

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
June 15, 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, Dillan Cafferky, Deb Klein  
Public: Dolan Patrick, Monica Cross

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

**Amendments to the Agenda:** None.

**Approve Minutes of June 1, 2022:** Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of June 1. Seconded by Carpenter. Discussion: Martin requested an amendment to have the Motion to enter into a 7-year lease agreement with Volvo for a new 2022 Loader have a heading of "Loader Lease Agreement." Voting: All in favor as amended.

**Comments from the Community/Correspondence:** Deb Klein expressed dismay and disappointment that someone stole the propane tank from the patio heater over by the gazebo/pavilion. The tank had been purchased for the Town's use with AARP grant funds. To replace it will require tax dollars. Anyone with a 20# propane tank they would like to donate, empty or full, should contact the Town Office.

Martin noted that an alternate needs to be appointed to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). Dillan Cafferky has served as alternate in the past, and is willing to continue to serve in that capacity. Cafferky was appointed as TAC alternate without objection.

The Selectboard received a contract from the Vermont Department of Corrections for the hiring of helpers to assist the attendant at the Transfer Station. The fee per worker, per day, has gone up from \$25 to \$30. Motion by Klein to enter into the contract with VT DOC beginning July 2, 2022 to hire workers at \$30 per day, per person. Seconded by Carpenter. Voting: All in favor.

**Highway Department – Road Foreman Report:** Cafferky updated the board on the work being done by the road crew this summer. Cafferky is working with Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) on Grants-in-Aid plans. Roadside mowing will begin in July. The road crew will address problem areas as needed before Town-wide mowing begins. Cafferky also discussed with the board the plan for paving this year on North Wolcott Road. Given the limited funds available for paving, the primary focus will be on filling in wheel ruts. The Town will look for Federal grants that may be available in the future that would allow for more extensive repairs to North Wolcott Road. Cafferky will prepare a list of high priority road segments needing work in preparation of any Better Back Roads grants that may be available. Cafferky discussed with the board the weight limits on certain roads. It was noted that citizen complaints have been received regarding large vehicles using certain segments of roads. It was noted that the Town has no means of enforcement. The Sheriff's Office has indicated they cannot assist with

overweight vehicles. There was preliminary discussion of what improvements can be made to Flat Iron Road in anticipation of the detour that will be set up while the School Street bridge is being replaced. The board thanked the road crew for being so responsive to resolving issues brought to their attention by citizens.

**Street Naming Ordinance:** Determination of final language to amend the Ordinance has been postponed until the board decides how to draft it, and decides whether to use ARPA funds for a Town-wide 911 sign project. Comments were made in favor of the 911 project since there have been several times when the Fire Department, emergency services, and other agencies have been unable to locate specific addresses. The board discussed potential costs for the project. The biggest obstacle will most likely be finding volunteers to install the posts and signs, or finding a contractor to do the work. The board discussed actual and anticipated ARPA expenditures so far. The board also referenced the Town Plan. Motion by Klein to move forward with the Town-wide 911 sign project using ARPA funds. Seconded by Billings. Voting: All in favor. Martin will continue to work on language to amend the Ordinance.

### **Project Manager Report**

Klein discussed with the board Town infrastructure needs, including the bus barn, Town Garage, Town Hall, Town Office, and the Library. The board recognizes there are potential liability issues.

A new loader for the Highway Department should be delivered next week. The plow truck should be delivered in November. The Town will place a non-committal order for a 2024 plow truck now, in order to be in the queue for when a truck will become available in the future. This action is recommended due to continued supply chain problems. A new trailer is needed since the current one will not pass inspection.

The board discussed the delinquent tax plan/agreement that had been entered into with a homeowner. After the homeowner was notified that the agreement had been terminated due to non-compliance, the homeowner stated they would apply for State assistance with the delinquent property taxes. The board resolved that the application must be filed and listed on the State's website by September 1, or the matter will be forwarded to the Town's tax attorney, and the property will go to tax sale. The homeowner must continue to pay towards the \$641 due to the Transfer Station.

The Town's property on East Hill Road is scheduled to be cleared of structures and vehicles by the end of the month.

### **Selectboard review/action**

**Tax Anticipation Loan – bid:** Clegg reviewed with the board a bid received from Union Bank for a tax anticipation loan. The first option is a loan with a reinvestment option. The second option is a non-revolving line of credit. Clegg recommended the first option which is a loan in the amount of \$460,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 with an interest rate of 1.65%, with principal and interest due at maturity, and no prepayment penalty. With this option the Town would take funds only when needed. Motion by Martin to accept Option #1 as outlined for the tax anticipation loan with the reinvestment option. Seconded by Klein. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

**Fiscal year fund balance:** The end of the year unassigned fund balance is \$62,467. The board discussed options for reassigning the funds. Motion by Martin to direct 2021-2022 unassigned funds as follows: \$40,000 towards fuel costs, and \$22,467 towards the purchase of a new trailer. \$28,288.72 in the Town

Administrator line item will be transferred to the Town Building Maintenance account. Seconded by Klein. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

**Lamoille County Sheriff's Office Contract:** The board reviewed the contract and noted that the amount was already approved by the voters. Motion by Klein to approve signing the contract for law enforcement services with the Lamoille County Sheriff's Office from July 22, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Seconded by Carpenter. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

**Wolcott Town Event – planning:** This year's Town event will be held in the parking area by Town Office and the Library on Friday, August 26. The rain date will be September 2. It is anticipated that hamburgers and hotdogs will be served, along with corn on the cob, as last year. Food donations will be sought. Booths will again be set up for folks to glean information about what is happening in Town. Planning will continue.

**Selectboard projects – discussion:** Martin reminded members to review the Town Plan and come up with ideas on how to work on some items. It was suggested the Town have an Energy Coordinator. Grants may be available that would assist the Town in lessening dependence on fossil fuels. The board will look at pursuing grants for electric charging stations, and perhaps a park & ride area.

Billings reported that Resource is not interested in taking any windows or doors from the old schoolhouse. A free pile may be created. Some folks might be interested in using the windows for a cold frame, or other project. Billings and Carpenter will take the metal items inside the old schoolhouse to the Transfer Station later this month.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Klein to adjourn. Seconded by Billings. Voting: All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Klein

*Next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting – July 6, 2022*