

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
April 20, 2022**

Wolcott Town Office/Zoom/phone-in: 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, Allen Carpenter, Kurt Billings
Absent: Richard Lee
Employees: Belinda Harris Clegg, Deb Klein
Guests: Susan Alexander, Sarah Lillibridge - LRSWMD
Public: Dolan Patrick, Phillip Wilson, Elliot Waring

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

Amendments to the Agenda: The appointment of an Assistant to the Town's Emergency Management Coordinator was added to Selectboard review/action without objection.

Approve Minutes of April 6, and April 8, 2022: Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of the April 6 Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Carpenter. Discussion: None. Voting: All 4 in favor. Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of the April 8 Special Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Billings. Discussion: None. Voting: Martin, Klein, and Billings – Yes. Carpenter abstained since he did not attend. Motion carried.

Comments from the Community/Correspondence: The board received a request from the Northeast Kingdom Community Broadband board to appoint a representative from Wolcott. The board will make the appointment at the May 4 meeting. The board received from Northern Rivers Land Trust a request for a donation. The Town has not previously made a donation to the organization. Board members may make a personal donation if they wish.

Project Manager Report: Klein reported that with the assistance of Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC), the Town has submitted an application for the Peter Welch Community Grant. If awarded, the \$375,000 of Congressional funds would be used for the planning and design stage of a wastewater project in Wolcott. Rep. Welch will determine which projects are awarded. A reply is expected by May 6.

Klein is developing a 30-year sustainable road equipment plan that is intended to save the Town money over time. The Town Garage boiler was destroyed when it caught on fire. Bids were sought from Bourne's, Fred's, and County Plumbing for a replacement heat system. Since the Town contracts with Bourne's for fuel, that was the only company to submit a bid. The bid includes an overhead heater, installation, disposing of the boiler, and switching tanks. There would be a two-year contract for propane at \$1.953 per gallon. The Town would have to hire an electrician as part of the installation. Expenses would come from the building maintenance fund. Motion by Carpenter to accept the Bourne's proposal for \$8,223.32 as discussed, as well as electrical service for installation. Seconded by Billings. No further discussion. Voting: All 4 in favor.

Quotes will be sought for repairs or work that needs to be done on Town buildings. Klein reported on technology improvements. A quote has been received for putting Town records online. CAI will be asked to give a presentation to the board. ARPA funds could be used for this purpose. An ARPA survey has been posted on Front Porch Forum seeking input from Townspeople on how they would like to see ARPA funds spent. Paper copies of the survey are also available in the Town Office.

The road crew will start their four-day work week. The weight limit restrictions that were placed on roads prior to mud season will end on April 25. A Bulk Waste Day will be held at the Transfer Station on April 23. Certain bulk items will be free for Wolcott residents. Green-up Day is May 7 this year.

Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District (LRSWMD): Susan Alexander, Director, updated the board on LRSWMD issues. Alexander gave some suggestions on how to keep costs down at the Transfer Station. Sarah Lillibridge, Outreach Coordinator, stated she works with businesses, schools, and folks in the district on issues such as composting, and how to lower the toxicity of the landfill. She is available to come to events to answer questions. Phillip Wilson is Wolcott's representative on the LRSWMD board and will update the Selectboard as information comes along.

Selectboard review/action

Town Forest Management Committee – Charter: The board reviewed a draft of a Charter for the group to follow. Motion by Klein to adopt the Wolcott Town Forest Committee charter as presented. Seconded by Carpenter. No further discussion. Voting: Martin, Klein, and Carpenter – Yes. Billings abstained stating he is a member of the Committee. The board signed the last page of the charter. The Committee can address the charter at their meeting scheduled for April 25.

Special Town Meeting – Date/location: A special Town Meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wolcott elementary school. The Warning will address the issue brought before the Selectboard in a petition asking that Town officers be elected by Australian ballot. A notice will appear in the *News & Citizen*.

Community Event – proposed date: A Town event will be scheduled for Friday, August 26, 2022 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the area between the Town Office, Library, and Gazebo. It is anticipated that this event will be similar to the event held early last fall. September 9 will be the rain date.

Cannabis Control Commission – resolution: A Guidance for Municipalities document prepared by the Vermont Cannabis Control Board was provided to board members for review. The Selectboard is currently serving as the local Cannabis Control Board. The Selectboard will seek more information from the State before adopting a resolution.

Highway grants, Town Hill culvert: Martin reported that two paving grants have been submitted for the North Wolcott Road. Responses should be received by June. Martin met with District 6 technicians regarding the Town Hill culvert. The recommendation was to apply for a planning grant. Martin submitted a grant application for \$60,000 to cover design of a new culvert.

Delinquent licenses for dogs: Clegg provided the board with a list of owners who are delinquent on getting their dogs licensed. For those who remain delinquent, a dog warrant will be submitted to the Selectboard on May 30.

Wolcott School Board – election: The Financial Officer for OSSU brought to Elliot Waring’s attention that a charge of \$2,903.69 had been incurred for the school vote. The school district’s understanding was that the expense would be covered by a grant offered through the State, and that the Town Clerk would submit the grant application. Waring stated the district has not yet been reimbursed and is seeking clarification on the status of the grant. Clegg will forward to Waring and the board relevant communications between the Clerk’s Office and the Secretary of State’s Office. The issue can be addressed again at the May 4 meeting if needed.

Assistant to Emergency Management Coordinator – Appointment: Steve Princ, the Town’s Emergency Management Coordinator, suggested to the Board that Elliot Bjerke be appointed to serve as his assistant. Motion by Klein that the Selectboard appoint Elliot Bjerke to serve as assistant to the Town’s Emergency Management Coordinator. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 4 in favor.

Adjourn: Motion by Klein to adjourn. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 4 in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Klein

Next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting – May 4, 2022