

WOLCOTT ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

WOLCOTT TOWN OFFICE
6:00PM

Members Present : John Wheeler, Bill Cotton, Don Lowell, Kurt Klein
Others Present: Jen Holton-Clapp

Call Meeting To Order – 6:007 PM

1. Review of expanded junk Vehicle , Waste, Garbage, Solid Waste, Junk and Trash Ordinance.

Ordinance committee agreed to adopt a new expanded junk ordinance modeled after what Hardwick has in place. The new ordinance covers items beyond junk cars such as waste, scrap, trash, etc. The new ordinance will be presented at the next Select Board meeting, April 17, 2019 for review and permission to have the document reviewed by legal. Next step will be to post a public notice/hearing on the ordinance.

2. Reminder Letter in preparation for May 1 reinstatement of current junk violations.

A letter has been drafted as a follow up to a December 15th, 2018 letter informing individuals that they have not as of that date complied with a September 9th, 2018 letter informing individuals of ordinance violation as a result of citizen complaints in which 30 days for compliance was indicated. The December 15th letter went on to grant a ‘winter months’ extensions setting the new compliance date to May 1, 2019.

The reminder letter has again extended the compliance date to June 1, 2019 due to the late snow melt. Individual letters will be prepared and submitted to the Select Board for signature on April 17, 2019.

The ordinance committee mailed certified letters to 11 individuals on September 9th, 2018. Since that time there are three who have complied, two that have gone to the State for resolution, two in process and four with no response.

3. Dog ordinance and enforcement procedure.

Benard Earl was unable to attend the April 12th Ordinance meeting. Kurt to have a follow up review discussion and review at the next meeting.

4. Ticketing and Enforcement procedure for all ordinances

Discussed the proper procedure for issuing tickets and how to be successful with submission to the Judicial Bureau.

5. False Alarm Ordinance

The committee decided that a False Alarm Ordinance may not be necessary to pursue given our understanding that the Sheriff has been handling the issue. More information may be needed to confirm the assumption.

6. Abandoned and Derelict Properties – (Dangerous Building Ordinance)

The committee agreed to distribute the Hardwick ordinance to committee members for review. Again, it was decided that an ordinance of this type may be in the interest of the town but until the new Junk ordinance is tested it may be more than the committee can manage at this time. In balance it was stated that the committee needs to introduce ordinances that are truly beneficial, effective and enforceable.

7. Follow Up on citizen complaints

The ordinance committee has received three Junk complaints since the last meeting. The complaints have been reviewed, sites viewed from the road and letters of violation to be drafted for Select Board review at the April 17th Board meeting. One complaint was redundant. Follow up letters will also be presented at the Board meeting to be sent to those who filed the complaints

Adjourn 7:50PM