

**Wolcott Selectboard Meeting
Minutes
May 3, 2023**

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: Deb Klein
Public: Dolan Patrick

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

Amendments to the Agenda: Martin will provide updates under Selectboard review/action. It was noted that a Development Review Board (DRB) decision has been appealed to Superior Court.

Approve Minutes of April 19, 2023: Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of April 19. Seconded by Lee. Discussion: None. Voting: All in favor.

Comments from the Community: None.

Correspondence

-Notice was received from the Vermont Department of Health that the terms for the Town Health Officer and Deputy expire June 30, 2023. The Selectboard will need to recommend a Town Health Officer and Deputy for three-year terms.

-Front Porch Forum (FPF) is seeking a donation. The board had approved an annual \$125 donation in the past, considering how often the Town uses FPF. The board will consider a donation at the May 17 meeting.

-The Town received a thank you from the Heintz's on West Hill Road for replacing their culvert.

-The Northern Rivers Land Trust is seeking a donation of \$10 as a membership fee. Motion by Klein for the board to purchase a \$10 membership with The Northern Rivers Land Trust. Seconded by Lee. Voting: All in favor.

Project Manager Report

Klein updated the board on the list of activities discussed at the May 3 meeting. Website updates continue. The North Wolcott Road paving bids have been received. The recently-purchased guardrails should be installed in May. The tax sale on the property at 74 School Street has been completed. The application period is open for the Municipal Energy Resilience Program. The board discussed the Phase 2 Brownfield Study on the VT Rte 15 property owned by Champlain Oil, and the BRELLA application for liability insurance. The propane rate with Bourne's Energy is following the market. The Town has registered with the State to participate in the opioid settlement. The Town is working with Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) on Grants in Aid. The Town will consider leasing land from the State along Railroad Street to allow for snow removal. Bob Hoadley will be working as handyman for the Town. Green Up Day bags are available for pick-up. Don't Trash Wolcott signs have been posted around town.

The road crew will be grading roads. A brush cutter was rented. There is an issue with a repair bill.

Selectboard review/action

Updates: Martin noted that a Complaint has been filed with the Superior Court against the Town and Town Clerk regarding a tax sale property. The board will talk with the Town's tax attorney for a recommendation on whether to retain counsel.

Lee wished to thank whoever is cleaning up trash along Gulf Road. Trash along the roadsides seems to be bad this year.

DRB/Planning Commission – membership: Martin reported that the DRB and the Planning Commission can each have up to nine members. They presently have five, so membership can be expanded.

Hybrid Meeting – equipment: Dolan Patrick described for the board how the hybrid meeting experience can be improved with a second monitor. A second 70" monitor would require a wall mount, and a second video card might be needed. Motion by Lee to purchase additional equipment for hybrid meetings to include a monitor, wall mount, and video card if needed, using ARPA funds. Seconded by Klein. No further discussion. Voting: All in favor.

Annual Community Event – set date: The goal of the annual event is to show folks in town what the board is working on, and increase awareness. The board agreed the best date for this year's event would be Friday, September 8. A Committee made up of town's people needs to be formed. It was suggested the elementary school be involved.

2023 Photo Contest for Town Report: Martin suggested there be a contest for Wolcott residents to submit photos of how they are enjoying the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) throughout the seasons. Winning entries would appear in the 2023 Town Report.

Lamoille County Planning Commission – annual meeting: The LCPC annual meeting will be held June 10 in Wolcott. LCPC will showcase the work they are doing in town involving the old school house, the LVRT, and the Town Forest. LCPC has secured funds to help with the design and permitting for a parking area for snowmobile trailers by the ballfields.

The Planning Commission may look for a grant for an e-bike charging station for the LVRT. Consideration needs to be given to where the porta-let will be placed for the LVRT.

Adjourn: Lee moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting – May 17