

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
June 28, 2022

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

Also Present: Mt. Blue TV, Dalton Plante, Foreman-Water-Wastewater Dept, Jim Lord, Dirigo Engineering, Josh Michaud, Ambition Brewery, Perry Ellsworth, Nick Santora, Resident

Item #1- Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of June 7, 2022, June 8, 2022, June 13, 2022

Tiffany/Tom m/m/s -To accept the Minutes of June 7, 8, 13, 2022 Vote: Unan.

Item #2- Public Comment

Nick Santora, Resident- Mr. Santora has a concern with the excessive speeding on Route 2, especially with the logging trucks. Speed is 55 miles plus. This is near R.S. Osgoods through to the Post Office. He said that people are cranking! He is concerned with the safety. He has also contacted Officer Lowell and Police Chief Heidi Wilcox. He wanted to know what could happen in the near future?

David-We can ask the Town Manager to speak with the Chief. Would radar be a possibility?

Nick Santora-When they "sit", they sit where my house is. He feels it is falling on deaf ears. He was told there was not enough coverage, not enough man power. He has spoken with Terry Brann, Franklin County Commissioner about his concern.

Tom-If he can get a helicopter, that would be a good idea.

Nick Santora-He has attempted the State Police as well.

Item #3- Consideration Engineering Amendment-Water Transmission Line Project-Dirigo Engineering

Jim Lord, Dirigo Engineering-In regards to the Amendment, it was noted in the agreement that if there is a modification, it would be negotiated and adjusted accordingly. (See Attachment for project upgrade updates.) The initial project scope specifies replacing the raw water main which is approximately 8,200 feet

and replacing the finish water main in place which is approximately 10,500 feet. The scope of the project has grown greatly. (#2 on attachment) The reason for the amendment is in the preliminary engineering costs there is an additional permit and additional design and construction monitoring. This is stated in Table 1 in the Engineering Report.

Tiffany-She was questioning the construction monitoring

Jim Lord-It is on site inspection

Jim Lord- He would like to note that the Town was offered approximately up to \$491,000. The DWP (Drinking Water Program) has offered everyone that is on the backup list up to 6% of project cost in which would cover, design, permit and preliminary expenses. Interim financing would take place until we complete the design later this fall. We would do a closing with SRF program and pay off the interim financing with no debt service to us.

Jim Lord-Where we are at is 75% complete with the Survey. We have started the NRPA Permit process and the Army Corps permit process. We are on the planning board agenda for July 21, 2022 meeting. We are hoping to be complete by the end of September so we can apply for the DWSRF Funding. We applied for 9.7 Million. USDA offered 2.2 Million in Grant Funding with a 7.4 Million Loan. 30 years minus the construction cost with an interest of 1.5%. Approximately for 27 years. It would cost \$338,000 for debt service for the year. In order to qualify for Grant money: Our rates are based on 2000 cubic feet used in residential use is within 1.5% of median household income. The median household income in our area is approximately \$47,500 year. This is not reality. The Town should consider an income survey. Get projected rate information. The Build America, Buy America clause in reference to all steel products has to be made in the U.S. Jim suggested looking at the whole project, let's apply for half of the project, get as much grant money, DWSRF money and it would be approximately 28% rate payer increase.

Tiffany-If we went this route, would there be duplicate costs, permit fees, design fees etc?

Jim Lord-He feels it would be very little. Follow through with the design. Let's follow through with the permit.

David- What about the Intake? Would the 2 Million go away?

Jim Lord- Yes, USDA looks at the application. If grant money became available then USDA would take away the amount needed from their side.

Tiffany- If the median income is in the 40,s, she doesn't feel that's all accurate.
Jim Lord-He is not crazy on the USDA offer. Let's design the whole thing and apply for other grants. Suggested a smaller project-3.9 Million in which would entail the Intake and Raw water line. If we did get 25% in SRF monies it would be approximately \$120,000 year compared to \$340,000 year in debt service. This would be much more sustainable. We can still look for grant money though we will still need a rate increase.

Phil- Is Ledge factored in on the Colby Miller road?

Jim Lord-Yes, it is factored in.

Keith/Tiffany-m/m/s To accept and amend the project design for the Water Transmission Line. Vote: Unan.

The question is consider the USDA Grant or piecemeal the project?

Tiffany-Piecemeal

Tom-Piecemeal

David-Long term is not good to hold the rates down for 20-30 years. A little bit at a time is better.

Tiffany- We are taking first chunk, we could lower the cost and do an income survey. It would be reasonable. The median income in our area should be researched.

Keith-He is hopeful for more grant money

Dalton- Dalton Our current position on the USDA offer is, the department doesn't feel \$330,000 year in debt service the rate payers couldn't shoulder let alone our department. In regards to piecemealing the project, Dalton definitely feels we should move forward with the design and that it is a good option for us. It would be to our benefit to piecemeal and work on the upgrades and continue to work v
Jim Lord-He will continue to look for more grant money. One project would be to do the intake and raw water. This is challenging. Start with the shallow and asbestos areas.

Keith- Do in two pieces not 10 pieces.

Jim Lord-It depends on grant monies.

Keith- If we do the first section, will the second section able to withstand more than a little bit of time if we don't get what we are hoping to get.

Dalton -We would be ok to postpone for a few years but it should be upgraded.

Rhonda-This is how we did the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. We did the pump stations first, then a few years later did the Treatment Plant.

Rhonda- We did incremental increases in rates.

Tiffany-Rate payers can't imagine or considering that kind of an increase. Grant money will determine.

David-Next steps?

Jim lord- He doesn't need anything at this time

David- Looks like we are not signing at this time.

Item #4 – Consideration of Approval of Ambition Brewery on-Premises Liquor License Extension

Tom/Keith m/m/s To Approve the On-Premises Liquor License Extension for Ambition Brewery.

Rhonda-An extension is being asked for due to road closures at the monument, half way to the center line. The times were Fri-Sat evening 7AM-5PM. Request is to change to 9AM to 5PM and 5PM-10PM. Saturday evening would be closed at monument with cornhole games. DOT was notified due to the road being DOT roads and they were ok with this.

Josh Michaud-Last year we went to single lane.

Keith-Don't they close Weld Rd?

Renee- Weld Rd is closed before the parade.

Vote: Unan

Item#5- Wilton Blueberry Festival-Road Closures, Boat Ramp Closure, Festival Update

Renee gave overview(Attached)

Donations received: 76 Business and 1 private. There will be 41 crafters/vendors and 2 food trucks. There will be a car show at the expo building and the Lora Shriners will be here. Atlas fireworks will be doing a 15-minute show. The time frame for this is 6pm-10pm. In addition to these things, there will be road races, a bake-off and Bands on Friday and Saturday.

Keith-You said 41 vendors/ What is the maximum?

Renee-About 50, we are almost to capacity. The total amount of donations received to date is \$18,000 from area businesses.

Item # 6-Consideration of Annual Appointments

Tom/Phil-m/m/s to Accept the Annual Appointments as written. Vote: Unan

See Attachment of the Annual Appointments

Item #7- Consideration of Approval of Wilton Personnel Policy and Wilton Professional Level Employees Policy

Tiffany/Phil-m/m/s To Approve the Wilton Personnel Policy and the Wilton Professional Level Employees Policy. Vote: Unan

Item #8- Consideration of Overdraft Accounts

Per the Town Meeting, the accounts that have end of year over drafts are Insurance, Workman's Comp, Legal, Police and Rec- pay increase, Fire- half increase and a major ladder repair.

Tiffany/Phil-m/m/s- To Approve and cover Overdrafts.

Tom- Is there a way we could find a way to settle on legal, costs could quadruple before the year is over.

Vote: Unan

Item #9- Approval of Ecological Instincts as Consultants for Varnum Pond Source Water Protection Grant

The Varnum Pond Source Water Protection Grant went out to bid. Ecological Instincts came in with the bid. There were no others.

Phil/Keith-m/m/s- To Accept the Approval of Ecological Instincts as Consultants for the Varnum Pond Source Water Protection Grant. Vote: Unan

Item #10-Consideration of Interest Rate for unpaid balances for Wastewater bills (See Attachment)

Keith/Tom-m/m/s-To Accept the Interest rate of 4% for unpaid Wastewater bills.

Vote: Unan

Item #11-Town Manager's Report

A. Closing of Town Office at Noon on June 30 for Year End Bookkeeping

B. July Meeting Date(s)

Tom-ARPA needs to be discussed. That is important and can't wait a month. He suggested meeting on July 12.

It was decided that the next meeting will be on July 12, 2022

C. The Fire Department is looking to purchase a station garage door out of their projected Capital Account. \$7,000 is the estimated cost. Two price quotes were received. One for \$6,000 and the \$6,850. D-N Sales is the choice and will come out of their Capital Account.

Item #12- Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A) Personnel
Tiffany/Keith m/m/s To go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A)
Personnel 6:57PM Vote: Unan

Item #13- Consideration of Approval of new Town Manager and Employment
Contract
Tom-Phil m/m/s To Approve the new Town Manager, Perry Ellsworth
Vote: Unan
Adjourn: 7:05PM