

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
April 2, 2024

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

Members Present: David Leavitt, Mike Wells, Tiffany Maiuri, Keith Swett, Phil Hilton, Maria Greeley (Town Manager).

Item #1-Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2- Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting

Motion by David/Second by Mike- Move to Approve the Minutes of the Select Board Meeting of March 19, 2024

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #3- Public to speak on non-agenda item

Tom Saviello-Resident and previous Select Board member spoke on three things he felt is important.

1. What used to be the old primary school on School Street (owned by Mike Wells) has been turned into something very special. It is really nice.
2. What used to be the old Tannery Building (owned by John Black.) John has tried to develop the Tannery Building and is coming along nicely. There are still some opportunities that could take place.
3. What Tom is hoping that will be taken care of based on the previous Town Manager, is the Old Woolen Mill (Forster Building). We have the geophysical plan that was done. It is good enough to develop, as long as the structure underneath is not disturbed. There is a shoreline issue that may need to be addressed. Tom suggested maybe an RFP to figure out what could be done with this place.

Nick Santora-Resident spoke on his support of the possible purchase of a rescue squad. Nick asked Keith how much fundraising takes place within the East Dixfield Fire Department. Keith stated there is no fundraising.

Item #4-Appointment of Recreation Committee Applicant

There are 2 Applicants and 1 Vacancy for the Recreation Committee.

Motion by Mike/Second by Phil-To Accept both Applicants onto the Recreation Committee.

Tiffany believes there is a set amount.

Maria stated that there would be an odd number

Mike asked if an alternate would be allowed.

Keith stated that there should be a policy on this.

David requested that the town manager graciously research whether an alternate could be added.

Motion by Mike/Second by Phil-To amend the motion to Accept Matthew Cloutier as the primary and Betsy Mancine for the alternate on the Recreation Committee.

Motion by Mike/Second by Phil-To amend the motion to Accept Matthew Cloutier onto the Recreation Committee.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #5-Insurance RFP

(RFP-Attached)

The premium would go from July 1st through June 30, 2025. There are a couple of edits needed.

-Proposal should be sent back no later than April 18, 2024 (replacing October 6, 2017-Page 3)

-The date under budget and marketing should read July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (replacing January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023-Page 7)

Motion by David/Second by Phil-Move to Approve the RFP

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #6-Ampion Agreement-Solar Credits

Nautilus only included the Water and Sewer Department and did not have the capacity for the Town. Ampion sent along an agreement showing a 15% discount.

Motion by David/Second by Mike-To Move to Approve the Ampion Agreement.

David asked on the usage percentage that would tie to the credit?

Maria said she would need to look into this. She can follow up with the response.

Mike suggested going back four years.

Tom Saviello- It should not go above the 80% kilowatt usage because you could end up paying more if your kilowatt changes. You could end up paying or owing instead of them paying you a credit. He suggested making sure there is an opt out clause in the agreement.

Maria said she would need to look into this. She can follow up with the response.

Vote: 0-5 Motion fails and is tabled.

Item #7-Discussion on Cannabis Moratorium

Mike Wells is the Chair of the Cannabis Committee and explained that there have been five meetings so far. This is a big learning curve. There has been a lot of help from local Cannabis and entrepreneurs in the area helping to weed through the Maine State Law- Cannabis Law and the adult use versus the medical use.

One of the big concerns is the number of cannabis operations we have in Wilton. The Committee has come to an agreement on the Board or the Committee as to how many will be allowed in the town and of which type because there are numerous types of cannabis operations. Noticed are some deficiencies in our application form. The next meeting will define what the fees are going to be for, the application fee and the renewal fee. Our goal is to finalize this in our next meeting. An extension is needed of the moratorium. I believe a public meeting is needed prior to the Annual Town Meeting. The new ordinance will be voted on during the Annual Town Meeting. There also will be some changes to the way the penalties will be assessed and by whom they will be assessed.

Tom Saviello stated that the LD40 will rewrite the rules again and it is 22 pages long. Be prepared to come back to update what you will have.

Tiffany stated that her intentions are not to restrict businesses.

Brian Patterson-Honeycomb Farm suggested to amend the moratorium for the people who presently have permits. Brian has questions on the ones who have no site permit, no use permit but were approved and there are some that do not have approval that are operating in this town. It needs to be cleaned up.

Tom Saviello suggested to amend the moratorium so that the Town can allow those businesses to exist that already have the permit.

Tiffany suggested having a special Select Board Meeting to possibly amend or extend.

John Black-Earthkeeper spoke on his concern about being held up and held back from expanding.

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Phil-To hold a special Select Board Meeting with a Public Hearing on Tuesday April 9, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #8-Other

None

Item #9-Manager's Report

Attached Report

Item #10-Adjourn

Motion by David/Second by Mike-Move to Adjourn

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous 6:28 P.M.

