

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
November 1, 2022

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

Members Present: Keith Swett, David Leavitt, Tiffany Maiuri, Michael Wells Phil Hilton (via Zoom) Also Present: Perry Ellsworth, Town Manager

Item #1-Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of October 18, 2022

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Keith-To Accept the Minutes of the Select Board October 18, 2022

Vote: 5-0

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

Nick Santora, Resident-Approximately a month ago, he expressed his concern on excessive speeding on Rt 2 West Wilton. He feels it is out of control. There have already been 3 incidents this year. Franklin County Sheriff's Department is not responsible for certain calls and this affects Wilton. What can we do as an emergency purpose?

Perry-Franklin County Sheriff Department would respond if it were deemed an emergency. They are short staffed. An emergency example would be a drug bust. We will do our best.

Ethan Kyes-The 3 incidents were one heart attack and 2 OUI's coming from the Farmington area. We have started the Stone Grant Program which is funded Grant money. This helps with traffic stops.

Item#7-Matrix Internet Upgrade Opportunity (Chris Lynch)

Chris Lynch, Matrix- It is anticipated that there will be a Grant from Connect ME. The perimeters have changed. Anyone who doesn't have Broadband- there will be an addition to include all newly eligible homes. The Town has to open the Grant. (Reference the recording for full update)

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Phil to Authorize the Town Manager to collaborate with Matrix to open up the Grant.

Tiffany- No other ISP's have come and offered this form of service.

Matrix is putting in approximately 65 percent of project cost.

This is a Municipal build.

Vote: 5-0

Item #3- Introduction of Interim Police Chief and Sergeant Positions (Ethan Kyes & Stephen Charles)

Ethan Kyes-Thank you for the opportunity.

Stephen Charles-This is a great community and enjoys being here. He will be supportive of Ethan and he has the utmost respect.

Item #4- Introduction of Farmington based National Resources Council Coordinator (Mark Edwards)

This is an Augusta based Advocacy in which protects nature in Maine
They helped pass a bill (EPR Bill)-This helps with the cost of recycling due to excessive packaging.

They pushed through effort of single use plastics.

They helped pass an increase in ecological reserves.

They received monies for Land for Maine Future.

Mark's role is getting out in the community and would like to assist us with any legislative issues we may have.

The Clean Water Act was recently recognized for 50 years.

There was a discussion in reference to salmon, dams and solar farms.

Item#5- Cemetery Monument Committee

David Leavitt, Select Board member volunteered to be part of the committee.

Perry will call a meeting in the very near future.

Item #6-Blueberry Festival Committee

Renee has some applications for the Committee.

Perry will look to Renee to get things going.

Keith Swett, Select Board member volunteered to be part of this committee.

Item#8- Patrol Sign-On Bonuses

Perry feels this should be reviewed.

David suggested maybe stagger the bonuses over 12-18 months. He also suggested that Perry come up with a plan that would work so that it could be staggered.

Tiffany agrees with David.

There has already been a couple of \$8,000 sign on bonuses.

Perry will discuss with Heidi and Ethan.

Item#10-Other

-Donation from County EMA Smoke Trailer-(Sonny Dunham, Fire Chief)

There is a 7x20 trailer belonging to EMA that Wilton Fire is looking to receive.

This trailer would be for the purpose of using it as an educational smoke trailer.

Chief Dunham stated that EMA would donate the trailer to us.

Chief Dunham has done the Fire Safety Program for approximately 40 years and within the last 10 to 12 years we have used the smoke trailer from Chesterville.

This smoke trailer educates the children for the fire safety aspect.

The trailer does have a hitch and a fold down back. There will be a petition to make 2 rooms. There is a side door. We would like to get everything at least 75 percent donated to refurbish into the smoke trailer. The most expensive thing would be the smoke machine and exhaust. The trailer would be kept inside during winter and outside during the summer.

Keith-What is the estimate initially and annually to keep this going?

Sonny-Annually, no cost. If another town uses this, they will pay for their own smoke. Labor would be mostly free and we have a \$2000 Grant from Walmart that we can apply to the trailer expenses.

Motion by Michael/Second by Tiffany to Accept the donation of the trailer from EMA

Perry-This will be covered through our Town insurance.

Vote: 5-0

Item#9-Manager's Report

See Attached Manager's Report

Ransom Topic-It was suggested to have a workshop to discuss ideas and setbacks

Michael & Tiffany volunteered to be present at the meeting that will be set up with Susan Collins office.

**Item#11 & 12 -Adjournment & Executive Session under Title 1 §405.6A
(Personnel)**

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Keith- To Adjourn and go into Executive Session
under Title 1 §405.6A (Personnel) 7:05PM

Vote: 5-0

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Michael to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned 7:14PM