

## Walden Selectboard Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024

Present: Robert Hatch, Brenda Huntoon, Randolph Wilson, Debbie Messier, Robert Bell and Michael Southworth

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

The minutes of the March 25,2024 meeting were approved.

Public Comment: Michael Southworth announced his candidacy for State Representative for Hardwick, Stannard and Walden.

Solar updated net metered cost: After discussion the board voted unanimously to use ARPA funds to net-meter our municipal electricity needs. A 17.46 KW system with 36 ground mounted 485 watt panels will be installed at the town garage site. The first-year savings for the town will be about \$3,400.00.

Office weatherization price estimate: Walden will put out a bid request for our office weatherization. The project includes door and window replacement, external insulation and siding, and ceiling insulation. Material costs will be approximately \$10,000.00. Bids should be received by May 6,2024. The board voted unanimously to fund this project with ARPA funds.

Road Report: Our crew is shorthanded this week due to an injury. We wish Stanley a rapid recovery. The town has an abundance of road projects on the table. We have tentative grant acceptance for all these projects. The office and road foreman are organizing the project list for the next two years.

Town Clerk's Report: There will be a FEMA meeting this week with our state and local representatives to determine when Walden might receive funds for projects totaling \$229,000.00. The Town may have to apply for a short-term loan to balance our outgoing FY24 budgets. The Rail Trail parking at the office will be further improved with work added to the trail leading to the Rail Trail. Debbie and her family picked up new furniture for the office that VLCT donated after their office downsizing.

Bills and four overweight permits were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm

Submitted by R. Wilson