

**Wolcott Special Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
January 13, 2021**

Virtual/Phone-in meeting: 6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Linda Martin, Kurt Klein, Kurt Billings
Absent: Kim Gravel, Richard Lee
Employees: Randall Szott, Belinda Harris Clegg, Deb Klein
Reporter: Doug McClure, *Hardwick Gazette*

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

Amendments to the Agenda: None.

Approve Minutes of Meeting of January 6, 2021: Motion by Klein to accept the Minutes as written. Seconded by Billings. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Comments from the Community/Correspondence: None.

Final Budget Review: The board discussed several areas of the proposed 2021-2022 budget in preparation for the board's final review at the January 20 meeting. Topics included:

- Changing the line item entitled "Lights" to "Electricity" to better reflect the category.
- Provide funds for putting notices in the newspaper a couple of times each year to inform residents of the necessity to license their dogs. Although notices are sent to current dog owners to remind them of renewal, new dog owners may not be aware of the requirement. A newspaper ad costs about \$50.
- Payment of loan taken out following last year's flood.
- Whether to include funds for a tabulator to be used for the Australian ballot vote for Town Meeting.
- Funds to be allocated for temporary help for the Highway Department should that be necessary.
- Highway Department equipment repair funds.
- Funds needed for Building Maintenance.
- It is the board's understanding that the librarian will retire from her full-time position by July 1, 2021. It is anticipated the librarian will then work on a part-time basis, perhaps 24 hours per week, starting August 1. The part-time position would not qualify for insurance or other benefits. Funds should be considered for a substitute librarian for the month of July. Funds will need to be included for heat and electricity for the library now that it is located in the Depot building.
- Anticipated revenue.
- Whether to provide a cost of living raise to Town employees.

- Whether to provide any funding for signage and postage should a Junk Committee be formed.
- Amount estimated for recording fees.
- Funding for the five-year road erosion project. It is critical to track work done so far.

Since the Town will go with Australian ballot for Town Meeting this year, instead of a floor vote, the board has questions about how to incorporate Articles in the Warning. Szott is working with the Secretary of State's Office and Vermont League of Cities and Towns on how to word a conditional budget. The issue is how the budget may be approved with separate Articles. There will be several new appropriation requests that will be on the Warning in separate Articles.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Klein to adjourn. Seconded by Billings. Voting: All 3 in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein

Next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting - January 20, 2021