

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
September 5, 2018**

APPROVED

Members Present: Eric Furs, Kimberly Gravel, Michael Davidson, Richard Lee, Jennifer Holton-Clapp  
Town Employees: Belinda Clegg, Tom Martin, Deborah Klein, Bernard Earle, Diane Earle  
Public: Bill Cotton, Chad Roy, Gabriel Tempesta, Kurt Klein, Sylvio Desjardins

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Eric called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**Amendments to the Agenda:**

A written complaint was received regarding a memorial that has existed for several years in the right-of-way on Sand Hill Road. The complainant seeks removal of the items which includes beer bottles. Members of the Selectboard will drive by to observe what is there, and note the location. Matter tabled.

A request was received to rent Town Hall for a birthday party on September 23 from 10:00 to 1:00. No alcohol will be served. Motion by Eric to approve the request. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

A request was received to name a private road in a subdivision that connects four lots. The landowner is seeking an E911 address. The Ordinance regarding the procedure for naming roads was consulted. Motion by Eric to grant the landowner's request to name the road Deals Way. Seconded by Michael. Voting: 3 in favor, 2 opposed. The landowner will be billed for the road sign.

**Margaret Pitkins - 4th Class Road:** Margaret's husband, Gabriel Tempesta, explained they are seeking assistance from the Town to upgrade a quarter-mile portion of Manley Road near their residence. Belinda stated there are funds in the budget designated for 4th class roads. Eric will consult Skip with the Highway Department to determine other 4th class roads that may also need attention this year. Margaret can then talk with the Town and get on the Agenda.

**Wolcott Listers - Discussion:** Listers Deb Klein and Tom Martin requested the Selectboard appeal to the State Appraiser the September 21, 2018 decision of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) regarding the Baker/Martin property assessment. The request was made due to certain improprieties that occurred during the appeal process. The listers provided a packet of information to the Selectboard. Michael recused himself from this Agenda item. Motion by Eric to deny the request and accept the BCA decision with errors. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 3 in favor, 1 opposed. Belinda stated a BCA training is available.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Eric to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2018 special meeting as written. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed. Motion by Eric to approve the Minutes of the August 22, 2018 meeting as written. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

## Comments from the Community:

Complaints have been received about two dogs running loose in the Village. The dogs have been observed barking, growling, lunging, and with teeth bared. Bernard has talked with the owner of the dogs. The Sheriff's Office has also been contacted. A discussion regarding the dog ordinance procedure ensued.

Diane Earle, janitor, reported that some who rent Town Hall do not sufficiently clean the space following their event. Examples were provided. Motion by Kim to include in the Town Hall rental agreement that renters are to wash any dishes used and if cleaning by the janitor exceeds two hours, then their security deposit will be forfeited. Seconded by Eric. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

On behalf of the Schoolhouse Restoration Committee, Chad Roy informed the Selectboard that the Committee is in the process of completing a Historical Preservation Grant. It is a 50/50 grant that would require the Town to be responsible for fifty percent of the costs of restoration. For example, if a new roof would cost \$30,000, then grant funds would cover \$15,000 and the Town would be responsible for \$15,000. Chad requested the Selectboard write a letter of support to include with the grant application which is due October 1, 2018. Chad will provide the Selectboard with a link to the grant application, as well as a copy of the grant application the Committee submitted two years ago. Kim asked Chad whether the Committee has worked up costs for 1) full restoration of the old schoolhouse and 2) a partial restoration, which the Board had requested some time ago. Chad indicated the Committee is still working on that and that it will not be completed before October 1. Michael expressed concern that the Selectboard is uncertain of how the citizens of Wolcott wish the Board to proceed. The Selectboard would like to have this issue addressed at next year's Town Meeting. No action taken. The matter will be on the September 19 Agenda.

Bernard received a complaint about two loose horses. By the time the horses were under control, it was too dark to walk them back along the roadway to their owner. The horses were stabled at Jenn's barn for the night. The next day Bernard rented a horse trailer to return the horses to their owner. Jenn thanked Bernard for his efforts in recovering the horses and getting them returned to their owner. The Selectboard reassured Bernard that renting the horse trailer was the appropriate thing to do in this case, and would be in a similar case in the future. Motion by Eric to reimburse Bernard \$25 for his out-of-pocket expense in renting the horse trailer. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Bill proposed for the Selectboard's consideration an idea for next year's budget.

**Sylvio Desjardin - Interview:** Sylvio, of Cambridge, was interviewed for the position of Transfer Station Attendant. The hours are Saturday and Sunday 9:00 to 1:00. The salary is \$11.50 per hour. Motion by Eric to have Sylvio report to the Transfer Station on both Saturday, September 8 and Sunday, September 9. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed. On those days Sylvio will work with Paige. Richard will also be present on Saturday.

### **New Business:**

Belinda provided the Selectboard with a document regarding year end totals for the Town. Discussion included the possibility of increasing the rental rate for Town Hall and increasing the budget for the Town Office.

A written request was received by a landowner to enter into a payment plan with the Town to get caught up on taxes. Motion by Kim to keep the tax matter in-house rather than refer for collection. Seconded by Jenn. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

A written request was received by a second landowner to enter into a payment plan with the Town to get caught up on taxes. Motion by Eric to keep the tax matter in-house rather than refer for collection. Seconded by Kim. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

### **Old Business:**

The request by Derek Draper for a gate at the top of West Hill Road was withdrawn.

It is the understanding of the Selectboard that Curtis Lanphere does not currently have insurance which would be required in order to enter into a lease agreement regarding use of Town land that abuts his property. Eric will contact the Town attorney to discuss what recourse exists.

### **Review Correspondence:**

The Selectboard reviewed the 2017-2018 spread sheet regarding loans and grants.

The Lamoille County Sheriff's Department July report was received.

The Local Leadership Summit will be held in Castleton on October 1, 2018 starting at 9:00 a.m.

The Selectboard received information on the Vermont League of Cities & Towns Annual Meeting.

**Executive Session:** Motion by Eric to enter into Executive Session. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed. The Selectboard entered Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. Executive Session ended at 8:53 p.m. No action was taken.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion by Eric to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein.

*The next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2018*