

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes May 20, 2020

Conference call - 6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Kim Gravel, Mike Davidson, Kurt Klein, Linda Martin, Richard Lee
Employees: Belinda Harris Clegg, Lucien Gravel, Bernard Earle, Deborah Klein
Public: Bill Cotten, Kee Gillen, Casey Lyon
Reporter: Doug McClure, *Hardwick Gazette*

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

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Approve Minutes of May 6, 2020: The Town's local emergency plan had been agreed to without motion. Motion by Linda to approve the local emergency plan. Seconded by Richard. Roll call vote: All in favor. On page 3, paragraph 3, add to the beginning of the second sentence: "Joey Wilson, the engineer who is overseeing the work, and with the approval of". Motion by Richard to approve the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Michael. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Kee Gillan: Green Up Vermont; Recreational fields:

Green Up day is Saturday, May 30 this year. Green bags are available for pick-up in the Town Office or at the Transfer Station. Keep stated bags used to be sent home with school kids. An inquiry will be made to see if bags can be included along with OSSU food delivery. The road crew will pick up the green bags from the roadside on Monday, June, 1. Tires will be accepted at the Transfer Station on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31 for half-price.

The ball field on North Wolcott Road needs to be power raked and the small limbs and debris by the fences removed before Kee can put up the equipment. The soccer goals and nets will be set up on the School Street field. The bleachers will not be replaced until gathering size restrictions permit larger groups.

Bruce Wheeler: Broadband update; proposal for community garden:

There are currently two devices installed at Town Hall that will serve to boost broadband service. The first was installed by Consolidated Communications. VTel installed a fiber optic device at no charge. The board will determine which will serve the Town better. A sign will be installed indicating Town Hall is a wifi hotspot.

Comments from the Community: None

Wolcott Interim Operational Directive - updates:

The written Directive will be modified to reflect changes made by the board since its inception. The Directive is intended to follow the current recommendations of the Governor in order to stay up to date.

AA meeting location: The AA group would like to meet in the Depot building. The building had been winterized, so the water will need to be turned on. A list of rules will be written up for signature before the group will be allowed to access the building. The Governor's restrictions and guidelines must be followed.

Library hours: The board of trustees for the Wolcott library are the direct supervisor of the librarian, and determine the hours of the library. The Town, however, pays the salary of the librarian. Town employees are now paid only for the hours they work. COVID-19 pay for hours missed due to pandemic restrictions is no longer available. The trustees need to determine when and how the library will reopen to the public.

Highway Department Report:

Estimated costs regarding truck: The board reviewed quotes for a new plow truck. The quotes are for a truck that is smaller than the one it would replace. The pros and cons of purchasing a new truck at this time were discussed. There is an option to repair the current truck before winter. There is some question as to whether a new truck could be delivered before the first snowfall. Also of concern is the condition of the grader. Concerns include engine repairs that may be needed, and when it may need to be replaced. Motion by Kurt to delay making a decision on purchase of a new truck. Seconded by Mike. Roll call vote: 4 in favor, Linda opposed. A special meeting may be scheduled to discuss the issue of the truck.

Lucien reported both solar speed signs should be working soon. Work will begin on Brook Road on June 6. Lucien will not be working for two weeks beginning June 5.

A washout on Town Hill Road needs to be repaired. The Town's excavator is too small to do the job. Adhering to the Procurement Policy, Lucien should obtain two quotes from contractors stating their hourly rate.

Linda and Lucien continue to work on FEMA documentation for reimbursement. Linda stated FEMA keeps adding requirements and seeking more detailed information along with photos and worksheets.

Town Clerk/Treasurer Report:

Tax Payments: Belinda reported that the process for accepting tax payments on May 15 worked well. The amount of tax payments received is down from last year. Owners of parcels who have not yet paid their tax installment will receive a letter outlining the late fees and penalties.

Mowing contract: Mowing has begun at Town properties under last year's contract. A request for bids will go out for the mowing contract beginning with the new fiscal year in July.

Janitor position: There is a current opening for janitor to clean Town properties. Salary will be \$15 per hour. An ad will be placed in Front Porch Forum.

Request for sign: A sign will be installed in the parking lot by the Post Office indicating it is a pick-up location for Rural Community Transport (RCT).

A safety shield has been installed in Town Office. Individuals conducting business in Town Office are asked to wear a mask.

Unfinished Business:

2020-2021 Budget discussion - hours/salaries: Matter tabled until the June 3 meeting.

Maintenance of Town Garage and Fire Station: Kim is seeking recommendations and estimates for painting and siding jobs. The gutter on the Garage will be replaced. The man-door needs to be replaced. Bernard will work on that. Lucien will follow up on windows that need to be replaced.

Transfer station: Since the Department of Corrections is not currently able to supply manpower to assist at the transfer station, the board will seek to hire someone on a temporary basis for \$11 per hour.

Policy Planning Committee: Matter tabled until the June 3 meeting.

Eviction proceeding - Town property on East Hill Road: This matter is pending while the court system is closed.

Scribe job description: This topic will be revisited in the event a Selectboard assistant is hired.

Rules of Procedure: consider amendment for Chair to prepare Agenda: This topic will be revisited in the event a Selectboard assistant is hired.

Adjourn: Motion by Richard to adjourn at 8:56 p.m. Seconded by Mike. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Next regular Selectboard meeting - June 3, 2020

Phone in information available on Town website