

# Wolcott Selectboard Meeting

## June 10, 2015

Wolcott Town Office  
6:00 p.m.

Selectboard Members: *Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Todd Harris, Richard Lee, Eric Furs*  
Town Employees: *Skip Patten, Mike Green, Robert Harris*  
Public: *Nathan Skorstad and family, Dean Lafont and family, Rob Moore, Jim Manzer, Kate Whithead, Taylor Foster*  
Reporter: *None*  
Correspondent: *Val Mason*

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

### **Amendments to the Agenda:**

- Review and Sign "Request for Reimbursement" form on the Structures Grant
- Executive Session – Personnel
- Appointment of Town Officials
- Line of Credit

### **Northern Borders Grant**

**Finalize Bid Specifications – Rob Moore and Jim Manzer:** A pre-final third design that stemmed from the last Board meeting was presented to the Board. Jim showed that the screening and sunken rain garden have been refined to show species of trees, shrubs and plants along with the refinement of the construction of the kiosk. With the exception of the six concrete posts, there will be minimal digging, of which Rob received an email sign off from the Agency of Natural Resources. Rob stated that he is seeking an email sign off from Archeological and Historical Agency next. Drainage and parking area materials were discussed in detail. Skip and some of the Board members will look at the one and a half inch crushed stone that Jim recommended, but as Jim stated the aggregate comes down to what is available and what the town is used to working with. The Town will prepare the site. Jim will make some slight adjustments next and will provide an engineer's estimate which will include the value of in-kind services so that it can be sent out to bid. Rob will plan to meet with Todd and Skip and will also attend the next Board meeting.

### **Simmons Road**

**Dean LaFont, Nathan Skorstad, Mike Green:** Mike, Tree Warden will return to the LaFont's property as he had taken photos of other trees in the area and not those that are of concern. Belinda informed everyone that a surveyor had looked over the deeds and found that in Mr. LaFont's deed that it is established as being bordered by a town road. Skip and Todd have not been able to walk the lines so is not clear as to whether or not the town is on their property. Mr. Skorstad was asked not to do any more work at this time. It was discussed again that Skip had given Nathan oral permission to do emergency work to his road as it was impassable at the time. Dean argues that the road was clearly altered and Nathan did much more than an emergency repair. This issue will be re-visited at the next Board meeting after the trees have been inspected and Skip and Todd have determined from their back pin where they own to.

### **Envisioning Wolcott**

**Taylor Foster and Kate Whitehead:** A sketch of planters, curbing, crosswalk and bench was submitted to the Board. Discussion. The Board felt that the planters were too large and should be

placed closer together also it was suggested that only four planters be used as well as shorter plants for visibility. It was asked of the committee to be responsible for maintaining and removing the planters and curbing in the fall, but the town offered storage. The committee needs to also receive permission from the Champlain Oil Corporation who owns the half of the parking area adjacent to the post office. Belinda made the motion to authorize three planters as long as permission is granted from Champlain Oil. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed by four yeases and one no. The crosswalk location would be from the Post Office to MSI, Incorporated (formally Buck's Furniture). Permission has been granted from the Agency of Transportation and will put it in with a written authorization from the town. Belinda made the motion to authorize the crosswalk. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Benches in the future were also talked about as well as available Recreational Committee Program.

**Comments from the Community:** None

**Approve Minutes of May 20, 2015:** Belinda made the motion to accept the minutes with the correction on the last page to change the date from 2014 to 2015. Richard seconded the motion Motion accepted unanimously.

**Road Crew Applications- Review:** Six applications have been received. According to the Vermont League of City and Towns and the Secretary of State each applicant must meet all of the criteria that the Board advertised for the position. They also stated that the conflict of interest was that Todd is Skip's Supervisor. Discussion. The Board minus Todd went into executive session with Skip. See Amendments to the Agenda – Personnel.

**Request for Tax Payment Extension:** The town received a letter from Adriane Moody Scholls asking to extend her overdue taxes. Discussion. Todd made the motion to extend the total amount due to be paid by the last day of September 2015. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Review Correspondence/Sign:**

- **May Order Totals:** Discussed.
- **Financials through May 31, 2015:** Reviewed.
- **Payroll and Monthly Orders:** Signed

**New Business:**

- **Fund Balance FY15:** Discussion. Todd made the motion to assign \$5000 of the Fund Balance to an Office Equipment Fund before July 1, 2015. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion on the Highway Department. Belinda made the motion to assign any Highway Department funds left over to Class III construction. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Appointment of LCPC Director:** Belinda informed the Board that she had left a message for Maxfield English to see if he would like to be appointed, but has not heard back. Tabled.
- **Brock Violation:** A certified letter from the town was refused. Bernard is working with the State to condemn.
- **North Wolcott Road and Route 15 Reconfiguration:** The town received the state's reply and Belinda shared with the Board. Discussion.
- **Town Hall Property Insurance:** Discussed the information that Belinda received regarding actual construction cost versus the actual cash value. The Board was advised to come up with an agreed value and content coverage. Belinda made the motion to lower the agreed value of the Town Hall to \$350,000 and increase the covered contents to \$10,000. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Monthly Department Meetings:** Linda recommended that each department have monthly meetings to increase communication and understanding without the Selectboard being present. Skip thought that it is a great idea.
- **Roads to Throw Up – Discussion:** Todd presented a list of town roads that the town should stop maintaining due to the fact that they are merely a driveway and it is difficult to turn around on them. The roads are: Frazier Road, Charles Allen Road, Tammarack Road, Reed Road and the Young Road. Discussion. Belinda requested information on the specifics of each road. She will ask Linda what the next step is.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Sand Pit – Act 250 Update:** Ned Houston and Susan Baird from the State as well as one committee member have visited the site. Susan will try to convince the committee to allow the Putvains' and Locks' to sign off on this. Their only concern was the stockpile of which it is believed that the Lockes want to keep. Belinda stated that it will be very expensive for the removal and the town will be responsible for it.
- **Bridge #3 – Repair:** Skip informed the Board that he is waiting to hear back from the State on the required repairs due to the fact that there will be a need to get into the river.

#### **Amendments to the Agenda:**

- **Review and Sign “Request for Reimbursement” form on the Structures Grant:** Belinda made the motion to get reimbursed for the Elmore Pond Road Bridge. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All Board members signed.
- **Executive Session – Personnel:** Went into Executive Session at 8:34 p.m. Back from Executive Session at 8:46. Three candidates were chosen to interview for the road crew position. They are: Mark Foster Sr., Paige Horner and Jeffrey Baker. Belinda will begin background checks. The candidates will be interviewed next Wednesday, June 17, 2015 starting at 5:15p.m. Belinda informed Skip that no permission is needed to bring in the Road Commissioner in an emergency situation if extra help is needed. Eric made the motion to allow Todd, Road Commissioner up to twenty hours as Skip sees fit until the new road crew member is hired. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Skip is over on his hours this week, so he will be taking off June 11th and will ask Todd to be on call.
- **Appointment of Town Officials:** The appointment of Town Officers was done in March by the Selectboard but they were not officially appointed. Tonight the Selectboard officially appointed the Town Officials by signing the document.
- **Line of Credit:** Discussion. Belinda made the motion to sign Line of Credit agreement with the Union Bank of up to \$200,000 at .85 percent. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Belinda informed each Board member that on June 23, 2015 they will need to stop by the Town Office to sign the loan documents.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

*Next Selectboard Meeting - July 8, 2015*