

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

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

Present: Eric Furs, Michael Davidson, Jennifer Holton-Clapp
Absent: Kimberly Gravel, Richard Lee
Town Employees: Linda Martin, Skip Patten, Deb Klein
Public: Kurt Klein, Bill Cotten, Marquis Houle, Carroll Lawrence
Reporter: Doug McClure, *Hardwick Gazette*

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

Amendments to the Agenda:

Michael discussed with the Board proposed change to the language of the Wolcott Dog Ordinance. The change would result in the Town being involved in dispute resolution for an incident occurring on private property. This is the same language as found in the Johnson and Hyde Park dog ordinances, which has been approved by a lawyer. Linda pointed out that in order to amend the ordinance, a warning will need to be on the Agenda with 48 hour notice. A public hearing is optional. Michael will share the proposed change in language with other Board members. The matter will appear on the January 2, 2019 Agenda.

The Planning Commission will give a presentation at the December 19 meeting regarding the North Wolcott Village Center designation application.

Public Hearing - Reclassifying Pinnacle Lane:

The Selectboard did not have a quorum for the site visit of Pinnacle Lane on December 1. The site visit was reset for December 8 at 9:30 a.m. The public hearing on whether to change the designation of Pinnacle Lane from a private road to a Class 3 road will be reset for the December 19 meeting. Skip, as Highway Foreman, pointed out it is difficult to conduct an effective site visit when the road and ditches are covered in snow. Marquis, representing homeowners on Pinnacle Lane, stated he has discussed with Skip additional work that has been done to the road and culverts. Marquis stated the road has a good 15-year track record.

BUDGET HEARING

Highway Department: Skip presented to the Selectboard a written budget request of \$612,484 for discussion. Last year's budget was \$582,524. Labor is up, factoring in 2% raises. Increases were also noted for: insurance, diesel and gas, tires, salt, and paving. Skip hopes to do more paving on Town Hill Road and maybe East Hill Road depending upon need. The budget also includes the \$202 monthly rental of the temporary bridge on School Street. Motion by Eric to accept the budget as presented. Seconded by Jennifer. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

Comments from the Community: None.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Michael to approve the Minutes of the November 21, 2018 Selectboard meeting as written. Seconded by Jennifer. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

New Business:

Bids for Bridge Loan: Linda had sought bids from financial institutions for an interest rate on a \$150,000 5-year loan to pay for installation of the temporary bridge on School Street and for engineering fees. Linda presented to the Selectboard for discussion the four responses that were received. Motion by Eric to accept the proposal from Union Bank for an interest rate of 3.06 which would result in annual payments of \$33,316.38. Seconded by Michael. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

Town Hall Permit: Motion by Eric to approve a request to rent Town Hall for a gathering on December 21 from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Seconded by Michael. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.
No alcohol will be served.

Review and Sign Orders: Done.

Planning Commission Appointment: The Town is seeking to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission, preferably with an individual living in the Village. The Commission meets monthly. A notice will be placed on the bulletin board in the Town Offices and on the website.

Listers Error and Omissions Letter: The Listers submitted a written request to the Selectboard to change the as-billed Grand List due to an increase in the assessment of Morrisville Water and Light Department. Motion by Eric to sign the written request. Seconded by Michael. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

Lamoille County Conservation Donation request: Jennifer will check to see if a Town membership could be checked out of the library, for example, for use by Town citizens.

Old Business:

Listers Budget Update: On behalf of the Listers, Deb reminded the Selectboard there will be a presentation at the December 19 meeting on online tax maps. Members are encouraged to visit the Town of Hardwick website, or website of other surrounding towns to view their online maps prior to the presentation.

Issuing Enforcement Officers: Linda pointed out that in order to enforce Wolcott Ordinances through the Judicial Bureau, the Selectboard must appoint officials to be responsible for issuing complaints, appearing in court, and maintaining the complaint book. The Selectboard will take the matter under advisement. The Board also will consider amendments that need to be made to various ordinances.

Sign Ordinance Extension Letters: As a follow-up, the Junk Ordinance Committee submitted to the Selectboard for signature letters to be sent to landowners for whom complaints have been filed. The standardized letter had been read into the record at the November 21 meeting and approved. No action was taken.

Tax Sale Property - Ed Ledoux: Following a tax sale, the Town now owns this property along East Hill Road. Attorneys will be consulted on the best way to proceed. The matter will be addressed at the December 19 meeting.

Review Correspondence: The Lamoille County Sheriff's Department Preliminary 2019-2020 Budget has been received. Discussion ensued regarding the 6.15% increase over last year's budget.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Eric to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Seconded by Michael.
Voting: 3 in favor, 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein.

The next Selectboard Meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2018