

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting July 8, 2015

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

Selectboard Members: *Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Todd Harris, Richard Lee, Eric Furs*

Town Employees: *Linda Martin, Skip Patten, Mike Green*

Public: *Rob Moore, Greg Williams, Nathan Skorstad, Jennifer Skorstad, Phil Teal, Mark McCullough, Dean Lafont, Janice Dewey, Helene Neilson*

Reporter: *None*

Correspondent: *Val Mason*

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- Request from Gates brothers regarding Turcotte Road.

Rob Moore- Trail Head Update: Rob informed the Board that they are now at the stage to start advertising for bids on the project that includes the three major components to the project which are: site work, landscaping and construction. Rob stated that the project will be advertised where LCPC does their advertising as well as two local newspapers which were discussed at the meeting and will be the Hardwick Gazette and the Stowe Reporter. He explained that there will be a prime contractor who will then subcontract out the other work they don't have the expertise. He gave a list of landscaping companies who he has contacted which are: Green Mountain Landscaping, Ambler Design, Robert's Landscaping, Land Shapes and Evergreen Landscaping and one from Hardwick who did not respond. The specifications will be available at LCPC, the Town Office and on the town's website. Rob hopes to hear back from the Northern Borders staff for approval on the final draft that he presented at the meeting by tomorrow and will start advertising. The sub-committee will evaluate the proposals which will include the cost, but more importantly they will look at the quality and merit of their skills. He confirmed that the town will provide clearing and grubbing as well as picnic tables, no parking signs, bulletin board, street light, motion detector light inside the pavilion. The berm as well as the waterline were discussed in length. Rob explained that the berm will assist the shrubs for privacy and protect them from salt.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant – Public Input and Authorization: Linda Martin was present to take public comment on the Town applying for the 2015 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Grant. She explained we would be applying for the scoping study to examine options for improving bicycle and pedestrian safety on the North Wolcott Road. As town clerk and a state legislator Linda has received many comments from people concerned with the safety of bicyclist on the North Wolcott Road. The Town Plan adopted in 2013 states improved bicycle safety on the North Wolcott Road should be addressed. The preliminary cost estimate is \$35,000 with the town responsible for a 10% match. The board said that match would be taken from the Highway Department budget. No public opposition was voiced, so authorization was given to apply for the grant. Those in attendance were in favor of the idea.

Phil Teal – School Street Water System: Phil Teale updated the Board on trying to form an association. He stated that five of the six residents on the system are in favor. Phil will contact Carl Fuller and his legal department regarding this formation. The town will speak with the one resident who is not in favor. Phil will return for the August meeting once he has gathered all of the information from the State.

Simmons Road – Continued Discussion with Dean Lafont and Nathan Skorstad and Mike Green: Todd and Skip explained that they had gone to Mr. Lafont's property, took the appropriate measurements and found that the work that Nathan did to the road has not encroached on the LaFont's property. Mike Green, Forester for the town informed Dean and the Board that the trees in which Dean was concerned with have not been harmed by Nathan's work on the road. Discussion. The Board feels that they have satisfied Dean's concerns and would like this issue closed. Nathan would like to apply for a permit to do more work on the

road. The board will get back to Nathan about a permit. Dean made it clear that he is not satisfied and will be placing the issue of a resident doing road work on a town road without a permit. Discussion.

Comments from the Community: Helene Nielson of the Ballet Wolcott requested that their schedule for the Town Hall be approved for one year instead of every six months. She provided a copy of their schedule with an understanding that if any resident or the town needs the hall, that they will move to the Town Office. She also proposed that they remove the basketball hoop and scoreboard as well as the screens to improve the esthetics of the hall. The Board will contact the town's handyman to do this. Schedule approved by the Board.

Approve Minutes of June 10th and 17th: Belinda made the motion to accept the minutes for both dates with the exception of the June 10th minutes, Page 2, under "New Business", line 1 and line 4 to correct the word "commit" to "assign". Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Set Tax Rate: Discussion. All Board Members signed the 2015-2016 Tax Rates Set by the Selectboard and the Vermont Department of Taxes. The total Homestead Tax Rate is 2.1278 and Total Nonresidential Tax Rate is 2.1537. Bessie made the motion to accept the new rates. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time Todd Harris had to leave.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Appointment of LCPC Director – sign:** Discussion. Belinda made the motion to appoint Maxfield English. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All Board members signed appointment letter.
- **Transfer Station Financials:** The Board reviewed the presented financials. The Station is currently running in a deficit. Discussed at length. The Board feels that it will be doing much better next year and are not overly concerned with it being the first year of free recycling and the cost of upgrades to the solar panels.
- **Financial Management Questionnaire – Review and sign:** Discussed and reviewed process in which the town sends and receives funds. All Board members signed that were in attendance.
- **Orders and Payroll –** All Board members signed .

New Business:

- **Establish Recreation Committee and Appointment of Members:** Belinda informed the Board that seven people wish to become members of this committee. They are aware of the need to receive authorization from the Board for any use of funds. The Board also discussed the possible need to allow for more money in the budget next year for this beautification. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wolcott School Street Park. Belinda made the motion to recognize this committee. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The crosswalk was also discussed. David Cross from the State will be coming for a visit next week and Belinda is planning to attend the meeting.
- **Appointment of Planning Commission Member:** Belinda made the motion that the Board appoint Brian Cassino to become a member of the Planning Commission for five years. Todd seconded the motion. She would like to schedule a meet and greet meeting soon.
- **Review and Approve Additional Zoning Permit Fees:** Effective July 1, 2015, any home occupation must register with the town for a permit with a fee of \$50. Agriculture is excluded. Richard made the motion to accept this fee to be added to the list. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- **Sand Pit – Act 250 Update:** Belinda informed the Board that the State has decided that the reclamation is complete. Discussion. The board is very pleased.

- **Bridge #3 - Repair:** Skip explained that he has tried several times to contact the State regarding the bridge but has not heard anything. Belinda stated that she will get a hold of Tom Anderson so that these repairs can be completed.
- **Frank Brock - Follow up on Violation:** Bernard has spoken with Frank and he is to begin clean up on his property the 19th of July and has a completion date of August 1, 2015.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Gates Brothers request to improve Wolcott Road:** Richard informed the Board that they have a wood lot at the end of Turcotte Road of which they have a difficult time accessing. They would like the Board's permission to improve the road with ditching and whatever else is needed. Discussion. Richard will pass on to the Gates brothers that they need to request a permit from the Town Office and Skip requested that he be notified in advance so that he may oversee the project.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

*Next Selectboard Meeting
August 12, 2015*