

Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission
October 16, 2013 at 6:00pm
MINUTES

Selectboard Members Present: Margaret Streeter, James Burke, Diane Chapman, Susan Haughwout and Jacob White

Others Present: Scott Murphy, Jessica DeFrancesco, Jack Deming of Deerfield Valley News, Chris Mays of Brattleboro Reformer, Merrill Mundell, Senator Bob Hartwell, John Dowling, Adam Grinold, John Greene, Joe Arnold, John Gannon, Bob Fisher

Meg Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

- 1) **Minutes:** Chapman moved to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2013 meeting. White second with one correction, #7. The town will apply for an implementation grant which will only need a 20% match. As of right now, the minutes say 10% match. Burke, Chapman, Haughwout & White in favor as corrected. Streeter abstained.
- 2) **Visitors & Public Comments:** Mr. Dowling told the board that when the Town Hall was getting an upgrade to their system, his wireless stopped working. He stated that this happened once before, years ago, when there was a different town manager, and it was fixed for him within a few days. He attempted to meet with Scott Murphy and Gretchen Havreluk several times with no promise of a resolution. Murphy stated that he spoke with Sovernet and they do not believe they did anything to affect Mr. Dowling's wireless. Haughwout pointed out that free wireless will be coming to the village, and he will be able to use that. Murphy ensured that Havreluk would be in touch with Mr. Dowling.
- 3) **Liquor Licenses:** Ratu's Liquor and Market Inc (formerly McBrearity's Marketplace), has applied for a 2nd class liquor license. Chief Szarejko has already signed off on it. Burke moved to approve the license, White second. All in favor.
Cask & Kiln is a new restaurant opening in the Parmalee & Howe building. They are a last minute license, needed so they can do a tasting with vendors to choose their selections. Chief Szarejko has not yet had a chance to review this application. Chapman moved to approve pending police approval. Burke 2nd, all in favor.
- 4) Burke moved and White second to go into sewer discussion.
Sewer Commission to give Final approval from of VAOT Waste Water Allocation-Bill Hunt doesn't want them digging past the 1st week in November so the state wants to get the digging done quickly so that the state garage is connected. Burke moved to approve the allocation, White second. All in favor. Motion to come out of sewer discussion made by Burke, second by White. All in favor.
- 5) **Merrill Mundell from Windham Solid Waste Management District (WSWMD)-Mr. Mundell** talks about possible assessments that may be coming in the near future. A surcharge is most likely coming, which would increase costs for everyone, whether their trash is picked up at their residence or they use the transfer station. Composting program could be an option. It may cost 130,00-150,000 to start but it can be sold for profit. Discussed cost changes and effects, as well as different ways to dispose.
- 6) **Senator Bob Hartwell to Discuss the Proposed Lake Shoreland Protection Legislation-Senator Hartwell** discusses the Vt water quality, which could be better. He discussed the H526 law that has passed the House but has not yet passed the Senate. There is a hearing in January in Montpelier to decide how VT municipalities will go about implementing this law. The hope is to improve vegetation around waterfronts. There will be restrictions when adding a residence, or adding onto a residence that is on the lakefront. The permitting could be implemented by the town, which could give residence a little more leeway when building. Haughwout inquired if the intent of the bill was to

give municipalities a choice to adopt regulations of their own or if they had to use the states. Sen. Hartwell advised that, yes, that is the intent and yes, there will be a standard in regards to municipality regulations. The rules of implementing this new law will be approved, hopefully in January, and distributed. Docks on the waterfront have a different permitting system with different regulations.

- 7) **Trail Committee Members Request Sur-Pak Valley Trail System-** John Greene and John Gannon said that the trail is signed and open through the Haystack Gate House. Sur-pak will help keep the trail drained and will make it easier for bikes, strollers, etc to utilize the trails. There is a culvert that is washed out in Haystack village that they will need to build a small bridge for. The committee wants to sur-pak up through the Hermitage and connect to Dover's trail from there. Most homeowners from Chimney Hill through the Hermitage have all been notified about the process and have agreed. Haughwout pointed out that the bridge the mentioned building is in an isolation distance to a well. John Gannon wishes to seek an opinion about funding this process through the WilmingtonVt Fund, that has received a \$200,000 donation. The committee is also requesting an Act250 legal expert to review this. There is also drainage and fabric that needs to be put under the sur-pak. It is about a 6 ½ mile stretch of trail. The board will discuss these matters and get back to the committee.
- 8) **Proposed Zoning Changes and Public Hearing-**
 - a) Discussion on some word changes in Article 3, Section 305D: omit existing sentence and replace it with " New deeds for the affected properties will be recorded in the land records by the landowners".
 - b) Article 2, Section 221: omit the sentence that begins "The construction, reconstruction..... and ends "Abutters will be notified"
 - c) Leave the part regarding legal non-conforming structures and municipal projects subject to zoning.
 - d) The 1/8 acre should only apply to Historic-not village/historic.
 - e) The board looked over the zoning map. Burke found one mistake that needs to be changed. On the West side of town, green section, the zone should be "Con" not "Res" on each green section.
 - f) Discussed the date for the hearing. Agreed to leave it scheduled for November 20, 2013.
- 9) **FY 2015 Budget Discussion Overview-** Murphy informed the Board that all Dept Heads have begun working on their budgets. The deadline has been moved up to November 1st. Social Service organizations have been notified, and follow-up phone calls will be made next week to those who we have not heard from. Murphy suggested a work session with the Board before budgets are reviewed with each department. Wednesday October 23, 2013 at 5pm was decided. Surplus, new construction, the audit results, tax rate changes, health care changes all need to be discussed.
- 10) **Correspondence To/From Select Board**
 - a.)Act 250 log-reviewed the permits
- 11) **Other Business-**
 - a) Chapman discussed Wilmington Works and the implementation.
 - b) Burke mentioned a "Smartest Cities Challenge". Murphy reviewed the challenge and said that it was aimed more towards cities, not small towns.
 - c) Haughwout mentioned the town taking over RT 9 for road maintenance. Murphy will hopefully have some information on that for the next meeting.
 - d) White mentioned snowplow contracts and if the town is taking care of the West Main St parking lot. Murphy said that the bid for the sidewalks has gone out. The town is taking care of the parking lot. Haughwout suggested buying a Bobcat and hiring someone to take care of the smaller areas like the parking lot.
 - e) It was mentioned to Streeter that maybe there should be a crosswalk in front of the walking bridge. Murphy said that there are guidelines and it is a state decision. It was also part of the application that Gretchen Havreluk has sent in.

- f) Discussed the By-Way signs and the possibility of buying some signs to distribute to businesses.
- g) In Georgia a BCA had devalued some properties based on noise citations
- h) Streeter said that some townspeople have brought up the speed limit in the center of town, wondering why it isn't 30 mph, like in Brattleboro. They were concerned with the number of speeding tickets being issued. Streeter inquired if the police department thought about giving warnings. DeFrancesco mentioned that warnings are given. Burke mentioned that based on the speed box data, only about 4% of people coming through town are speeding, which isn't that bad. The Board has seen some ticket statistics from the PD.

12) Town Manager Updates-

- a) Closed on the Sprague property today. Some options that have been brought up are a picnic/community garden area, a pavilion. There will be lots of discussion to come.
- b) The pergola repairs are supposed to start this week. The posts are not in danger yet, and we want to preserve them now before it is too late.
- c) The Memorial Hall construction is on hold until the Environmental Court weighs in. Haughwout inquired about the outcome of the curtains as they weren't approved. Murphy said that they have already been installed, they received a grant for them. Haughwout mentioned that right now they are taped back with leopard print tape onto the walls. The lights on the west side of the building are up and working. They are not on a motion sensor because of distance. These were also done without authorization and they used the abutters property to install them. Haughwout asked about a system to put into place so that the Memorial Hall Board has to get authorization before anything can be bought or installed. The heaters were tested for this weekends event.
- d) VT Business Magazine has an article about Jim Barnes and the Hermitage.
- e) There are two businesses showing interest in the Fennessey's and Bistro properties.

Executive Session-Streeter moved and Burke second to go into Executive Session with Murphy present to discuss legal matters at 8:15 pm. All in favor. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm with no decision made.

Moved to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica DeFrancesco
Administrative Assistant

Approved by Wilmington Selectboard:

Margaret L. Streeter, Chair

James R. Burke, Vice Chair

Diane Chapman, Clerk

Susan Joy Haughwout

Jacob White