

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting  
April 19, 2022

Members Present: Keith Swett, David Leavitt, Tiffany Maiuri, Tom Saviello, Phil Hilton(via Zoom), Rhonda Irish

Also Present: Mt. Blue TV, Sonny Dunham, Fire Chief, Heinz, Water-Wastewater Superintendent, Faith Jones, Wilton Farmers Market, Jim Lord, Dirigo Engineering, 2 Residents

PUBLIC HEARING-Water Transmission Line-USDA Rural Development Application for Funding

Jim Lord-Dirigo Engineering-We have spent the last year evaluating the Transmission Project. One of the options is to replace the intake that is in place and slide over just a bit. This will be from Varnum Pond to Doak St. There will be an automated booster station that will be added in the plant. 9.7 Million will be the cost and there is an application being submitted to USDA for funding.

David-Are there any other monies available?

Jim-There is through the SRF Program(Maine Drinking Water Program).

Applications are due in September. We have applied last September, but we made the back up list. We will apply again this September unless the USDA offers what we need.

Tom-So you are going down Weld Rd?

Jim-We will go Orchard Dr, Colby Miller Rd/ Weld Rd to Doak Rd.

Tom-Can we utilize the current line that is there?

Jim-No, the line will be abandoned

Tom-So, water will be brought to the current houses without using the old line?

Jim-Correct. Thoughts are to fill that pipe with grout and affluable fill and leave in place. If this is left in place whole, the asbestos, cement is fine. If it is broken up it becomes a hazardous solid waste landfill in the eyes of EPA and DEP. If it is filled, it won't collapse and it won't create holes.

Item #1- Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of March 15, 2022

Phil/Tom m/m/s -To accept the Minutes of April 5, 2022      Vote: Unan.

Item #2- Public Comment

None

Item #3-Wilton Farmers Market Request to use McGillicuddy Park for 2022 Season

Faith Jones- There will be a couple of new vendors this seasons. One being Raw Iron and the other being a food vendor. We are only losing two vendors. It is great to see the community come together. It has been great for us! Thank you!

Tom-Thank you for what you have done at the Blueberry Festival.

m/m/s-none

Vote: Unan

Item #4 – Consideration of Approval of On-Premises Liquor License-Renewal-Cloutier-Wilton Golf LLC D/B/A-Wilson Lake Country Club

Rhonda- The Real Estate Taxes have been paid and are current and there have been no issues with the police department.

Tom/Keith-m/m/s To Accept the On-Premises Liquor Renewal Licence for the Wilton Golf LLC D/B/A-Wilson Lake Country Club.      Vote: Unan

Item#5- Fire Department Report-Chief Sonny Dunham

Attached is the Quarterly Fire Department Report.

Chief Sonny Dunham- There has been approximately a 10-15 percent increase in calls. There were 85 calls with 23 of them being mutual aid. We currently have 22 firefighters with two of them being junior firefighters. Due to Covid, the BLS(Bureau of Labor Standards) trainings were not done at Mt. Blue High School as in the past, we have done them separately. Ladder 7 had some repair work. Lake Region did the work. It needed some king pins. All is fine at this time. There will be the new furnace installation taking place this summer. The old one did make it through the winter. The Fire and Police Departments decided to put an exercise equipment area in the area of the fire bay. Grants are being submitted for equipment.

Keith-There have been an increase in calls? Has there been an increase in mutual aid?

Chief Sonny Dunham-Yes- the abutting towns rely on reach other.

Tom-Have the fire calls been increased due to woodstoves?

Chief Sonny Dunham- No, actually pellet stoves. This would be due to lack of cleaning. The other is Carbon Monoxide calls.

Tom- A reminder there is a Public Spaghetti Supper Saturday April 23, 2022 at the Public Safety Building from 5pm-7pm. The money raised will go into the Benevolence Fund.

Tom/Tiffany m/m/s to Accept the Quarterly Fire Department Report.

Vote: Unan.

A. Consideration of Fire Department Chief Salary

Rhonda-She wants to make a recommendation for the Fire Chiefs Salary and is proposing Salary/Mileage/Cleaning as a weekly salary. Recommendation is \$23,000 Annual paid as a weekly salary with mileage being paid separately. Having an appointment of the EMA Director will be separate. That is what we are looking into.

Rhonda-Last year the mileage was \$2,800 with the stipend, training, calls and cleaning totaling \$22,307.

Keith-When would this take effect?

Rhonda-May 2022

Rhonda- EMA would remain as it is now until the new person is hired. A job description will be brought at the next meeting.

Tom-EMA is not included in the proposed salary amount?

Tiffany- The State Statute states that the Fire Chief handles this unless appointed otherwise.

Sonny Dunham, Fire Chief- This is a good start for the wages . EMA has been lax for years. For Floods, hurricanes etc, it is the Chiefs job anyways.

David-I see it as team work and looking for the future.

Tiffany-A person coming into this could look into grants

Tiffany/Tom-m/m/s To Accept the Fire Department Chief Salary beginning May 2022. Vote: Unan

Item #6 – Town Meeting Update

Rhonda-Town Meeting will be held June 20 at the Academy Hill School. 6:00PM

A. Consideration of Planning Board Ordinance changes

Rhonda-There are 4 changes/amendments.

1. Adult Use-Medical Marijuana Ordinance. See Attached. The Ordinance amendments add "Dispensaries" to the marijuana Ordinance.

Tom- This is clarifying?

Rhonda-Yes

Tiffany- The hours of operation?

Tom-It was suggested 7AM-9PM. We should remove on page 6-C. Hours of Operation.

2. Space Bulk Standards- This is to bring the bulk-space standards in line with the State Regulations and Standards. Commercial is being added. See Attached.
3. Amendment to Short-Term Rentals- This would change from Residential to Short-Term and the CEO determines the permitting for the short term rentals. Additions would be that the property owner must identify to the Town, a registered agent or representative for emergency contact purposes. The emergency contact person must be able to respond within 60 minutes to complaint and an inspection by the Fire Chief or his/her designee of the entire building is required. The Fire Chief or his/her designee must provide a positive recommendation in writing to the CEO that the dwelling unit complies with all applicable fire prevention and life safety requirements prior to the issuance of any permit by the CEO.

Tiffany-She is not in favor of this.

Keith-Is this the same permitting process?

Rhonda- Short term rentals do not come before the planning board if the person is to make changes.

Tom-We should remove the short term and item #9/#10 in the amendments.

4. Rezoning Amendment-83 & 87 High St Wilton

Tom-Has the owner requested this change?

Rhonda- No, the planning board and the CEO has requested this.

Tom-He recommends the owner of this property request the change.

Rhonda-We have not heard back from the email I have sent.

Tiffany-The property owner should request the change.

David-This could be proposed at next years town meeting?

Tom/Tiffany-m/m/s- To move forward two out of the four amendment changes. Adult Use-Medical Marijuana Ordinance & Space & Bulk Standards to the Town Warrant. Vote: Unan.

- B. Consideration of warrant article for Adams Farm Road name change  
Keith/Tom-m/m/s To Accept the Article Warrant for the Road name change for the Adams Farm Road. Vote: Unan.  
Phil-What would be the cost to the town?  
Rhonda- A road sign

C: Consideration of other warrant articles

Tom- There are 2 separate articles for consideration. 1 for the Memorial, the other for Regionalizations. Tom will explain these at the Town Meeting.

Item #7- Consideration of ARPA Funding.

ARPA Spreadsheet attached.

Rhonda- An outdoor fitness center idea was suggested to the Rec Dept.  
Estimated amount-\$20,000.

David-One item is the retaining wall at the Lake.

Rhonda-If the answer is yes, it can be used.

Tiffany-We need Hazard Pay Clarification.

Is Farmington paying now?

Tom-Before this is discussed or final decisions are made, Farmington needs their town meeting.

David-He doesn't disagree, the retention of the police force is the idea.

Rhonda-There are 3 new police officers going through training.

David-We did an increase in December 2021.

Tiffany-Ok, if we have to delay until after the Farmington town meeting. It costs \$45,000 to go through the Police Academy. (See attached information) showing the wage differential.

Keith-Once it is increased, is it permanent? And this will need to be calculated into the budget.

Tom-How does this enter into negotiation?

David- This will be a starting point.

Tom- Can this be part of negotiation as a thought?

Keith- This is a direct result of Farmington?

David- We need to look at this as a package.

Tiffany- We are trying to save money and think of how we could retain our police force.

Keith- Would we need to exit interview?

Rhonda- This can be provided.

Tom- If a police officer leaves and goes with the State, the town would get reimbursed the police academy cost. It would not if they leave and go with another town.

David- I am curious on the retaining wall. We have until September 2024. This has to be done and expended by September 2024. It would be nice to have a sign at the Public Safety Building and the bigger impact would be the retaining wall. It would be worthwhile to move forward on the sign.

Tom/Keith-m/m/s- To move forward for the Public Safety Building sign expending no more than \$25,000. Vote: Unan.

Keith- Do we have Capital money for the retaining wall?

Rhonda- Yes, there is \$100,000 for this year to add. Presently there is \$174,000.

Tiffany- The Broadband item- Is there a timeline to come up with the money?

Rhonda- This hasn't been told to us yet.

#### Item#8- Consideration of Town Manager Retirement

A letter of Intentions of Retirement for August 10, 2022 submitted to David Leavitt, Chair of the Board.

Rhonda- I have been here for thirteen years and it has been the best job, with the best employees and the best Select Board members.

David- It has been a pleasure to work with you. The Town has done well by you.

Tiffany- Good for you on your retirement! You will be missed!

Tiffany/Tom m/m/s- To Accept Rhonda Irish's Resignation Vote: Unan

Rhonda- It has been a great place to be!

#### Item#9- Manager's Report

A. CMP-replacement of poles-Main St, Pond Rd

Rhonda- This will take place early this summer. There will be an electrical pole being moved from the side of the coffee shop to a spot at McGillicuddy Park.

Keith- There is concern with the lights

Rhonda- Get a list with the lights of concern.

Item#10- Other Business

A. Quit Claim Deed-Dang Property

Keith/Tiffany-m/m/s to Accept and sign the Quit Claim Deed of the Dang property. Vote: Unan

Tom-What about the flowers and shrubs at the East Wilton CMP substation?

Rhonda-Charlie Lavin, CEO has contacted CMP and they said they would take care of it.

Phil-What is the minimum amount before it goes out to bid for fireworks?

David-In the past, a private enterprise but this year is the first year being a town function(Blueberry Festival)

Rhonda-She has talked with Renee Woodard, Events Coordinator, who has talked with two companies and pricing.

Phil-There is a sign we should replace. It is located Main St near the Lake. Sign states Vehicles Yeild to Pedestrians in Crosswalks (error in spelling). Can we get this sign replaced?

Tom/Keith m/m/s To go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A)  
Personnel 7:14PM

Out of Executive Session 8:23PM

Tom/Keith m/m/s To Adjourn Vote: Unan.  
Meeting Adjourned 8:23PM