

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
April 15, 2020**

Cell phone conference - 6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Mike Davidson, Linda Martin, Kurt Klein, Richard Lee
Absent: Kim Gravel
Employees: Belinda Harris Clegg, Lucien Gravel, Deborah Klein
Public: Bill Cotten, Bruce Wheeler, Monica Cross

Mike called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. Due to a glitch, participants could join the meeting only by using a cell phone.

Amendments to the Agenda:

Motion by Mike to add three items to the Agenda: 1) hazard pay for employees; 2) wifi hotspot; and 3) loan for the temporary bridge. Seconded by Richard. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor.

It was suggested the board consider hazard pay for Town employees who are required to have personal contact with the public. Following discussion, it was determined that employee compensation is sufficiently addressed by the Interim Operational Directive.

Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) is offering to Wolcott a wifi hotspot router at no charge. The router would broadcast an existing service for a cell phone up to 100 meters, and for a laptop up to 120 meters. The router will be placed outside the old Town Hall. Bruce Wheeler will continue to explore options to make this operational for the Town.

The Treasurer was able to renegotiate the terms on the loan from Union Bank for the temporary bridge. The interest rate would be lowered from 3.68 percent to 2.38 percent, with no fees or penalties. Motion by Richard to accept the proposed lower interest rate on the bank loan. Seconded by Linda. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor.

Motion by Mike to move No. 6 on the Agenda, Highway Commissioner Report, to No. 3. Seconded by Richard. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor.

Highway Commissioner Report

Bids have been requested for winter sand. Bids will be reviewed by the board at the May 6 meeting.

Lucien addressed anticipated expenditures for repair work on vehicles. Once quotes are received, a spread sheet will be prepared for the board's review. Priorities can then be set.

Lucien confirmed that the Town has an account with Johnson Farm & Garden for purchasing culverts, but that orders must be placed through him.

Approve Minutes of April 1 and April 8, 2020

Motion by Linda to approve the April 1 Minutes as written. Seconded by Kurt. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor. Motion by Linda to approve the April 8 Minutes as written. Seconded by Kurt. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor.

Comments from the Community

It was suggested the Town budget be presented in a format that is easier to read. The Treasurer will prepare a template for the Selectboard to review.

The Town received an email from a homeowner living outside the country who was inquiring about property taxes. Belinda will respond.

Wolcott Interim Operational Directive - updates

The Interim Operational Directive has been updated since the last board meeting to reflect the board's approval to close public spaces.

It was confirmed that Lucien and the road crew are aware of the current work limitations set by the Governor's executive order.

Title searches that were activated prior to March 24 may continue by scheduling an appointment with the Town Clerk.

Town Clerk Report

Belinda initiated a discussion regarding public meetings that are likely to be held later this summer and into fall. Meeting locations other than Town Office may need to be considered. Belinda gave an update on the library. Belinda reported that citizens have been accessing wifi from the Town Office parking lot.

New Business - Proposal for a community garden

Bruce Wheeler suggested there may be interest in a community garden this summer. He will post an announcement on Front Porch Forum to see if anyone responds. If so, a desirable space will be sought.

Unfinished Business:

Officers Appointed by Selectboard 2020: The State has accepted the change making Bernard Earle Fire Warden and Arlo Sterner Deputy Fire Warden. Bernard Earle remains Health Officer, with Tom Martin as Deputy Health Officer. Motion by Richard to appoint Bruce Wheeler to the Planning Commission and Chad Roy to the Development Review Board. Seconded by Linda. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor. Dillon Cafferkey will fill the one-year term of Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) alternative. Ryan Bjerke will serve as Emergency Management Coordinator. An assistant needs to be identified who can attend LCPC meetings.

Policy Planning Committee: The Committee consists of Linda Martin, Mike Davidson, Kurt Klein, and Bill Cotten. The Committee will begin by reviewing the Personnel Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, and the job descriptions for Road Commissioner and road crew members.

Scribe - job description: A job description for Selectboard scribe will be finalized. The position will be advertised on Front Porch Forum.

Eviction proceeding - Town property on East Hill Road: Action will proceed once the court system reopens.

Correspondence: None.

Adjourn: Motion by Mike to adjourn. Seconded by Richard. Roll call vote: All 4 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein

Next regular Selectboard meeting - May 6, 2020

Phone in information available on Town website