

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting

Minutes

January 3, 2018

Members Present: Eric Furs, Kim Gravel, Michael Davidson
Members Absent: Belinda Clegg, Richard Lee
Public: Jim Holton, Don McCormick, Curtis Lanphere, Helen Billow
Reporter: None

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:10p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Curtis Lanphere: Curtis informed the Board that he has 2 horses, a goat and a steer grazing on the town's property that is adjacent to his. He feels that the out building that he built to shelter the animals is close to or on his property. He explained that he did come to the town office to get approval to build the out building, but the office was closed, so he got the specifics for the building from his neighbor who had the lister's standards for a permit. The Board stated that due to the weather, they are not asking Curtis to remove the shed at this time, but they will ask the listers to visit his property to locate the boundary for his property and will go from there regarding the approval of the site of his out building. Grazing for the animals on the town's adjacent lot was discussed. The Board informed Curtis that they will speak with the town's attorney, David Pollow regarding Curtis possibly leasing the land for his animals to graze on since it has improved the sight of the lot. The Board will send Curtis a letter asking him to be put on an agenda for a future Selectboard meeting.

Jim Holton - Emergency Management: Jim explained to the Board that during the recent storm with severe weather and power outages, that the emergency management leader did not show at the Town Office. Bernard added that since the emergency management leader did not show, the proper procedure was not followed. Bernard opened the office and 8 members of the fire department along with a couple of officers from the Lamoille County Sherriff's Department attempted to knock on several hundred doors to check on residents. Jim asked if a list could be comprised of residents who are a priority to be checked in this type of emergency. Since more severe weather is expected for this weekend, the Board asked that Jim call the office to speak with Belinda and Linda to see who they know that would be a candidate to be checked in on. It was decided that a letter be drafted to send out to each town resident with tax bills asking if they would like to be checked on in the event of a storm, severe weather, emergency or power outage. The Board will ask Mark Drew, Bernard and Jim to attend the next Board meeting to have a broader discussion of the town's emergency management.

Norwich Technology - Don McCormick: Don McCormick representing Norwich Solar Technologies appeared before the Board asking for their formal approval to turn the old Courchaine gravel quarry into a solar development site because, as he stated, the project may or may not be approved by the State without the town's approval due to how the site was formally handled with Act 250 permitting. Don gave the Board history of Norwich Solar Technologies as they are a Vermont and New Hampshire based company. He also discussed the site that they would like to do this solar project on. He explained that it is a preferred site and that he received unanimous support from the town's Planning

Commission at their meeting last night. He discussed inter connect and off taker possibilities. The Board informed Don of the Board's solar project that they are currently working on for the old landfill site and how they feel that they are possibly in competition for off takers and their concern with the over burden on the Hardwick Electric Department. Don stated that although he feels that they are not in competition and he feels that it would not be an issue with Hardwick Electric; Norwich Solar Technologies will back off so that they will not be in any sort of competition. The Board suggested that Don speak with Encore. The Board stated that although they are in full support of solar development, they would feel more comfortable to wait to give the preferred site status approval to Norwich once the Board has a certificate of public good in hand for the town's solar project since the landfill solar project is projected to bring in almost a half of a million dollars for the town. The Board suggested creating an email chain with Don. The Board will put this on the agenda for the next Board meeting when the full Board is in attendance.

Approve minutes of December 20th: Motion by Kim to accept the minutes of December 20th as read. Seconded by Mike. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

Comments from the Community: Kim asked Jim how the fire department was doing with the recent loss of members. He stated that they currently have 12 members, but would like to have up to 18. He mentioned that they are also in need of grant writers. The Board suggested that he contact LCPC. Jim mentioned that training is held Monday nights at 6:30 at the fire house for new members if anyone is interested.

New Business:

- **Ice Rink:** Jim informed the Board that Eddie Kish, pastor of the Nazarene Church of Wolcott has asked that the ice rink be placed at the church's park. Jim asked for the Board's approval since the money for the rink comes from the town. Discussion. Motion by Eric to approve that the ice rink be moved to the Nazarene church's park pending proof of liability insurance, giving Belinda or Linda signing privileges once insurance has been verified. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.

Old Business:

- **Continue Work on Budget:** Motion by Kim to go into executive session at 7:23 p.m. to continue to work on the budget to discuss raises etcetera. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.
- **Finalize Warning for Town Meeting:** Reviewed. Will finalize at the next Board meeting.
- **Set Schedule to Approve Final Budget & Warning:** Discussion. Motion by Eric to approve the schedule set forth. Seconded by Mike. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against.
- **Solar Discussion - Continued if needed:** Tabled.

Review Correspondence:

- **Sign 2 orders & payroll orders:** Signed.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Eric to adjourn at 7:42p.m. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against. The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2018.

Respectfully submitted by Val Mason