

Wolcott Selectboard Meeting Minutes March 3, 2021

Zoom 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, Allen Carpenter
Absent: Richard Lee, Kurt Billings
Employees: Randall Szott, Dillan Cafferky, Belinda Harris Clegg, Deb Klein
Public: John Wheeler, Ryan Ewell, Monica Cross, Jeff Harris, Andy Duff,
Rick Hawkins
Reporter: Doug McClure, *Hardwick Gazette*

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

Organizational Meeting of Selectboard:

Election of Chair: Klein nominated Martin to serve as Chair. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Election of Vice Chair: Martin nominated Klein to serve as Vice Chair. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Election of Clerk: Martin nominated Carpenter to serve as Clerk. Seconded by Klein. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Adopt Rules of Procedure: Motion by Klein to adopt the current Rules of Procedure with the possibility of amending them if necessary at a future meeting. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Set Date and Time of Regularly Scheduled Meetings: Motion by Klein to set the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. for this year's meetings. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Designation of Newspaper for Notices: Motion by Klein to designate the *News & Citizen* as the Town's newspaper for notices. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting All 3 in favor.

Amendments to the Agenda: Notice regarding Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) Selectboard training was added to New Business.

Approve Minutes of February 17 and Informational Meeting of February 24, 2021: Approval of the Minutes was tabled to the March 17 meeting due to the lack of a quorum from those meetings.

Comments from the Community/Correspondence: There were no comments. Martin noted that the board had received a letter from Bill Cotten in which he reiterated his wish for the board to include the Sheriff's Department budget and the budget for Dispatch services in the Selectboard budget next year. He also wishes the board would add money raised from

taxpayers to the capital fund. When asked, Martin clarified that the board maintains what is referred to as a reserve fund as the board's capital fund. In the past, undesignated income, or funds that remain at the end of the year, have been added to the reserve fund.

Highway Department

Permit Approval: Cafferky stated that as Road Foreman, he approved a Driveway Permit for Jeff Harris on Town Road #38. Motion by Klein to approve the driveway permit for Harris on Town Road #38. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Adopt Road & Bridge Standards: Cafferky reported he reviewed the Road & Bridge Standards form, and approves it as written. Motion by Klein to adopt the Road & Bridge Standards. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Cafferky further reported on current salt supply, repairs needed for the bridge on the Gulf Road, adjustments to guard rails on the Gulf Road, and scoping out potential paving projects. The sand budget has a balance of \$7,550. The board suggested bids be sought now for next year. The road crew can start hauling sand when they have time during mud season, and then again in July.

Town Administrator's Report: Szott highlighted some of the areas in which he has been working:

- Attended a PACIF grants and scholarship webinar. Scholarships may be available for employees to enhance their skills with trainings in various areas including safety and risk management.
- Work continues on changes and updates to the Personnel Policy.
- Working with the Road Foreman on administrative requirements of the State.
- Attended a Vermont Local Roads Round Table.
- Checking on grants for the Transfer Station.

New Business

Appointment to DRB/Planning Commission: Ryan Ewell introduced himself and expressed his interest in becoming a member of the Development Review Board (DRB) and the Planning Commission. Discussion ensued. Motion by Klein to appoint Ryan Ewell to the vacant positions on the DRB and Planning Commission that expire in 2024. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Appointment Law Enforcement Study Committee: Szott announced two individuals have expressed interest in the two vacancies to represent Wolcott on the Law Enforcement Study Committee. The group has been meeting the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. It has been reported the group has moved beyond fact finding and will now work on a report. Once the report has been completed, the work of the committee will be complete. Discussion ensued. Motion by Klein to appoint Rick Hawkins and Andy Duff to represent Wolcott on the Law Enforcement Study Committee. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All 3 in favor.

Corley Rd. Dispute Discussion: Due to snow piles, an individual has had difficulty accessing his property with his vehicle on the Class 4 portion of the road, and so has had to park his vehicle on the side of the road and walk in. There is also a Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) trail in this general vicinity. In speaking with the trail master, he advised that when the trail is groomed, every effort will be made to push snow to the side so as not to block any vehicle travel on the road.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) Selectboard Training: VLCT is offering virtual Selectboard training on March 24 from 9:00 to 12:15. Topics will include Transparency, Roles & Responsibilities, and Human Resources. Interested board members may sign up on the VLCT website or through the Town Administrator. As long as members are registered for the training, the program may be viewed following the live event.

Unfinished Business

Personnel Policy Revision: Work continues on revisions to the Personnel Policy.

Peck and Tallman Deeds (Brook Rd.): It has been determined that neither Peck nor Tallman own property that will be impacted by work on the Brook Road culvert project. The engineer working with the Town will provide the appropriate dimensions to the attorney who can then draft the necessary deeds.

Note Taker for Law Enforcement Committee: It is the general understanding that a note taker for the group will not be needed for any future meetings.

Harris Clegg reported that 232 votes were cast in the March 2 election: 102 absentee ballots, and 130 who voted in person. The largest number of votes cast on a Town Meeting Day going back five years, was 180.

Adjourn: Motion by Martin to adjourn. Seconded by Klein. Voting: All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Klein

Next regularly scheduled meeting - March 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.