

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
January 2, 2024

(FULL RECORDING IS AVAILABLE AT www.mtbluetv.org)

Members Present: David Leavitt, Mike Wells, Tiffany Maiuri, Keith Swett, Phil Hilton, Maria Greeley (Town Manager).

Item #1- Minutes of the Selectboard Meetings

Motion by Phil /Second by Keith -To Approve the Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of December 19, 2023

Vote:5-0

Item #2- Public Comment on a non-agenda item

Nick Santora-Resident had concern on what was in the newspaper concerning PFA's and treatment. How does this get into our septic system, our sewer system?

Tiffany-The State Legislature because of the PFA's has required that all sludge materials be tested. We are well below the threshold, in which we are non-detectable.

Nick Santora-Why do we have to pay for this?

Tiffany-We used to be able to compost and not have to transport it. Now we have to dispose of it. It is very, very costly but because it is a state law and even though we haven't detected any PFA's, we still have to transport it to a facility.

Mike- In doing some research on this, he doesn't like to see communities have to spend and we are spending about \$130,000 a year in disposal. As well as many other communities. Most of the PFA's come from places like Fairfield that have mills that feed into the municipal sewer system. Ours does not and so many other towns do not, so we pay for that. In reference to the disposal of sludge, there was an amendment with the LD1911 law that if you tested below the levels like we do that those sludge derivatives or compost could be used, could be spread. That was struck from the law signed by the Governor. So now everyone in the State of Maine has a one size fits all, no chemicals contained. You have to dispose of it at a waste management or landfill facility.

Nick Santora-So there is no fighting it?

Tiffany-There's fighting it, in fact I think MMA has and there have been a few hearings. There's nothing that we can do individually to fight that. We cannot as a Town, we have to follow State law.

Nick Santora- One other thing he mentioned was he realizes there is a grant to help our Police Department. He has seen some unmarked cars out in front of Hall Farms. He wanted to give a thank you for that.

Item #3-RHR Presentation of Audits-Karen Olivieri

To watch this presentation, you may go to: www.mtbluetv.org

Item #4- Comprehensive Plan Committee members discussion

Maria received the list that came from 2020. Maria would like to go back out for a revised list. Therefore, Applications will be accepted.

Item #5- Certificate of Settlement/Certificate of Recommitment

Maria explained that between Town Managers there should have been a Certificate of Settlement/Certificate of Recommitment done from one tax collector to another. It was discovered that this was not done between Rhonda Irish and Perry Ellsworth (Previous Town Managers).

Attached are the Certificate of Settlements along with the Certificate of Recommitment.

2015-Rhonda Irish-\$22.50

2018-Rhonda Irish-\$603.38

2019-Rhonda Irish-\$110.00

2020-Rhonda Irish-\$196.00

2021-Rhonda Irish-\$2,245.62

2022-Perry Ellsworth-\$6,092.25

2023-Perry Ellsworth-\$2,357,947.03

Motion by David/Second by Phil- To Accept and sign the Certificate of Settlements and the Certificate of Recommitment for 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

This is for non-liened taxes.

Vote: 5-0

Item #6- Undesignated Fund Policy review/discussion

Tiffany suggested a workshop idea on the Undesignated Fund Policy that is being recommended by Karen Olivieri, RHR Smith to be updated.

Keith thinks it is a good idea.

David thinks it would be more practical to have a 120-day balance. This is because of how the money comes in six months cycles. Karen Olivieri from RHR Smith thought a 90-day balance would be good. She did not have an issue if we wanted or decided on a 120-day balance. At the same time, she did reference a 90-day and a reserve fund.

Tiffany asked if we are looking for a target balance or target action?

Mike heard Karen Olivieri from RHR Smith say something about a Fund Committee? This would be for funds in excess of the 90-day balance.

Maria stated that Karen suggested to use the excess money that was left over for designated ideas, that would benefit the taxpayers.

Mike thinks a workshop would be a good idea too.

There will be a workshop Tuesday January 16, 2024 at 5:00 P.M.

The workshop is open to the Public.

Item #7- Wilton Selectboard Roles and Responsibilities review/discussion

Tiffany proposed to familiarize and amend if needed. Review and submit comments and present at the next meeting. (January 16, 2024)

Item #8-Remote and Hybrid Meeting Policy review discussion

Tiffany proposed to familiarize and amend if needed. Review and submit comments and present at the next meeting. (January 16, 2024)

Item #9-Other

David inquired on the Cannabis permit for Honeycomb Farms.

Tiffany-That was the intention. We are waiting to weigh in from the attorney to review our moratorium to find out if the moratorium prohibited us from signing such a document.

Maria stated that she is waiting to hear back from the Attorney

Keith mentioned the Regular Use Ordinance from 2019 and asked for this to be reviewed. The use permit in our regular ordinance states that it is good for one

year and can be extended one year by the Code Enforcement Officer if it is requested. This was done back in 2019.

Maria forwarded this to the Attorney and she has not heard back.

Keith asked for a follow-up in regards to Nick Santora's concern with the speeding issue. He would like more information.

Maria will get this and report back.

There was also a follow-up question on the 3 Cannabis Licenses in question from the last meeting and the concern with illegal cannabis operations.

Maria-The (illegal) cannabis operations were discussed and it was from the November 21, 2023 Selectboard Meeting. There were up to four operations discussed which we did not specify locations or addresses. The four that were discussed do not have any valid current or state or local permits. All locations are under investigation. No other information is available at this time.

Mike wanted to know if there was any word on the Hardy Wolf and Downing Lawsuit?

Maria explained that the document was not filed on time. There was an email sent asking if any information was needed. The Town Attorney has been contacted and they are handling this. Affidavits have been filed.

Tiffany suggested an Executive Session for this to be discussed further.

Item #10-Manager's Report

The recent storm had an impact on our community. Maria thanked the department heads and their staff for their tireless work to maintain any damage as a result. Also thanked was the Lions Club for setting up a temporary warming center.

Tiffany thanked Maria for her hard work so far.

Item #11-Executive Session (if needed) pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (X)

None

Item #12- Adjourn

Motion by David /Second by Mike -To Adjourn

Vote: 5-0 7:28 P.M.

