

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
July 20, 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, Eric Furs, Kim Gravel
Members Absent: None
Town Employees: Linda Martin, Skip Patten, Bernard Earle, Maxfield English
Public: Ayssa Martin, Starr Bettis, Phil Ryder, Mark McCollough, Eric Mandigo
Reporter: None
Correspondent: Val Mason

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

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Vote to Hold a Public Hearing at the Next Selectboard Meeting on the Revised Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.**
- **Invitation to Public Service Awards for Town Employees.**
- **Correspondence from Ed Lowell.**

Alyssa Martin – Tax Stabilization Request: Alyssa Martin, daughter of Fred and Sally Martin who are the current owners of the Wolcott Store, approached the Board with a request for tax stabilization so that she may purchase the store. She presented the Board with her objectives for the first through fifth years and what her mission statement would be for the store. She explained that without tax stabilization from the town she would not be able to purchase the store. She is requesting zero taxes for the first year and then increasing the taxes incrementally back to 100% by the fifth year. Belinda explained that if the Board accepted this request, then the tax payers would be asked to vote to approve the request at town meeting. Alyssa mentioned that she has met with Linda Martin who has given her several contacts that she needs to follow up with. Due to her age and not having established credit some doors have been closed to her. Sally has agreed to remain as half owner for the next year and a half to show her how to run the business. Fred has sold his half share to Alyssa. Alyssa does want the Board and the public to know that if she is unable to purchase the store they will be closing it. The Board would like current statistics on the store and information on current taxes and value on the store portion only. Motion by Eric to table this discussion until the August 17, 2016 meeting where Alyssa will be put back on the agenda. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.

Town Clerk:

- **Tax Sale Property:** Linda updated the Board on the property that the town purchased at tax sale that is located on Route 15. Star Bettis, who was been wanting to subdivide their home from their business has been unable to do so due to this 100 x 100 foot piece of property that they built a barn on. She would like to purchase the property from the town. Discussion. Motion by Eric to sell this property to Starr Bettis on Route 15 for \$2500. This includes the \$1766.04 in legal fees and taxes that the town has paid plus it will cover the legal fees, and deed filing. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **Financial Management Questionnaire:** Linda provided the Board with the completed Financial Management Questionnaire that is required by law to be filled out and presented to the Board yearly. Linda asked that the members contact her with clarification questions. Motion by

Richard to accept and sign the questionnaire. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 4, 0 against, 1 (Belinda) abstained). Form signed by Eric.

- **Set Tax Rate:** Linda explained that she and Belinda both independently reviewed the calculations. She informed the Board that residential is rising 4 cents and nonresidential is rising one half of a cent.

School Street Water System Annual Meeting: Discussion. Belinda proposed setting the rate at \$25 a month as there has been no activity on creating an association and as per the 2008 vote, this money would be used towards any repairs to the system. The town will pay for Mr. O'Driscoll's portion as the town uses his septic. Motion by Eric to set the rate at \$20 per month, with billing two times per year for the School Street Water System. The Town will cover Mr. O'Driscoll's portion as mentioned above. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5, 0 against. Eric is not opposed to discussing past issues at another meeting.

Skip Patten:

Equipment Purchases, Foss Road Discussion and E911, Paving Update, Storm Water Remediation at Town Garage, Engineer Report on Manning Bridge, Petition and Order for Poles on Cross Road:

Belinda informed the Board that Skip, Mark and Claude are now certified flaggers after successfully completing a course. This certification is good for two years. For equipment purchases the mower is currently broken down and is over 20 years old. Skip has researched brands and models. The model that the state is using as well as the town of Elmore is a Ferri ZMTE-1800 is \$10,300. Discussion. A York rake has been approved and ordered. An estimate on a mulcher is \$5780. Skip doesn't anticipate any more equipment purchases this year. Motion by Belinda to purchase the mulcher for \$5780. Skip will notify the Board of his trial on the mower and a special meeting can be called. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. Foss Road which is a class IV road is in need of repair and there are residents who are in need of fire/rescue. Discussion. The highway department is in the process of putting up the E911 signs. All paving grants were denied. An email was discussed from Rob Moore from LCPC to the Highway Department regarding Jim Ryan, from the State of Vermont's site visit regarding the sand pile at the Wolcott garage. The list of recommendations was discussed. Skip was not present for the site visit, so he will meet with Rob regarding this. The engineer's report was reviewed for the Manning Bridge. They recommended inviting VTrans to check out the intersection of Route 15 and the North Wolcott Road. The Board and Skip decided to table the petition and order for Poles on the Cross Road.

Comments from the Community: None

Approve Minutes of June 15, 2016: Motion by Kim to accept the minutes with the correction of "Bernard performs all inside and outside maintenance but does not perform custodial duties" under Approve the Minutes of May 18, 2016 for pre-school lease. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.

Pre-School Lease: Motion by Belinda to tabled. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. OSSU will pay the town \$1045 for July and August.

Transfer Station – Battery Pack, Loan re-payment: Belinda informed the Board that Bernard wishes to purchase the 12 volt battery pack booster that the Transfer station no longer needs for \$125 which is what the town paid for it new. Motion by Richard to authorize sale. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. Belinda showed the board that it is not sustainable for the transfer station to pay the current loan with the Wolcott Transfer Station Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual July 2015 through July 2016. With the increases it can pay \$375 a month. Motion by Kim to change the payment amount from

\$562.50 to \$375. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. Eric recommended re-visiting the policies and procedures for the station.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Public Hearing at the Next Selectboard Meeting on the Revised Zoning and Subdivision Regulations:** Maxfield hand delivered two hard copies of the revised zoning and subdivision regulations. Motion by Belinda to hold a public meeting on August 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the revised zoning and subdivision regulations. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. This will be warned in the papers.
- **Correspondence from Ed Lowell:** Letter from Ed Lowell accused the town of using good fill on Lloyd Phelps property and that Skip was using the town's time to smooth out the fill. A certified letter will be sent to Mr. Lowell stating that fill is not acceptable material to be put on town roads and that Skip used his own tractor and day off to spread the fill for Mr. Phelps.
- **Invitation to Public Service Awards for Town Employees:** Eric read the invitation and list of town employees who will be awarded for their years of public service. It is to be held on August, 18, 2016 at 6:00 at Lamoille Union High School Auditorium. Discussion.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Annual Financial Plan:** Motion by Belinda to file with VTrans. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **Town Hall Permit:** Motion by to sign the Ballet Wolcott's request for use of the hall for \$325 a month for 3:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and every Saturday until 11:00 with the stipulation that the Ballet must be out by 11:30 a.m. at the very latest and will be given a two week notice if anyone would like use of the hall for an entire Saturday will be asked to move to the Town Office. If they use it Sunday they will have to give up Saturdays. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **DOC Contract:** Motion by Eric to sign the Department of Corrections Contract with the State of Vermont for \$25 per day. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **Order Totals for April –June:** Motion by Belinda that the Board reviewed and accepted the expenses for April – June reconciliation. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **Application for Employment:** Motion by Eric to file application for the highway department. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.
- **Email – Selectboard Member:** Email read sent by Kim questioning the bridge posting on the Gulf Road. Discussion with Skip. He board will revisit the posting.
- **Email –LCPC:** Follow up on TAC meeting. Will discuss flood plain impact in September with the Selectboard.
- **Local Concerns Meeting for North Wolcott Road Grant:** Discussion. The Selectboard has been asked to attend this meeting, Wednesday July 27, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wolcott Town Offices.

Old Business:

- **Traffic Request:** Motion by Eric to authorize that a traffic study be performed on the Elmore Pond Road. Seconded by Belinda. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Belinda to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. The next Selectboard Meeting is August 17, 2016 6:00P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by Val Mason.