

**Wilmington Selectboard**  
**March 22, 2017**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, Ann Manwaring, Vince Rice, John Gannon

**Whitingham Selectboard:** Vice Chair, Allan Twitchell; Members Greg Brown, Karl Twitchell and Robin Kingsley. Chair, Keith Bronson attended via telephone. Gig Zboray, Whitingham Selectboard Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:**

School Representatives: Twin Valley School Board Members: Kathy Larsen, John Doty, Therese Lounsbury, Seth Boyd. Aimee Reed of Whitingham School Board. Adam Grinold of Wilmington School Board. Karen Atwood, Windham Southwest Supervisory Union.

Whitingham residents: Almira Aekus, Whitingham Town Clerk; Wayne Corse, Susan Johnson, Ed Metcalfe, Claire Watkin, Betsy & Don McKinley, James Walker, Stanley Janovsky, Jr.

Wilmington residents: Bob Fisher, Mike Eldred, Patrice Schneider, Roland Schneider.

Others: Laura Sibia – state representative, James Valente, Neilay Shah and Adam Waite – attorneys from Brattleboro, Chris Mays–Brattleboro Reformer, Howard Weiss–Tisman–VPR.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm

**1. Additions or Changes to Agenda.**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda. **A motion was made by Greg Brown to appoint Robert Fisher as moderator of the meeting, seconded by Karl Twitchell, all in favor.**

**2. Introductions**

Introductions were made of everyone present.

**3. Education Funding:** Bob Fisher gave a little background of the decision of Act 60. He presented information about other challenges that have been made against Act 60 and 68.

**a. Discuss feasibility of litigation of Acts 60, 68 and 46**

A great deal of discussion, no decisions were made.

**b. Discuss feasibility of hiring a lobbyist**

Some discussion and different points of view were heard regarding hiring a lobbyist. No decisions were made.

**c. Discuss creating a committee**

Information received from VLCT about committees is:

- Be very clear about charge of committee
- Be very clear about scope of work
- Determine how long the committee members will sit
- Make clear the committee is not authorized to make decisions
- Committee must comply with Open Meeting Law and Public Records Law
- Interviews with potential attorneys should be in Executive Session so as not to reveal legal strategy

After some discussion both the Whitingham and Wilmington Selectboard members felt that they would like to discuss this with their boards and then come back together, possibly on April 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss further and possibly appoint committee members.

**d. Discuss correspondence received from Representatives Sibilila and Gannon**

John Gannon explained the correspondence. The speaker of the house gave Gannon and Sibilila confidence that there would not be legislation this year that would harm us more.

**4. Any other business that may legally come before the meeting**

None

**5. Adjourn**

**A motion was made to adjourn by Greg Brown, seconded by Karl Twitchell all in favor.**

Fitzgerald moved to adjourn at 8:40pm, Gannon second; all in favor. The Whitingham Selectboard and Twin Valley School Board adjourned at this time as well.

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

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Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

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John Gannon, Vice Chair

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Vince Rice, Clerk

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Sarah Fisher

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Ann Manwaring