

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes September 4, 2019

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

Present: Kim Gravel, Richard Lee, Michael Davidson, Jenn Holton-Clapp, Eric Furs
Town Employees: Skip Patten, Bernard Earle, Lucien Gravel
Public: Kurt Billings, Robert Harris, Mary Harris, Bill Cotten, Monica Cross, Diane Olson, Tim Jones, Karen McKee
Reporter: Doug McClure, *Hardwick Gazette*

The meeting was called to order by Kim at 6:02 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: Motion by Michael to approve rental request for Town Hall tables and chairs from September 6 to September 8. Seconded by Jenn. Voting: 4 in favor.

Comments from the Community: None.

Approval of Minutes of August 21, 2019: Motion by Michael to accept the Minutes as written. Seconded by Richard. Voting: 4 in favor.

Executive Session: Motion by Eric to enter into executive session. Seconded by Kim. Voting: All in favor. Entered executive session at 6:05 p.m. Basis: labor relations agreements with employees.

Returned from executive session at 7:05 p.m. Motion by Richard to set the salary for Skip Patten, Highway Foreman, at \$24.30 per hour starting the next pay period. Seconded by Michael. Voting: All in favor. Motion by Richard to set the salary for Lucien Gravel, as Road Commissioner, at \$17.50 per hour for up to 15 hours per week, retroactive based on billable hours. Seconded by Michael. Voting: 4 in favor, Kim recused herself based on family relationship.

Unfinished Business:

Compensation for Lucien Gravel: Addressed during executive session.

Salary increase for Skip Patten: Addressed during executive session.

Road Crew Staffing: Applications will be reviewed.

VLCT Business Meeting - Delegate: Motion by Kim to appoint Kurt Klein as the board's delegate at the VLCT meeting to be held October 2, 2019 in Killington. Seconded by Michael. Voting: All in favor.

Flower Pots along Vt Rt 15: Kim spoke with the elementary school person in charge of the after school program who indicated the kids would love to paint the flower pots. If the highway department can transport the pots to the garden end of the school building, the students can get the pots painted within a few weeks. The pots would need to be moved from the school before winter.

Town Road and Bridge Standards: Wolcott has not, as yet, adopted the new State standards. The board feels they need a more educated understanding of the standards. The question is, what will be the cost to taxpayers. Lucien will soon meet with Jim Coda, the District 8 manager, and can talk about standards at that time.

Lucien reported there are six or seven bridges in town that need repair. Some coating work should be done before winter. Guardrails need to be raised. Lucien has talked with Rob Moore of Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) about upgrading Town Hill Road from a Class 3 to a Class 2 road. Lucien is to check on who owns land on the Cross Road where logging materials have been left in the right-of-way. Lucien noted that the Corley Road turnaround is currently full of boulders. The East Hill Road culvert has been installed. Lucien stated Jim Paradee is helping with grading on Sundays, and that he has agreed to plow snow this winter on a part-time basis. According to Pike Industries, paving on Town Hill will take place on September 17. Lucien suggested the road crew have pagers before the winter season starts.

School Children Visit Selectboard Meeting: Now that school is back in session, Eric will follow up with the suggestion that 4th or 5th grade students be invited to attend a Selectboard meeting.

Solar Signs: An estimate has been received from an electrician to activate the two solar speed signs for \$350. One will be placed on North Wolcott Road and the other on Town Hill Road. The Highway Department will need to put the signs in place.

Installation of 911 Signs: Eric will follow up with the Eagle Scout Master to determine whether the scouts would like to take on as a project the installation of the E 9-1-1 signs.

Thank you to Claude Cross: Monica and others spoke on behalf of Claude and expressed thanks for the many years of dedicated service he provided to the Town through his work on the Highway Department. Claude has sold his home in Wolcott and has relocated to the south. An appreciation card for Claude will be available at Town Office for individuals to sign. Motion by Kim to send Claude a Certificate of Appreciation along with a \$100 Visa card as a token of our thanks. Seconded by Richard. Voting: All in favor.

Review Correspondence:

Sign Payroll and other Orders: Done.

Transfer Station Audit Sheets: Reviewed.

Adjourn: Motion by Eric to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by Richard. Voting: All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Klein

The next regular Selectboard meeting - September 18, 2019