

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting  
May 3, 2022

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

Also Present: Mt. Blue TV, Chris Lynch, Matrix Design

Item #1- Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of April 19, 2022  
Phil/Tiffany m/m/s -To accept the Minutes of April 19, 2022 Vote: Unan.

Item #2- Public Comment

A Wilton Resident, Mr. William Rice has some concerns with the proposal of the proposed Memorial at Lakeview Cemetery. He has a passion for veterans. He was a veteran. In 2001 he came to Wilton and he believes that Wilton has proven to be the Northeastern-American Town. It is friendly, and has beauty. About two years ago he and Tom Saviello met at Lakeview Cemetery and discussed a Memorial for Veterans and EMS Personnel. The spirits and the veterans need to hear our words and honor their memory. The proposal for the Memorial, the point is we would be a better community, to acknowledge those who have passed. It is equality. We will grow and be a better community. Let's get a Memorial for veterans and others such as EMS personnel. We have a chance here in Wilton. We have the funds. We have the chance to show Franklin County and our town to say Thank You!

Tiffany-Thank you for your service. Most of my family is in the service. I support this! It is on our Warrant.

David-We were unanimous to bring this to the Town Warrant.

William Rice-The company that proposed the estimate or idea on the Memorial did not include flag poles. Is there flexibility to bring the cost down?

Dave- We can refine the design as needed.

Item #3- Consideration of an Agreement with Matrix Design Group Inc for the Design, Build, and Operation of a GPON FTTH Network for the Town of Wilton, ME.

Chris Lynch-Matrix Design- Connect Maine chose a winner from the recent Grant round. Franklin County was not chosen. We were not told of the deficiencies. There were 57 Applicants in which eight projects were awarded. On a good note, in 2019 Municipal Right of Way Statutes passed. This statute has not been put to test yet. Hopefully can reduce the amount that the Town is responsible for by a very significant amount, approximately 80 percent. Casco Bay is starting their pole survey surveying utility poles in the area. We are looking to build in the Northwest part of Town, coming from Weld to here (Wilton) and we are not looking to build in the Northeast part of Town due to the NTIA grant and Consolidated Communication. We are also not looking to build in the Southwest due to Spectrum . They are looking into increasing their footprint. Attached is a letter from Goulet Associates. According to the general accounting principles, this is a Capital Lease for The Town of Wilton. There is buyout that becomes active after year 50 and at year 20 it is \$10. It also qualifies under the new Maine Statutes as a Municipal build. The town would have control. By approving the make ready your telling us where we are building out fiber. Also, the use case has to be in place. Any municipality building would have free broadband for the life of the agreement. According to the Attorneys, this should not be a problem. The utility company won't press their luck due to public relations. The pulsar rating is going on. Do the survey, put together the pole attachment applications. The utility can ask for approximately 200 poles. That is the max. Depending on the number of poles we need would determine the number of applications we would need. In regards to the draft agreement, there is one typo at the end( Pg 27-number 4) where it should state Wilton, ME instead of Wilton, Mass. Also missing is Exhibit A, the Fiber Mat Conduit. This is being finalized. The Pole Survey needs to be done.

David-Where are we at with estimated costs?

Chris Lynch, Matrix Design-The Municipal right of way space is applicable. It might be of no cost to the Town. The plan going forward to house some power for electronics. The plan with the next round of Grant money through Connect ME would be to have the goal of paying for the installation fees and to reduce the monthly costs.

Tiffany- To clarify, we have \$43,000 and we would be responsible for this to be housed in a municipal building. We could look at what is owned by the Town?

Town Hall here has a room full of records. Maybe it would be cheaper to store them safely elsewhere and put the generator in there.

Chris Lynch-Matrix Design- It needs to be secure with 24-7 access and above the flood plain. Dimensions would need to be 11x10 or 12 x10. The proposal is straightforward.

Tiffany/Keith m/m/s To enter into the Agreement as presented with the typo corrected.

Phil- If the precedented court cases don't go in our favor are we on the hook with a whole lot more?

Chris Lynch-Matrix-It would need to be subject to the original agreement, the original proposal. It is hopeful that it would be at no cost.

David-I think it is a great idea but we need firm numbers.

Chris Lynch-Matrix- Notices will be sent out to residents making them aware of what is going on.

Tiffany/Keith m/m/s To modify the motion contingent on the Select Board to determine funding and a funding source. Vote: Unan

#### Item #4 – Town Meeting Update-Consideration of Approval of Warrant

Rhonda- The Warrant is completed and was being reviewed by the Town Attorney. There are a couple of warrant articles to make note on.

1. ME Pers- Any employee that is not presently part of ME Pers can join. It could currently affect three people.
2. Budget Articles- This was not mentioned at the last meeting. The Events Coordinator salary of \$15,000.00 is proposed to come out of the TIF. The salary is based on 18 hours per week. Also, the State has made a change this year for the maximum amount to be charged for taxes if payment is late. It is now 4 percent. The tax due dates are November 1 and May 1.

Tiffany- Kudos to whomever prepared the warrant. There were no typos.

Keith/Phil- m/m/s To approve the Warrant as presented. Vote: Unan.

#### A. Additional Town Meeting Info

For Select Board Seats- There are two more days to turn papers in. There are two- Tiffany Miauri & Lillian Lake are running for one seat and Mike Wells, Cherianne Harrison and Evret Greer are running for Tom Saviello's seat. For the School Board Seat, Kyle Fletcher is running. He is currently on the Planning Board and the Finance Committee.

Item#5- Consideration of ARPA Funding

David- The ARPA funding was related to paying \$43,000 to Matrix Design, but we can't discuss because there are no numbers yet.

Item #6 – Manager's Report

A. Town Manager Search Update

The Town Manager's Job has been posted on Maine Municipal Association and the Manager's Association. There are no applications yet, though there have been a few out of state inquiries. The application deadline is May 20, 2022.

B. Town Office Window & Siding RFP

The RFP for the windows and siding have been completed. Rhonda will add this to the Town website and Daily Bulldog and also mail to a few contractors. The windows are single pane.

David- We could put ad in the newspaper for Rhonda's position, two weeks at no cost?

Tiffany- Options for Advertising-Central Maine Media and Linked In. Tiffany stated that the University has a company that specifically does the advertising.

David-In regards to the list, nothing jumped out as Central Maine or anything close by.

Rhonda- I did present other options. I will go to the last meeting and get the information.

David recommended \$2-3,000 to spend on advertising. It would not be wasted money. Let's set a dollar limit and have the Town Manager do a combination of local and broad spectrum of advertising.

Keith-Where would the money come from?

Rhonda- Legal Fund?

David- We could let the Town Manager come back with where this money would come from.

Tiffany/Phil m/m/s To not exceed \$3,000 for advertising costs of local, regional and broad advertising as deemed by the Town Manager for the position of Town Manager.

Tiffany-We could check into Greystone, a company that advertises out the position.

Vote: Unan.

Item #7- Other Business

David- There is a resident concern with an unlicensed junkyard on Prospect St.

Rhonda- Charlie(CEO) is working on this and Rhonda will follow up with Charlie on this.

David-Has the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) position been advertised yet?

Rhonda- No, not yet. He is here until August.

Phil/Keith m/m/s To Adjourn    Vote: Unan.

Meeting Adjourned    6:45PM