

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting  
January 23, 2024

**(FULL RECORDING IS AVAILABLE AT [www.mtbluetv.org](http://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 Mike -To Approve the Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of January 2, 2024

Vote:5-0

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

John Black with Rocky Hill Landscaping (for Cannabis) spoke on having his annual inspection for his cannabis business. Gary Judkins, Code Enforcement Officer made him aware of the Marijuana Moratorium. The moratorium needs clarification. John Black is in process of expanding his Marijuana business and was told he is not allowed a permit for expansion. John Black is requesting clarification.

Tiffany asked John Black what he was looking to do and due to the question of expansion fits under the Moratorium.

John Black asked what the Moratorium says? He is concerned that he will not be able to expand. He has already started his process.

John Black wanted to know if the Moratorium would allow the Building Permit? He is requesting a building permit.

Tiffany asked John Black to put his request/concern(s) in writing.

Mike asked if this requires a new permit and Maria stated this is considered an extension of business. (There's a building permit and a building use permit)

Tiffany reiterated again for John Black to put something in writing so that the Select Board can review the process to see if this falls under the moratorium.

### **Item #3- Department Reports (Attached)**

#### **A. Police Department**

Tiffany asked how the cruiser assignment was going?

Chief Kyes stated that it was going very well. The Highway Department has not seen the Police Department as frequent. Vehicle maintenance has been down. There is no switching. Everyone also has their own rifle in their own cruisers.

Mike asked how often there are firearms training? Chief Kyes explained that it is once per year.

Mike asked about the cost to go to firearms training.

Chief Kyes explained that it was not that expensive. Approximately \$200.00

#### **B. Fire Department**

In regards to the ladder truck, they are having the ladder looked at. There appears to be a bent bracket that holds the beam. This is a stabilizer bracket. This was State tested in October and found no issues.

The Fire Department is also back up for Norstar Ambulance.

Mike asked how the smoke trailer was doing?

Chief Dunham stated that the kids love it. The Department is willing to share the smoke trailer. The smoke trailer is a big plus for us.

Tiffany asked on the comparison in calls that there were from 2023 and the previous year.

Chief Dunham stated not by much, approximately 10.

Tiffany asked if there were participation in doing Sunday trainings and if people show up?

Truck checks are done on the second Sunday of the month. Trainings would take place after. Chief Dunham stated that trainings are approximately 46-50 hours per person. We are mandated and certifications are required.

#### **C. Public Works Department**

John Masse, Highway Foreman mentioned the possibility of grants for road repair(s).

The Transfer Station is going very well and receiving a lot of compliments.

Tiffany mentioned she has had a couple of residents compliment the Highway Department on a great job with plowing and snow removal.

#### **D. Water/Sewer Department**

Dalton Plante, Superintendent gave updates on the Pleasant St project that was completed. New hires, transmission line project update, hydrants & snow removal efforts, PFA Regulations and recent storm damage were also discussed.

No new projects are planned for 2024.

Mike will be working with Russell Black in regards to the PFA's.

#### **Item #4-Cannabis Update-Honeycomb Farm Permit**

Maria explained that on December 19, 2023 it was requested to ask our Attorney (Jensen Baird) some questions in which that the response was all forwarded to you as the Select Board. Maria also took the initiative to reach out to the specific attorney who wrote the moratorium because the Select Board allowed Perry to go to Berstein Shur. They have more experience in writing cannabis moratoriums. His response was also forwarded to you.

Honeycomb Farms is looking for approval on permit.

Tiffany read both responses from the Attorney's and we are not able to issue a permit under both legal opinions.

Mike asked is the Moratorium could be deleted ahead of the April deadline? Can we have a special town meeting to retract??

April 14, 2024 the Moratorium expires. Under the moratorium law, the Select Board has the authority to extend it for an additional 180 days after notice and a hearing. The Town could also decide to amend the moratorium to limit its capability or let it expire without an extension.

Tiffany asked if there was a motion to approve the permit?

Mike stated we can not have a motion. There is a conflict.

Maria stated that she believes the intent originally was to allow for three businesses to move forward. We can not amend "on the floor".

Tiffany clarified that we are not able to issue a permit.

Mike asked if this covers new permits or existing permits based on our Moratorium?

Charlie Lavin, Planning Board Member and Resident stated that at the relatively small town meeting where the moratorium was passed, what Charlie gathered was the intent that an existing business could continue with their business operation.

He didn't realize that it was finely divided that that would be considered an expansion and therefore that could not take place.

#### **Item #5- MEDOT-VPI Presentation**

There is a projected bridge replacement project for 2025. Maine DOT wanted to make citizens aware.

There is an open formal comment period until January 19, 2024.

See attachment.

#### **Item #6- Parking Traffic Ordinance**

John Masse, Highway Foreman requested an amendment in the Parking Traffic Ordinance that pertains to snow removal/cleanup. He is suggesting the time be changed from Midnight to 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. at the intersection of Main Street to 158 Weld Rd only. This would be from November 15 through April 15 excluding Holidays.

David asked if the Select Board has any authority to change this?

Tiffany stated yes, we do have the authority. See Article V in the Parking and Traffic Ordinance.

Motion by David/Second by Phil-To Approve the change in times in the Parking Traffic Ordinance.

Updated ordinances are put on the Wilton Police Department website.

Residents should be notified.

Maria asked when does this go into effect?

Keith stated this could be enacted when ready but it goes into effect when it is voted and approved.

Vote: 5-0

#### **Item #7-Other**

It was brought to Maria's attention that somebody needs to be appointed the General Assistance Administrator. She is requesting to be appointed.

Motion by Keith/Second by Mike-To Appoint Maria Greeley, Town Manager as the General Assistance Administrator.

Vote: 5-0

**Item #8-Manager's Report**

Maria explained that the budget workbooks are currently being worked on and she has discussed these with the Department Heads. We are moving along fairly well.

The Retirement Savings Account within the Union Contract of the Office/Water-Sewer Departments is also progressing along.

**Item #9-Executive Session (if needed) pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E)-Legal Discussion**

Motion by David/Second by Keith-to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E)-Legal Discussion

7:04 P.M. and exited and 7:43 P.M.

**Item #10- Adjourn**

Motion by David/Second by Tiffany -To Adjourn

Vote: 5-0 7:43 P.M.

