

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes October 7, 2020

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

Present: Kim Gravel, Mike Davidson, Linda Martin, Richard Lee, Kurt Klein
Employees: Randall Szott, Dillan Cafferky, Belinda Harris Clegg, Deb Klein
Public: Charlene Sroka, Gail Osherenko, Helene Nilsen

Kim called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda

Kim announced she will not seek reelection to the board when her term expires in March. Further, she will be unable to attend board meetings over the next month. Given her inability to attend all meetings, Kim asked that a replacement be sought to complete the remainder of her term.

Mike announced he is moving and will no longer be a resident of Wolcott. This will be his last meeting. Mike orally resigned his position as Vice Chair of the Selectboard effective October 7, 2020. Mike will submit a written letter of resignation as a Selectboard member. Motion by Kim to nominate Linda Martin to serve as Vice Chair of the Selectboard effective October 7, 2020. Seconded by Mike. Voting: All in favor.

The two Selectboard vacancies will be posted at Town Office and on the website.

A vacancy exists on the Board of Supervisors for the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District. The Town's representative, Richard Lee, missed three consecutive meetings thereby creating the vacancy. A posting will appear at Town Office and on the website to fill the remainder of the term that ends March, 2021.

Approve Minutes of September 16, and September 28, 2020: Motion by Linda to approve the Minutes of September 16, and September 28, 2020 as written. Seconded by Kurt. Voting: All in favor.

Comments from the Community

Charlene Sroka, Ballet Wolcott: Charlene Sroka, Executive Director of Ballet Wolcott, was joined by Gail Osherenko and Helene Nilsen in presenting to the board a proposed schedule for renting Town Hall. Discussion ensued regarding the many years the ballet has been in Wolcott and how it draws students from the NEK and surrounding towns. The board acknowledged what an asset the ballet is to the Town. Motion by Mike to accept the Ballet Wolcott schedule as presented at a rate of \$350 per month, with the understanding there may be some flexibility in the schedule should a conflict arise. Seconded by Richard. Voting: All in

favor. Kim signed the Rental Agreement with the schedule request attached. It was further agreed that if for some reason the Ballet could not use the Town Hall on a Saturday afternoon, then they could use it Sunday afternoon if available.

Jon Morin, State Senate candidate: Did not appear.

Highway Department

Update on plow: The used plow that had been under consideration for purchase is no longer available. Dillan reported that a used plow from the State may be available for \$5,600, or a new plow can be purchased for \$7,750. A new one could be delivered within three to four weeks. Dillan will check on the condition of the used plow. The board will then make a determination.

Linda reported on the recent Road Safety Audit conducted by the State at the intersections of Vt Rt 15 with East Hill Road and North Wolcott Road. Included in their recommendations will be reflectors on the guardrail and a post on East Hill Road. Changes to the North Wolcott Road would come at a big cost. The Town will receive a report. The Highway Department will put different material along side the road where rocks currently get kicked out into the road. The Town can file with the State a permit requesting to erect a solar speed sign along Vt Rt 15.

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Center for Tech & Civic Life - COVID-19 Response Grant: Belinda reported that the Town received a grant to purchase certain items for upcoming elections, needed because of the pandemic, up to \$5,000. No matching funds are required. The board is to consider items that may be needed before the December deadline.

New Business:

Winter plowing/shoveling: Belinda stated the Highway Department is now unable to plow the school parking lot. The concern is that because the parking lot is paved, the large trucks could damage the paved/unpaved edge. Mike will contact the school board to discuss their hiring someone to plow the parking lot. The Town will advertise for a maintenance person to be responsible for shoveling Town Office and Town Hall, and doing other tasks for the Town on an hourly basis.

Preliminary discussion - 2021-2022 budget: Kurt inquired as to when and how the annual budget process should get started. Linda will discuss with Randall the process as it has been followed. The board will discuss this further at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Repairs to Fire Station: No one has come forward to do the repair work on the roof and install a man door. Belinda will contact Jeff Harris to see if he can do the work.

Eviction proceeding - property on East Hill Road: A court date may be scheduled in December.

Transfer Station - update: There are issues to be addressed at the Transfer Station. Richard has been talking with the attendant about requirements.

Highway Access Policy: Kurt and Randall are reviewing the current policy to determine whether changes need to be made.

Disability Insurance Claim - update: Kurt reviewed with the board the restriction imposed by the Department's caseworker that the employee not lift more than 15 pounds.

Correspondence: A notice was received for posting from the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

Executive Session: Motion by Linda to enter executive session for a personnel matter, and to invite Randall Szott to attend. Seconded by Richard. Voting: All in favor. The board entered executive session at 7:17 p.m.

Motion by Linda to come out of executive session. Seconded by Kurt. Voting: All in favor. The board left executive session at 7:28 p.m. Action: Richard will talk with the Transfer Station attendant, and ask him to attend the select board meeting on October 21, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein

Next regularly scheduled meeting - October 21, 2020