

**Wolcott Special Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
March 29, 2016**

Members Present: Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Richard Lee, Eric Furs, Kimberly Gravel
Members Absent: None
Public: None
Reporter: None
Correspondent: Val Mason

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Hydraulic Oil Release: Belinda went over the events that have occurred since she received a telephone call Friday evening, March 25, 2016 from Jeff Simone who is a senior scientist of Accuworx USA, Incorporated. He alerted her to heavy oil sheening that was entering into the Lamoille River and that it led him back to the Wolcott Town Garage as it's source. Belinda phoned the other members of the Selectboard and Skip to come to the town garage as soon as possible if they were able. When she arrived, Skip and Bernard were already there. Mr. Simone met with the three and explained that he had been asked to check out the oil sheening on School Hill while he was at the school for a sports practice by concerned parents. He said that he noticed "heavy oil sheening on School Hill, near the intersection of Flat Iron Road, where it was flowing into a tributary to the Lamoille River. Mild to moderate sheening appeared in the majority of the school parking lot, and areas along School Street south of the town garage that had significant petroleum flows into the Lamoille River". He explained that he performed a "windshield survey" for a potential source. He said that the petroleum trail led to the town garage where he found "heavy petroleum sheens and free product flowing from the parking lot, along the shoulder of the road and into the Lamoille River". Skip informed the group that the truck that Joe drives had a hydraulic hose leak earlier that day. The equipment in the garage was checked for leaks and the trap that collects such leaks was empty. In Mr. Simone's report he states that he contacted Jaymi Cleland of the State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation and the on-duty response team of the National Response Center at the same time he notified Belinda. Belinda spoke with Mr. Cleland who stated that the town should allow Mr. Simone to do what was necessary to clean up the spill since he was already there and that that Accuworx is a trusted company that the state deals with. Skip stayed behind that night and helped place oil absorbent booms in several locations. After speaking with Linda that same evening, Belinda phoned Skip and Joe to write statements regarding the hydraulic hose leak and to bring them in Monday morning. In Mr. Simone's initial report, which included recommendations on how to clean up the release, it was determined that a hydraulic hose did break on the truck that Joe drives and was driving while at the school parking lot on Friday, March 25, 2016 and it was driven to the town garage where it was parked in the parking lot for a period of time. He indicated in the report that upon returning the following day, four of the booms placed were saturated and were replaced. The parking lot of the school has been scraped per his recommendation and is sitting on a tarp waiting to be

disposed of in accordance with the VT DEC regulations. Belinda has requested a temporary EPA identification number needed for the removal of the soiled oil absorbent booms. Pictures taken were

also included in his report. He stated that a full report will follow. Mr. Simone was asked by the State to monitor the release for the following week. Upon returning to Wolcott on Monday, Mr. Simone had a confrontation with one of the road crew employees and a complaint was filed by the employee. The Board discussed the seriousness of this release of oil as well as the repercussions and fines that will likely follow. Eric will phone Mr. Ryan McCall who is the Environmental Enforcement Officer for the State of Vermont because the Board, along with Linda feels that it is a possible conflict of interest that Mr. Simone of Accuworx do the cleanup and to discuss other important issues that the Board wants to address regarding the situation. It is estimated that 2 gallons of oil was released. Unfortunately, no one from the State could attend the meeting. Motion by Belinda to enter into Executive Session at 6:29 p.m. regarding a personnel matter, in which she stated, would be detrimental to the tax payers, if it was made public at this time. Seconded by Richard. All Board members gave their verbal agreement. Out of Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. Discussion. Motion by Richard for Belinda to serve a written pre-determination notice to Joe Slaimen, employee of the Town of Wolcott, at the end of the work day on Friday, April 1, 2016 citing his violation of Conduct, Section 5 of the Personnel Policy and violation of Communication, Section 16 of the Personnel Policy with a hearing date scheduled for April 6, 2016, which is the next scheduled Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Bessie. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. All Board members will sign this prior to 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 1, 2016.

The Selectboard will invite Skip to a future meeting to discuss personnel procedures, policies and potential hazardous situations.

Payroll Orders: Signed.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Richard to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Seconded by Belinda. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against. The next regular Selectboard Meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Val Mason.