

**SELECT BOARD MINUTES**  
**WELLS TOWN OFFICE**  
**November 19, 2024**

PRESENT: Select Board: Don Preuss, Paul Woodruff Jr., Tammy Holcomb  
Also: Sherry Newton, Nora Sargent, Walton Anderson, Duane Dunbar, Mary Dunbar

1. Meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair Don Preuss at 7:00 P.M.
2. Minutes were read and approved.
3. Bills were studied and discussed and orders were signed.
4. Duane Dunbar questioned why Hilltop Road was not graded at the time Bull Frog Hollow was done. Don replied it will be graded soon.
5. Nora asked if the library could use the town hall for a robotics competition. The Select Board said they had no issue with the hall being available for the event.
6. The Select Board received a note from the Bardin family thanking Don and the road crew for cleaning up the tree near the dam on North Street.
7. The Select Board received a petition from Our Neighbor's Table to increase their appropriation to \$3000.00 for the ballot in March.
8. The Select Board received a letter from Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District. They went over drainage, culverts and water issues. Some culverts were found that needed cleaning out. The road crew will take care of this.
9. The Select Board received findings from the three engineers conducting the East Wells Road slide study. The Select Board hopes the project can go to bid in the next few months. Don has spoken with various people to check on funding to help with the project.
10. The new town truck is in Hoosick Falls and will soon go to have the equipment put on it in Burlington. There was an issue with the clutch when it arrived so that will need to be taken care of before it is received.
11. The Select Board will work on the upcoming town report. Need to think of dedication, photos, reports, etc.
12. Paul made a motion to authorize the tax sale on January 7, 2025. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tammy. Motion passed.
13. Paul made a motion to allow any of the Select Board members to be at the January 7, 2025 sale in case no one is there to bid on the sales. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tammy. Motion passed.
14. Don has spoken with David Fox at the Sheriff's Department about traffic tickets. The Sheriff's Department has issued 81 summonses, 33 of these were tickets for the town this year. Don is still working on finding out why we haven't received much revenue from these tickets.

15. Tammy has spoken with Karen about the website and the issues have been taken care of that the Select Board had asked about. The only thing left to do is the home page picture that needs to be a high resolution photo in order to change it on the website. Tammy also asked for the Compost section to have a note stating “Food Scraps Only” added.
16. Christmas lights have been put up and are ready to go.
17. Tammy talked about the requirements for health insurance. Time sheets will be filled out to make sure the required hours are worked for insurance coverage. Tammy said the personnel policy is being worked on to address requirements needed for insurance coverage for elected officials so it is clearer and the Select Board is open to comments from employees and elected personnel on any additional changes they think need to be looked at. Don would like to look at other similar towns personnel policies and compare to see how we can improve on the wording of our policy.
18. The Select Board said the budget needs to be worked on. Tammy has and will work on spreadsheets and come up with some numbers for the new budget. Tammy and Nora will look at numbers for the Transfer Station. The Select Board will meet at a future date to go over budget details.
19. Nora said the town has hired a new tech person for our computers. The new tech person said the towns cyber security needs improvement. He would like to come up with a 3- phase program to update and improve security for the town. Nora will send us a quote of the phases to update.
20. The Select Board discussed the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting at 4:30 P.M. at the town hall between the state, Lake St. Catherine representatives and the herbicide people.
21. Tammy made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 P.M. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul. Passed unanimously.

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Don Preuss

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Paul Woodruff Jr.

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Tammy Holcomb