

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
May 18, 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, Richard Lee
Employees: Belinda Harris Clegg, Deb Klein
Public: Dolan Patrick, Meghan Rodier, Alec Jones, Barbara von Schlegell,
Monica Cross

Martin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda: Klein requested to add Transfer Station discussion, and Town property on East Hill Road discussion under Selectboard review/action. No objection.

Approve Minutes of May 4, 2022: Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of May 4. Seconded by Lee.
Discussion: None. Voting: All in favor.

Ballet Wolcott: Passed in the absence of Tim Yarrow.

Comments from the Community/Correspondence: No comments. For correspondence, Martin noted a new contract for services was received from the Lamoille County Sheriff's Office for board review.

PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Amendment to Street Naming Ordinance

At the May 4 meeting, the Selectboard agreed to consider adding language to the Street Naming Ordinance at the request of the Development Review Board. Martin reviewed a draft with proposed amendments to the Ordinance. The board discussed what revisions may need to be made to the Ordinance if ARPA funds are used for a Town-wide 911 project. The board also needs to consider the Town's position regarding signs for private roads. The board agreed to study the document and consider additional changes that might be needed. Official adoption of the Ordinance will be taken up at the June 1 meeting.

Project Manager Report: Klein stated the Highway Department was able to purchase a cutting edge so the grader is again operational. The crew has hauled the last of the sand for this year's order. The next request for sand bids will be for multi-year bids. Steve Princ is actively pursuing his Emergency Management training. The board discussed quotes that have been received for a loader. The board will reach a final decision at the June 1 meeting.

Selectboard review/action

Village Center Designation – renewal: Meghan Rodier, Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC), reviewed with board members the updated renewal application. A village center is designated for eight years and then must show it continues to meet the requirements. Such a designation gives business owners access to tax credits. Part of the application process requires a resolution signed by a majority of

selectboard members. Motion by Martin to approve signing a resolution authorizing the renewal application. Seconded by Lee. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

LCPC Block Grant – Letter of Support: Rodier discussed with board members the opportunity for the Town to apply for a block grant for the final design and implementation phase for a floodplain restoration project that would remove a berm along the Lamoille River at the Fish and Wildlife access area off Elmore Pond Road. Removing the berm will reduce flooding in the area. The grant application requires a letter of support from the Selectboard. Motion by Klein to approve the letter of support as drafted as part of the grant application. Seconded by Lee. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

Appointments: The board discussed appointments for the positions of Fire Warden and Fire Warden Assistant. Motion by Lee to reappoint Bernard Earle as Fire Warden, and Jim Holton as Fire Warden Assistant to serve until June 30, 2027. Seconded by Klein. Voting: All in favor.

Town Garage: Klein noted that a claim had been filed with the insurance company for the boiler that was destroyed by fire. The claim is still in the investigative stage. The board had previously agreed to replace the boiler with an overhead propane heater based upon a quote from Bourne's. Questions arose that the board can consider before making a final determination as to the type of heat system to install. Payment for the heating system will come from the Building Maintenance fund.

Hybrid Meeting System: Dolan Patrick discussed with the board some equipment options available that would enhance hybrid meetings. Numerous Town committees and groups need to be able to understand and effectively use the equipment in order to run their meetings and hearings. Motion by Martin to authorize purchase of the Logitech Rally bar system for approximately \$4,000 plus additional microphones for approximately \$1,000. Seconded by Klein. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor. Equipment purchased for enhancing hybrid meetings will be paid for with ARPA funds. The Selectboard thanked Dolan for all of his volunteer work.

Special Town Meeting, June 7 – Discussion: The Special Town Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wolcott Elementary School. The Warning has been posted. Joe Hester-Ingram will serve as Moderator. The Selectboard holds a neutral position regarding the issue up for vote. Karen McKee will address the Petition that was brought before the Selectboard.

Fund balance to Capital Reserve Fund: Discussion began on how the board may wish to designate this year's fund balance. At the June 1 meeting, members can discuss their ideas.

Plan to clean out old Schoolhouse: An architect will look at the old Schoolhouse on May 21 and give the board an estimate on costs to repair. Martin indicated that a plan needs to be developed to clean out items that are stored inside. Carpenter and Billings will assess what is inside and report back to the board.

Transfer Station: Several break-ins have occurred recently at the Transfer Station. These have been reported to the Sheriff's Office for investigation. It appears several hundred dollars' worth of cans and bottles were stolen from the charity organization that collects them. The board discussed additional steps to be taken to improve security. Motion by Carpenter to authorize purchase of a security camera to be installed at the Transfer Station. Seconded by Lee. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

Town Property on East Hill Road: A Town representative, accompanied by Sheriff's Deputies, once again served eviction paperwork to the squatter on Town property located on East Hill Road. Once vacated, the property will be cleared of all structures and vehicles. The Selectboard will seek authorization from the Townspeople to sell the nine-acre parcel. It is anticipated that the issue will be presented at Town Meeting.

Adjourn: Motion by Lee to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Martin. Voting: All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Klein