

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
October 1, 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).

1. SPECIALTOWN MEETING-6:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Warrant Articles
3. Adjournment of Special Town Meeting

PUBLIC HEARING

GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE/MAXIMUMS-6:00 P.M.

Cindy Dunham-General Assistance Administrator explained that there have been a few changes in the Ordinance this year. There has been an increase in the maximum in Franklin County. Some of the changes will require training within a certain timeframe. The time to accept an application has increased to all open office hours instead of 2 designated days a week. Training also required is trauma informed and culturally appropriate services. That will take major training to be able to assess the client. We are responsible for the relocation of a client for 6 months instead of 30 days.

Mike asked what the time limit, cumulative, can the client be on town assistance. Cindy explained every 30 days if they qualify and can apply once a month.

Charlie Lavin, Resident asked how many clients in a month period or a six-month period?

Cindy explained that she just had an internal audit and there were 22 clients in one month.

Mike asked on the costs?

Cindy answered with less than a thousand. Out of the 22 clients 3 were assisted.

David asked who pays the difference on all this training for the trauma informed etc. stuff? Sounds like a psychology degree at this point.

Maria stated that this is an unfunded mandate.

It was asked if we could opt out of this program.

Tiffany and Cindy explained that if we opt out of this program, the Town would pay 100% and Tiffany also explained that we currently receive 70% reimbursement.

Robert Jones, Resident asked what qualifies a person for General Assistance?

Cindy explained that if the person spent one night in our Town, we are obligated to try and assist.

Nick Santora, Resident asked for clarification on qualifications and Cindy explained that requirements need to be met. If the requirements are not met, they are denied.

Civil penalties were discussed. Any municipality which fails to file an acceptable plan with the department is in violation and we shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$500.00. The Attorney General can pursue civil action to recoup penalties, whatever penalty they set.

David- spoke on the concern of services that are to be designed to serve culturally diverse populations in an applicant or the recipients preferred language.

Cindy explained that an interpreter would need to be found. There are a lot of requirements that the State is forcing on us as a municipality.

Christian Wahler, Resident stated that there are services available for interpreter services.

Beginning on July 1, 2025, there will be a State database that must be available to GA Administrators that will contain information necessary to properly determine an applicant's eligibility.

6:48 P.M. Closed

Motion by Phil/Second by David-Move to Approve the General Assistance Ordinance with appendices.

Vote: 4-1 (Oppose-Mike)

SELECT BOARD MEETING

Item #1- Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2- Minutes from September 17, 2024 Meeting

Motion by David /Second by Tiffany-Move to Approve the Select Board Minutes from the September 17, 2024 meeting.

Vote: 4-1(Abstain- Phil)

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

Nick Santora questioned the progress on retaining the Police Department staffing to keep good staffing.

Item #4- Application for an On-Premises License-Salt & Pepper, ME LLC

Motion by Keith/Second by Mike-Move to Approve the Application for an On-Premises License for Salt & Pepper, ME LLC

Taxes and Fees are current.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #5- Renewal of Cannabis License-Marijuanaville

Motion by Keith/Second by Phil-Move to Approve the Renewal of the Cannabis License for Marijuanaville.

Taxes and Fees are current.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #6-Renewal of Junkyard Permit-Collins Enterprise

Motion by Phil/Second by Mike-Move to Approve the Renewal of the Junkyard Permit for Collins Enterprise.

David mentioned that last year when this permit was renewed, there was a question about a fence that had been removed opening up visibility of junk vehicles. Has this been fixed?

Gary Judkins, CEO said that he will mention it to Collins Enterprise.

David stated that it was raised as a concern as a temporary construction issue.

Keith asked if it was a State requirement for a fence?

Gary answered yes, it is.

Motion amended by Mike/Second by Phil-To Approve the Renewal of the Junkyard Permit for Collins Enterprise contingent on the erection of the fence required by State Law. Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Original motion-as amended- Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #7-Renewal of Junkyard Permit-Haggan Enterprises of Wilton

Motion by David/Second by Phil-Move to Approve the Renewal of the Junkyard Permit for Haggan Enterprises of Wilton.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #8-Renewal of Junkyard Permit-Michael Stickney

Motion by Keith/Second by Phil-Move to Approve the Renewal of the Junkyard Permit for Michael Stickney.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #9-Discussion on second signatory authority to sign checks

Maria explained that she is the only one at this time that can sign the checks. It is recommended that the Chair of the Select Board be the second authorized person for the interim.

Motion by David/Second by Keith-To allow the Select Board Chair to have signatory authority to sign the checks.

Vote: 4-1(Abstain-Tiffany)

Item #10- Other

David spoke on the ATV Access parking. Mike Wells, Maria Greeley, Jordan Schanck and John Masse met. There are three different town lots on the Munson Road. Lot 23, lot 25 and lot 20 which is across the street. This could be good for recreation opportunities. This could be easily converted into an ATV or recreational access parking with little modification of the town land right across the street. This could be for snowmobile parking also. John wants to do a training with some of the highway department learning to grade with the grader. Western Maine ATV Club and the Temple ATV Club would be good to partner with.

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Phil-To reach out to Western Maine ATV Club and the Temple ATV Club for collaboration.

Vote: 5-0

Item #11-Manager's Report

-Election Timeline-

Election Day-November 5, 2024-8:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M. at the Town Office
Absentee Ballot may be requested to receive anytime by mail.

Deadline to request an Absentee Ballot without providing special
circumstance is October 31, 2024

Residents may register to vote at the Town Office before the Election or at
the polling place on Election Day.

The Select Board Meeting for November 5, 2024 will be held at the Public Safety
Building.

-Maine Farmland Trust- The Select Board approved Maria working along Maine
Farmland Trust in working with policies within the Franklin County Region. They
were applying for a Grant. (USDA Rural Community Development Initiative grant)
Unfortunately, the proposal was not selected for funding. They are still
committed to working in the Farmington region and with the Town of Wilton on
building farm-friendly municipal policy and planning capacity. They are working
on hiring a Municipal Policy Planner staff person to carry forward Maine Farmland
Trust municipal policy, technical assistance work. We will work alongside with
them.

-The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and University of Maine at
Farmington will be organizing a Meet the Candidates Night for October 16 from
6:30 P.M. -8:00 P.M. It will be held at the Lincoln Auditorium, Roberts Learning
Center at UMF. This will also be live streamed on Mt Blue TV.

Item #12-Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(D)-Labor Contracts

Motion by David/Second by Keith-To enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1
M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(D)-Labor Contracts

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

7:18 P.M. Came out of Executive Session at 7:31 P.M.

Item #13-Police Collective Bargaining Agreement

No further action. No motion.

Item #14-Adjourn

Motion by David/Second by Keith -Move to Adjourn

Vote: 4-1(Absent-Phil) 7:31P.M.

