

WOLCOTT SELECTBOARD MEETING

July 2, 2014

Wolcott Town Office
6:00 p.m.

Board Members: *Belinda Clegg, Bessie Martin, Todd Harris, Jeff Wright, Richard Lee*
Town Employees and Volunteers: *Bernard Earle, Arlo Sterner, Robert Harris*
Public: *Greg Williams, Kelly Fairchild, Linda McAllister-Brady, Michael O'Driscoll, Phil Ryder*
Reporter: *Tyler Moller*
Correspondent: *Val Mason*

Belinda called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Sign Orders – June 30, 2014**
- **Sign Orders – July 1, 2014**
- **Hundley Right Of Way Email**
- **Robert Harris – Buildings**
- **Bernard Earle – Concerns**
- **Current Use Errors On The Grand List**
- **Fiscal Year Draft Report: Budget vs. Actual**
- **Gulf Road – Daily use by vehicles that are over the legal weight limit**

Kelly Fairchild – Children Slow Signs: Kelly Fairchild, who resides on the Elmore Pond Road, along with Linda McAllister-Brady approached the Board with a request for signage to be placed along the beginning and end of the long straight of way section of their road. Kelly stated that due to the speed at which many vehicles travel on this section of the road, it is dangerous and she would like these drivers to be aware that there are children in the area. Belinda informed everyone that the State of Vermont Department of Transportation just recently, has issued new guidelines recommending that towns not place signs stating “Slow Children at Play” due to liability. The only such signage that is allowed to be placed by the town would be when a written request to the town from a resident who is handicapped or has a handicapped child or person in their care. Belinda did inform Kelly that she can erect her own handmade signs as long as they are located outside of the 25 foot right of way from the center of the road. Belinda will call the LCSD for a directive to be in the above mentioned area between 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. as these seem to be the most active times for speeding. Jeff requested that Belinda produce a copy of this new Law/Mandate from the Vermont Department of Transportation for the Board’s review and for the Board to be able to show residents who request such signage.

Arlo Sterner – Emergency Management: Arlo had questions for the Board regarding his and Mark Drew’s positions as volunteers. They are currently paid the regular town employee mileage rate for trainings that they attend. There is a \$2000 budget which is for maintaining the generator and for supplies. Arlo would like the Selectboard to decide on a

stipend for he and Mark. Belinda reviewed the Town Operation Plan, which has been approved and confirmed through the Federal Government, with Arlo and the Board. Arlo informed the Board of information he has received from recent trainings and that he has ordered 25 cots, 50 blankets and water. The Board stated that they will find a place to store this. Available shelters were also discussed as well as food. Arlo asked the Board for help finding Shelter Managers and any EMS residents, who may be willing to be a part of the Town Plan as he is only aware of one EMS who works out of town. The Board will meet and after an agreement is reached on a stipend they will contact him.

Comments from The Community: None

School Street Water Users – Set Annual Meeting Date: A town meeting article from 2008 which was approved by the town residents stated that the Selectboard and the School Street Water System users meet annually to set the water rate for the upcoming year. It was proposed that a meeting be scheduled for July 30, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for one hour. The Tax Rate will be set at the end of the meeting as the Grand List should be completed by then. This date was agreed upon by the Selectboard, Mr. Ryder and Mr. O’Driscoll who were present at tonight’s meeting.

Approve Minutes of June 4th & June 26th: Todd made the motion to accept both sets of minutes. Richard seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Correspondence/Sign:

- **Town Hall Permits:**
Austin Grant for July 12, 2014 for DJ dance party from 5:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. No alcohol. Discussion. Jeff made the motion to deny this request due to lack of information. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
Jennifer Pecor for the entire day of August 30, 2014. No alcohol. Jeff made the motion to accept this request. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Letter Confirming 2014 Local Emergency Operation Plan:** Belinda read the acceptance letter from the Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security confirming the Town’s 2014 Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- **Driveway Permit:** Margaret Pitken and Gabriel Tempesta have requested a permit for a driveway on the Manley Road. Skip has been to the site and has given his written approval. Discussion. Belinda made the motion to accept their permit. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All Board members signed the Permit.
- **Awarded 2014 Structures Grant:** Belinda read the Structures Grant letter from the State to use for the Elmore Pond Road bridge. The town can re-apply for paving of the bridge, if there is any money left. Two bids were submitted, so the State will give a certain percentage of the lesser bid.
- **Liability Insurance – Men’s Softball League:** Discussion on the use of the North Wolcott field, by the Hardwick Men’s Softball League, that was rented to them by Ron Barre, Wolcott Recreational Director, in the amount of \$300. At the time of

rental, the League leader signed off on the town's liability waiver. Belinda spoke with Attorney Polow, who recommended that the league leader also send a letter stating that the Hardwick Softball League takes full responsibility for the Rec. Field on the nights that they play games which includes their opponents. Belinda also spoke with the Vermont League of Cities & Towns because they insure the town. Belinda found that since this is the Town's Rec. field that the town has liability. Jeff the motion that the Selectboard approve of the League using the field and the waiver that made was signed and that the town assumes some liability by having people use the field for which it was made. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- **Appointments – LCPC Board and TAC:** Discussion. Belinda made the motion to appoint Maxfield English to the LCPC and will send a letter to the remaining DRB members to see if anyone has an interest in being appointed as an alternate. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Belinda made the motion for Linda Martin to be appointed for the TAC director and Bessie Martin as alternate. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. All Board members signed the Appointments letter.
- **Request for Waiver of Subdivision Fee:** All Board members were given copies of a letter written by Robert Knowlton asking that the application fee be waived for his re-submission for a subdivision permit since he has already paid this once. The Board was also given copies of correspondence between Mr. Knowlton and Tom Martin, Zoning Administrator. Discussion. Jeff made the motion to deny this request. Todd seconded the motion. Belinda will email Maxfield English of the DRB, of their decision before their meeting on July 9, 2014.
- **School Street Water System Update:** Bills have been sent with one payment being made. Belinda read the letter that Linda Martin sent to the Wolcott School Board in which she stated that since both the School and the town have water system issues that possibly the six users on School Street could extend their line from the spring that they are on to the users that the school needs to provide water to. She gave them all of the contact information for Carl Fuller from the State of Vermont of Environmental Conservation. She recommended that an analysis be done to see if this is a possibility in which it would save the taxpayers money.
- **Fire Department port-o-let:** Belinda informed the Board of her findings from speaking with Mr. Larson who recommended that he start with a dye test and if the leach field has failed it will need to be replaced. Jeff made the motion to hire Mr. Larson to test and if necessary replace the leach field. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Brock Violation:** Frank Brock's home on Tjader Road has already been condemned from the town Health Officer and Linda now needs authorization from the Selectboard to hire the LCSD to serve a Municipal Court Ticket due to

unsanitary conditions. Richard made that motion for Linda to call on the LCSD to serve this Ticket. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- **Act 250 Reconsideration Decision:** Belinda read the letter from the State of Vermont Natural Resources Board stating that no Act 250 is required post reconsideration.
- **Northern Borders Grant - Trailhead:** The Northern Borders Trailhead Grant is for \$57000. The town needs to match \$11,400 which can be budgeted for the following year. Melinda from LCPC will be in the office to review all three concepts for the trailhead.
- **Transfer Station Fees:** Have been updated. A copy of these increases is available at the town office. These fees go in to effect July 2, 2014. Discussion. Jeff made the motion to accept the fee updates as read. Bessie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to the Agenda:

- **Sign Orders - June 30th:** signed
- **Sign Orders - July 1st:** signed
- **Hundley Right Of Way E-Mail:** Discussion amongst Board members and Arlo who is the Fence Viewer for the town and has past experience with logging roads and right of ways. Jeff made the motion to deny Rev. Hundley's request. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Robert Harris - Buildings:** Mr. Harris appeared before the Board and passed out copies of the necessary repairs that he has compiled. The list was broken down by Building and each item was discussed. The Board authorized Robert to start with the Blinds in the Zoning Administrator's Office/Lister's Office along with other small projects. Belinda will speak with Paul Ceruti regarding the Town Garage before anything is done there. Robert will also start going through stuff that is being stored in the Old School Building and make a list of it.
- **Letter From A Delinquent Taxpayer:** A delinquent taxpayer has asked the board to set up a payment plan. Discussion. Jeff made the motion to deny the taxpayer's payment plan as it was unacceptable. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Bernard Earle - concerns:** First, the Board informed Bernard of his appointment and of Tom Martin being the Deputy Health Officer. Bernard voiced his concerns over repeated phone calls late at night from one certain individual who is very disrespectful to him and who gives false information. The Board informed Bernard to use his discretion regarding if the matter can wait until the following morning. Also, Belinda will check with the LCSD on whether or not harassment charges can be filed.
- **Gulf Road - Over Limit Vehicles:** A resident of Gulf Road voiced his concerns regarding trucks using the road who are obviously over the

posted weight limit. He stated that it occurs every workday morning between 4:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Belinda will speak with the LCSD to see if a directive can be placed and held until proper equipment can arrive to weigh the vehicle or what can the town do to deter this from happening. Belinda will also contact the LCSD regarding the discrepancy in the posting of the North Wolcott Road brought to the attention of a Board member.

- **Current Use Errors on Grand List:** Belinda presented a letter from the Lister's Office asking the Board to accept changes to the Grand List. The values of acreage on excluded land have been recalculated in the State of Vermont's Current Use Program. With the Board's permission, they can correct this on the Fiscal Year 2014 Grand List. Todd made the motion to grant the Lister's permission to make the six necessary changes to the Grand List. Jeff seconded the motion.
- **Fiscal Year Draft Report Budget vs. Actual:** Belinda handed out copies of the Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Report for July 2013 through June 2014 for the Board to review. Discussion.

Belinda made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Belinda adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Next Selectboard Meeting – August 6, 2014