

**TOWN OF WALPOLE
MEETING OF THE SELECTBOARD
DECEMBER 5, 2019**

Selectboard Present: Steven Dalessio (Chair); Peggy Pschirrer; Cheryl Mayberry

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dalessio called this meeting of the Selectboard to order at 6:30 PM in the Walpole Town Hall. He advised this meeting is being recorded and asked anyone wishing to speak to identify themselves for the record. There were five visitors in attendance.

PUBLIC BUSINESS:

MR. JUNIUS SPIVEY - 171 Whipple Hill Road: Mr. Spivey thanked the Selectboard for listening to their concerns in the past. Two additional signs had been put up – one at the end of the road that states “Dead End” and one sign at the beginning of the Class 6 section of road. After they won the Small Claims Court case, Hodgkins and Sons repaired the road damage caused by a truck. Mr. Spivey reported there were several more incidents with vehicles/ trucks causing some ruts and other road damage. He distributed two pictures to confirm that a delivery truck and a private passenger vehicle got stuck because you cannot make a turn-around there. Both caused property damages. There were also two incidents last winter when drivers were using their GPS, did not pay attention to the sign and got stuck. In August a woman got high-centered and abandoned the car. Mr. Spivey called the Walpole Police who took care of it. Even though there is sufficient signage, there still is a problem as people think there is a turn-around. Mr. Dalessio spoke with Mr. Mike Rau, Road Agent, about more signage. They plan to order more signs with BOLD lettering that states “Do Not Go Beyond This Point”. It will be a “right-in-your-face” sign. Mr. Spivey mentioned if the sign goes right where the Class 6 road starts, it will impact the immediate neighbors as well. Mr. Dalessio said when the signs arrive they will walk the area to find the best locations. A property owner on the road had previously discussed a sign and the fact that there used to be a cul-de-sac at the end of the road. However, Mrs. Pschirrer could not find any records that this ever existed. Mr. Rau talked to former Road Agent, Mr. Jim Terrell, who confirmed there never was a turn-around. Mr. Dalessio mentioned the snow plow goes further down that road but they have permission from a property owner to turn-around in their driveway. Additional signage will be put up in an attempt to resolve the problem. If Mr. Spivey is aware of a truck company going beyond the signs, he should notify the Selectboard Office. A letter will be sent to the dispatchers to notify drivers that it is a signed, posted road. They can try notifying Google to correct their maps. However, Mr. Dalessio had previously contacted them about the process and it seems it could take a day or a lot longer to get it done. Mr. Spivey noticed new signs pointing to the Lane Construction Pit. He wondered if work was going to be done by the Town on the road for emergency vehicles. The bridge is in disrepair. Mrs. Pschirrer said the Town cannot do any work on a Class 6 road. If the signs are being put up, they might belong to the Snowmobile Club. The Selectboard is not aware of this. The Snowmobile Club will make repairs to the bridge to be sure it is safe. Mr. Spivey pointed out that if the signs do not work, an option could be an unlocked gate. Mr. Dalessio agreed they could look at it being subject to unlocked gates and bars. It will be a few weeks until the signs arrive.

MAP and LOT #019-042-000, 28 Main Street – New Construction: Mr. Bruce Carruthers, owner, and Mr. Brendan Honey were present. Mr. Carruthers advised they converted the art gallery into an apartment. They want to have a garage and a pad was laid. It meets all the set-backs. Mr. Honey sent a permit to the Town but Mrs. Pschirrer said it never was received. Mr. Dalessio reported if a project in the Commercial District is over \$10,000 he has to go before the Planning Board for a Site Plan Review. Because it is now three apartments, it has to meet all the fire/life safety requirements. Mr. Honey had talked to Mr. Mark Houghton about this. Mr. Dalessio explained the Selectboard needs a letter of approval from the Planning Board before they will issue a building permit.

BROADBAND UPDATE, BOND ENGAGEMENT LETTER: Mr. Bob Anderson, Mr. Rod Bouchard and Mr. Dennis Marcom, members of the Broadband Committee, were present. Mr. Anderson distributed copies of the following report:

“They are here tonight to ask for your approval to proceed with contract negotiations for a Walpole broadband project and ask for your approval to hire a bond counsel.

We are recommending Consolidated Communications as our preferred vendor at this time. Their proposal is the only one that included the construction and operation of broadband solution (fiber) and included a means of funding the total project. It does involve the town obtaining a 20 year bond from the NH Bond Bank and Consolidated paying the town for use of the town owned portion of a broadband network.

Most of the details of the Consolidated proposal are contained in the draft contract. This draft contract is different from the Chesterfield contract and is now the draft contract that is being used by other towns. We have reviewed the Consolidated draft contract and are ready to negotiate a Walpole specific contract that we will bring to you, our town lawyer and the bond counsel.

We are recommending Renelle L’Huillier as the bond counsel. She has experience from the town of Chesterfield bond issuance and provided the wording for the town warrant article required for approving the bond for the project. She did eliminate her contract wording that was a concern. They will not bill us for fees if the town votes down the article for the bond. The new letter is available for your signature.

We also have a verbal and email communication from Consolidated stating that they will pay for the bond counsel.

We hope to answer any questions you may have.
Thank you. Bob Anderson for the Broadband Committee”

Ms. Mayberry spoke to someone who said this bond counsel is the best there is. Mrs. Pschirrer reported that Attorney Hockensmith reviewed this proposal of the Broadband Committee. The proposed subscriber fee will be \$9.00; right now this is the lowest fee. Dublin’s fee is \$11.50.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Selectboard authorize the Chair of the Selectboard, Steven Dalessio, to sign the Engagement Letter with Devine Millimet, Attorneys At Law, for the Proposed Issuance of General Obligation Bonds by the Town of Walpole, New Hampshire (“Issuer”) – Bond Counsel Services. Seconded by Ms. Mayberry. With Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Selectboard approve that the Broadband Committee begin to negotiate a Walpole specific contract with Consolidated Communications, Inc. which will allow us to approach the Town for Bonding for Broadband services. Seconded by Ms. Mayberry. With Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Accounts Payable Check Register in the amount of \$130,233.24 for checks issued December 6, 2019. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

The above amount includes \$20,000 for the Alstead Center Road fish ladder and \$35,692.13 to North Walpole as this is 13.73% of the Great River Hydro second 2019 payment of the \$260,000.

PAYROLL:

Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Payroll Check Register for the week ending November 30, 2019, in the amount of \$28,266.58 for checks issued December 6, 2019, and the electronic fund transfer for the 941 Employer Taxes in the amount of \$6,168.17. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES:

SELECTBOARD MINUTES – November 27, 2019: Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Minutes of the Selectboard meeting of November 27, 2019, as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were approved.

NON-PUBLIC SELECTBOARD – November 27, 2019: Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Minutes of the Non-Public Selectboard Session of November 27, 2019, as submitted. These Minutes will remain sealed. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the following Committee Reports:

- Walpole Conservation Commission – November 4, 2019;
- Broadband Committee Meetings – November 13, 2019 and November 20, 2019.

VETERANS' TAX CREDIT:

MAP and LOT #008-107-000: Ms. Mayberry moved to grant the Veteran's Tax Credit for Map and Lot #008-107-000. This applicant is updating their application due to a change in owner name to a Revocable Trust. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vilas Bridge Joint Letter: Acknowledgement was made of the Vilas Bridge Joint Letter (draft) from the Town of Rockingham and Village of Bellows Falls. The Selectboard will review it and submit their comments.

Receipts from Police Breakfast: Mr. Kreissle provided more information and the receipts from the Police Chiefs Breakfast as previously discussed last week.

Water and Sewer Receipts to Date: The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the Water and Sewer Receipts dated December 03, 2019, from Mrs. Daigle. The Third Quarter of 2019 is 77% paid with \$41,029.75 remaining to collect.

Pending Further Actions:

New Reuse Center Plans: Mr. Dalessio had not received any up-dated information from Mr. Hoy on the new Reuse Center plans. Ms. Mayberry will follow-up with Mr. Hoy.

NON-PUBLIC SELECTBOARD SESSION:

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to enter into a Non-Public Selectboard Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss (a) Personnel and (c) Reputations. Ms. Mayberry seconded the motion and on a roll call vote with Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved at 7:25 PM.

The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 8:02 PM.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Minutes of the Non-Public Selectboard Session of December 5, 2019, be sealed. Seconded by Ms. Mayberry. With Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

RECESS SELECTBOARD MEETING:

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to recess this Selectboard meeting. The Selectboard will enter into a meeting as the Hooper Trustees. Seconded by Ms. Mayberry. With Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

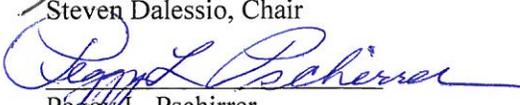
The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 8:14 PM.

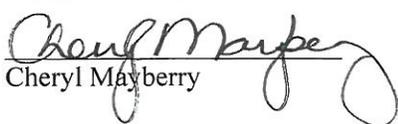
ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Mayberry moved to adjourn this Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Borden, Recording Secretary


Steven Dalessio, Chair


Peggy L. Pschirrer


Cheryl Mayberry

(Note: These are unapproved Minutes. Corrections will be found in the Minutes of the December 12, 2019, Selectboard meeting.)