

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting September 2, 2015

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

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

Wolcott Employee: *Linda Martin*

Public: *Greg Williams, Maxfield English, Susan Alexander, Jackie Casino, Dominick Laporte, Kee Gillen, Megan Rodier*

Reporter: *None*

Correspondent: *Val Mason*

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Approve Resolution for LCPC Grant: The Wolcott Planning Commission and the Development Review Board met last evening and approved a Resolution for a Municipal Planning Grant. Megan of Lamoille Planning Commission was present to explain that this is for a Solar Feasibility Study on the former town dump site. The Grant is for \$8,000 and there will be no cost to the town. This study will show if it is feasible to place solar panels at the site, environmental constraints, support structure. She stated that this amount of grant money may not be able to cover a study of the costs associated with completing such a project. Discussion. Richard made the motion to approve and sign the resolution for the grant. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed the resolution. Megan will write the grant for the town.

L.R.S.W.M.D. Susan Alexander, Executive Director of Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District was invited by the Board. The violations at the Transfer Station were discussed. The Board wants to offer this service to the community but feels they need some guidance to avoid any future violations. The Board asked for help with the direction that they should be following. Susan informed the Board that she had visited the Transfer Station and thought that it had been cleaned up nicely. Bessie provided her report and before and after photos of the Transfer Station. Sweets Trucking has agreed to supply covers for two container the Town rents from them. Susan said that the station is an ideal location and that it is a nice facility. Susan explained that as soon as the collection of trash starts, you are automatically required by law to accept recyclables. Other services can also be offered if choose to. She also informed the Board that in the future the town will be required to accept yard waste, food scraps, and clean wood. The LRSWMD offers guidance, collection routes and general public education which include brochures as well as staff training. Discussion. Susan stated that they do a lot of on the job training and she will review the town's management plan and re-certification. The Board asked Susan to give her opinion if it is feasible for the town to run the station on their own. Susan will contact the board through email or if necessary attend the next board meeting.

Wolcott Recreation Committee: Minutes were provided to the Selectboard from the Committee's last meeting. Belinda explained that the Selectboard recognizes them as a committee and informed them that they currently receive a budget of \$2000 of which \$300 covers the cost of a port o let at the Park. The Committee discussed a recreational trail grant that they are interested in applying for a trail to connect the school to the Park. The Board recommended that they speak with the School Board and find out if it will affect their Act 250 permit. The School Board, Selectboard and Recreation Committee needs to all be on board before they can apply. The Recreation Committee informed the Board that they have researched bleachers and would like to purchase one set of bleachers which consists of three rows at fifteen feet long for \$1100. Todd made the motion to

approve the Recreation Committee's purchase of the bleachers. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Lamoille River Paddlers

Campsite Permission Form: Map of campsite reviewed. Discussion followed with the present Recreation Committee. Concerns and questions were raised from both the Board and the Committee regarding the site selected and clean-up of site. Form not signed. Tabled until questions and concerns can be answered.

Approve Minutes of August 12, 2015: Discussion. Correction necessary on Page 2 under Executive Session, line 5 should read "Transfer Station Attendant" and that on line 7 should state "Supervisor/Attendant". Also, on Page 3 under Delinquent Payment Due Town, line 1 should read "Septic License Agreement". Again on Page 3 under Correspondence – Adriane Moody, line 6 should read "Board of Abatement for relief of penalties and interest". Belinda made the motion to approve the minutes with the necessary corrections. Richard seconded the motion. Todd abstained. Motion passed.

Comments from the Community: Greg mentioned that twenty two houses are for sale in Wolcott, although Belinda stated that seven sales have recently gone through. He also commented on the dump and stated that he feels among others in the community that Mark is taking the blame for the Transfer Station fines. The Board informed Greg that although they could not get into details, Mark's employment was terminated for several reasons of which came to a head. He missed a mandatory meeting and his history of being off in his accounting and not doing certain tasks all came to a head. Greg stated that he feels that the Board should apologize to Mark, but the Board explained that both parties were up front in the executive session and no apologies are necessary.

Review and Sign Loan Documents for Western Star Highway Department Truck: Discussed and reviewed. Belinda made the motion to sign the Town Resolution for the Highway Department Equipment Borrowing, to sign the Highway equipment note with Union Bank for \$72,495.00 and to sign the Town of Wolcott Tax Certificate Highway Equipment. This will consist of two annual principal payments of \$32,457 plus accrued interest at .96 percent interest rate. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All present Board members signed. Greg questioned whether the town was allowed anything on the trade in value with the extended warranty that was still remaining. The Board explained that the majority of it was used up. He recommended looking into extended warranties and mentioned what the truck cost the town that was traded in.

Town Garbage Pick Up: The Depot School and Town Hall trash was left out and not picked up last week as Bernard was too busy. This led to complaints. Discussion. The Board gave Belinda permission to inform Bernard that he must deliver the trash to the Transfer Station on Saturday and Sunday when it is in operation. The Board wants to limit who has access to the Station to avoid any further problems.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Orders and Payroll – Sign:** Signed.
- **MSI Response to our Downtown:** Belinda read a letter that Tom Martin wrote to Garrett Hirschak, owner of MSI due to the concerns of many residents. He stated that he was concerned that half of the buildings have been torn down and assumed that the restoration would occur at a faster pace. He also asked for a time frame. A return letter from the Building Project Manager was read. It explained that they have had unforeseen expenses such as a new \$80,000 roof on the steel building and \$10,000 in asbestos removal. They are aware that they are behind but still plan to tidy up and paint. They are also working with Re-envisioning Wolcott and tax credits. Tom wondered if he should call. Discussion. The Board is satisfied with his response.

- **Thank you from Cindy Lowell:** Belinda read the letter she wrote to Cindy Lowell addressing all six points that she had concerns with in the letter that she had sent to the Board. Cindy then sent a return letter thanking the Board for their response.
- **Contact Information for District 8:** Belinda informed the Board that she and Linda met Tom Anderson's replacement, Jim Cota, as Tom Anderson is retiring. He is located in St. Albans and will cover thirty two towns.
- **New Mandated Reporting Procedures:** Belinda read a letter from the State of Vermont Department of Children and Families which states the new mandatory reporting procedures for child abuse.
- **Comments on LCPC Regional Plan:** Tabled as the Board needs to read.
- **VTrans Alternatives Program Grant:** Belinda explained that this has to do with on road off road facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. As Wolcott already has one in the process, the Board has decided to wait to see what the outcome will be.

New Business:

- **Road Crew Vacancy:** Discussion. The Board has decided to place a notice of the vacant position in the paper and will also re-visit the two candidates that weren't hired but were interviewed to see if they are still interested. Belinda made the motion to advertise the opening in the local papers. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Town Report Committee:** Belinda informed the Board that Linda Reeve will not be able to continue to produce the town report this year. Discussion. The Board will ask around and Belinda will put on Front Porch Forum and the town's web site.
- **Request for Tax Payment Plan:** Jennifer and Albert Fleming sent a letter requesting to keep their past due taxes in house. Albert will be receiving a buy-out by October 15, 2015 and can pay the taxes by October 31, 2015. Discussion. Todd made the motion to accept their request. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- **Update on Strek Agreement:** Letters and messages have not been returned. Discussion. The Board authorized Belinda to call the State since she has not responded to the letter sent requiring payment by August 31, 2015. The State will be informed that the town will terminate the Septic License Agreement and wish to have it removed.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Next Selectboard Meeting – September 16, 2015