and ask the Fire Department to remove any items that belong to them. Greg discussed how he was disappointed in the discussion at Town Meeting regarding the School House and he feels that the town has potential future expenses. He also talked about the new hydroponics business in town and he stated that he did not agree with cutting what the school pays the town for the library salary. He also asked what happened to the rain garden near the Kiosk?

**Old Business:**

- **Transfer Station Issues:** The Board reviewed the photographs that Bernard took at the transfer station last weekend while Tuffy was in charge. "Tuffy's" resignation was discussed. Belinda asked Bernard to stop by the station on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> and Richard to go on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> which is Tuffy's last day. Discussion. Belinda will email the rest of the Board a copy of the job description of transfer station attendant for everyone to review and to make suggestions to be re-written before. The Board will advertise for the position once the description has been re-written, but Belinda informed everyone that the Board is going to have to cover for at least through the end of May.

**New Business:**

- **Richard Wolcott Road Issues:** Belinda explained that several complaints have been received regarding the grading of the road stating that it was not tapered. Eric will speak with Skip.

**Review Correspondence/Sign:**

- **Sign Dog Warrant Violation:** Discussion. The Board signed a permit authorizing Bernard to pick up James O'Boyle's dogs if they are loose as they have been chasing the neighbor's pigs. Also, the Board signed a warrant violation notifying Mr. O'Boyle that he has ten days to license his dogs or he will be fined \$100 per dog.
- **Sign payroll Orders:** Signed.
- **Stream Alteration Permit:** A permit notice was received from the State of Vermont allowing the town to rip rap to control erosion on 75 feet of Fort Hill Road along the Wild Branch river

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion by Belinda to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Val Mason.

*Next Selectboard Meeting – May 17th*