

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes May 2, 2018

All Minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard.
Please see future Minutes for approval of these Minutes.

Members Present: Eric Furs, Kimberly Gravel, Michael Davidson, Richard Lee, Jennifer Holton-Clapp
Members Absent: None
Town Employees: Belinda Clegg
Public: Kurt Klein, Bill Cotton, Bruce Wheeler, Nell-Marie Rowland
Reporter: None

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- Discussion regarding the Town leasing the old depot property to Nell-Marie Rowland, owner of Magic Garden Waldorf School. Motion by Kim to enter into the two-year lease with monthly rent agreed upon for the first year and rent to be reassessed for the second year. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed. The parties signed the document.
- Chad Roy asked that the Schoolhouse Committee be removed from the Agenda.

Comments from the Community: Bill Cotton recommended the Board hire an Administrative Assistant to help with the Board's short and long range goals. Bill believes such an individual would be a big advantage to the Board, and pointed out that Hyde Park, Johnson and Eden have similar positions. Bruce Wheeler agreed there is a need for such a position, pointing out it would be easier for the community to communicate with this person. Eric pointed out the Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) does a lot of work for small towns such as Wolcott, as does Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT). Not all Board members are clear on the need for such a position. Bill believes that such a position can pay for itself and then some. Otherwise, there are people in town who could work short term or on a per diem basis. Eric asked that the Board be provided with the job description of the person holding this position in Eden, and their salary.

Ordinance Committee: As a result of a discussion at this year's Town Meeting, an Ordinance Committee was created. Belinda reported the newly-formed Committee met. After consulting with the Town Attorney and VLCT, the Committee is asking the Board to amend the Town of Wolcott Municipal Ordinance on Outdoor Storage of Junk and Junk Vehicles by changing the word "four" to "two" in the provisions allowing the storing or keeping of four or more junk motor vehicles. This change would put Wolcott more in line with other towns in the County. The language of the Ordinance regarding junk would remain the same. The Board was provided with a copy of the Ordinance with the proposed changes, as well as an outline for the procedure to be followed in adopting/amending a local ordinance. Once an Ordinance is adopted/amended by the Selectboard, the Ordinance must be posted and published. The Ordinance would become effective 60 days from adoption. A Petition for recall would have to occur within 44 days of adoption.

There was a discussion regarding complaint procedures and enforcement options. Bill stated the Committee wants to approach the issues of junk and junk vehicles from a positive point of view. The Town spends a lot of money every year cleaning up properties. There is also a health issue involving insects and vermin. Kurt pointed out the Committee can provide advice and possible solutions that offenders could take advantage of. The Committee will compile a list of potential resources for people to get rid of junk and junk vehicles. The Board was also provided with a draft of a letter that the Committee could send out when a complaint has been received. Complaint forms are available on the Town website. Motion by Kim to amend the Outdoor Storage of Junk and Junk Vehicles Ordinance, Article 1 g. Article 2 a. and b. changing the word "four" to "two" relating to junk motor vehicles and set a date for a public hearing. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor, 1 abstention. Linda will let the Board know when the public hearing is scheduled. The Board will make any recommended changes to the draft letter and return it to Belinda by May 10.

Approve Minutes of April 18: Reviewed. Motion by Richard to approve Minutes as read. Seconded by Michael Davidson. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed.

New Business:

- **Annual Financial Plan:** Reviewed by Board. Motion by Eric to approve and sign the Annual Financial Plan as presented. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed.
- **Transfer Station Attendant:** The last day of employment for the current Transfer Station Attendant will be May 19. Shelby Clegg worked the Transfer Station last summer and is available again this summer. Motion by Eric to hire Shelby Clegg as Attendant for the period May 20 to August 18. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed. The Board will advertise the Attendant position the first of June to find a replacement for Shelby.

Old Business:

- **Update on Wolcott's Solar Project with Encore:** Michael updated the Board on feedback he is getting. Although it is a challenging project, the positive news is our project could be combined with other more profitable projects through Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA).
- **Action on Corley Road:** Immediately prior to tonight's meeting, Eric, Kim, Michael, Jenn, Belinda and Skip Patten met with Franklin Nutt and Jeff Harris on Corley Road just before the Class 4 portion to discuss maintenance of that portion of the road. Motion by Eric to grant permission to Franklin to do maintenance on the road with materials he purchases, and Jeff will provide use of his equipment as needed, all with the approval of Skip at the Highway Department. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed.
- **Summer Hours:** Eric noted Skip will for now be working four ten-hour days per week.
- **Green Up Day May 5:** Belinda reported green bags are available for pickup at the town office and at the Wolcott and North Wolcott stores. Full bags can be brought back to the transfer station or left on the side of the road where they will be picked up by the town highway crew. Motion by Eric to reduce the cost of disposal of tires from \$5 to \$2.50 at the transfer station on the 5th and 6th of May this year. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed. Belinda will post the discount price for tires on Front Porch Forum and on the Town website. The Board suggested that next year the Green Up Committee obtain clear bags for returnable bottles and cans, as well as green bags for trash.

Review Correspondence:

- **Review & Approve Pre-approved Payroll Orders:** Reviewed and signed.
- **Orange Book Workshop:** Motion by Kim to authorize Linda to purchase snacks and drinks for the workshop, not to exceed \$50. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed.
- **Thank you:** Eric read a letter from Mary Clark, Environmental Program Manager with Vermont Agency of Natural Resources thanking the Board for supporting the grant proposal.
- **Wolcott General Store:** Any bottled water provided to Wolcott residents is not done so at Town expense and therefore, is not a Town issue.
- **Personnel:** The Board addressed a personnel issue at the Town Highway Department.
- **Certificate of Public Good:** The Board received a copy of a letter and packet of information to Judith Whitney of the Vermont Public Utility Commission regarding a Petition of Norwich Technologies, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Good authorizing construction of the Wolcott Solar Project.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Eric to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor. 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein

The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2018