

Wilmington Select Board/Sewer Commission
May 21, 2014 6 pm
Meeting Minutes

Present: Diane Chapman, Susie Haughwout, Jake White, Tom Fitzgerald, Scott Murphy, Jessica DeFrancesco

Others Present: John Lazelle, Bill Hunt, Tom Consolino, Chris Mays, Gretchen Havreluk, Shelley Park, Cindy Hayford, Jen Nilsen

1. Minutes of May 7, 2014-Motion to approve minutes of May 7, 2014 made by White, second by Fitzgerald. All in favor, Chapman abstained
2. Visitors and Public Comments-None
3. Action Items- None
4. Liquor and Outside Consumption Licenses- None

5. Road Supervisor to Discuss Status of Town Roads-

Hunt discussed the paving grant the Town received to fix Mann Rd and another grant that is pending to fix a structure on Coldbrook Rd. The Rural Back Roads Grant that the Town received will be for fixing and replacing signs and guardrails on Higley Hill Rd and Coldbrook Rd. These sites are determined by crash data the State receives.

The Highway Dept just replaced it's 5500 Dodge with a Ford, and they have a 10-wheeler on order.

The Town has a lot of culverts that have or are failing, so the Dept is rushing to fix and/or replace them before they begin paving roads. The VAST groomer is eating up the pavement over on E Dover Rd on the second bridge. Paving projects- portion of Coldbrook Rd, Sturgis Rd to the Town line, Mann Rd, and the top of Chimney Hill.

Hunt says that the Highway Dept has one truck that has been acting up, looking at how long they can keep it going. They are also looking at a street cleaner.

Murphy commented that they have been looking at the Town possibly doing sidewalk now removal in the winter. They have been looking for equipment to buy/lease, and also the manpower it would take. Haughwout asked for clarification as to how many culverts actually failed. Hunt replied that 20 failed, some big, some little. Hunt said that a "culvert inventory" had been done a couple years ago so the Highway Dept is aware of which are in worse shape than others.

Consolino commented that the Highway Dept did a tremendous job on Lake Raponda Rd this spring. It has been fairly dry and passable. Hunt stated that the signs they put out seem to have helped the dirt roads.

6. Sewer Commission- Haughwout moved to go into Sewer Commission to approve the FY 15 Sewer Dept Budget, White second. All in favor.

John Lazelle began, stating that the Sewer Dept didn't get voted on as part of the budget during budget season. Haughwout asked if the vote had to be retroactive back to a certain billing date. John Lazelle stated that it did not. Discussed possible upgrades to the facility. Haughwout asked if the upgrade would be a bond, and Lazelle stated that yes it would be. Haughwout moved to

approve the Sewer budget and set the Town Sewer Rate of \$352.72 per ECU, White second. All in favor. Came out of Sewer Commission.

7. Smoke Free Parks Initiative-

Cindy Hayford from Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, as well as Shelley Park and Jen Nilsen, are asking for signs be placed to discourage smoking at the Town parks as to protect people from second hand smoke. Park stated that some people had questioned the amount of use Buzzy Town Park received since the playground equipment is no longer there. Park stated that T-Ball and softball still takes place at that field. Nilsen stated that Lake Raponda (Green Mt Beach) is a small area and you can smell the cigarette smoke when someone is smoking. Park also mentioned the Pergola Park. White mentioned that one of the suggested signs isn't "asking" people not to smoke; it sounds more like telling them they can't. This is taking people's rights away, and he would prefer to see signs asking people to consider not smoking. The DVCP supplied Board with a page of alternative signs that could be used. Haughwout asked if the DVCP is supplying the signs and Hayford replied that yes they were. Haughwout also asked if their sponsorship could be on the sign, and work with the Town Manager on placement of these signs. Hayford agreed. The disposal of used cigarettes was brought up, and it was noted that receptacles will be being placed around town this year. There was a new resident who sent in an e-mail opposed to the idea of smoke-free parks. The combined community base grant was discussed. Haughwout moved to approve "We Play Here...Please Consider not smoking here", with placement help from the Town Manager, at Buzzy Towne Park, Lake Raponda, and Pergola Park; White second. All in favor.

Consolino inquired about the perceived effect by the public of the Board approving signs in regards to enforcement, and asked for language clarification. The Town will have no enforcement authority, as it is a suggestion, not a policy. Haughwout moved that the Town have no enforcement authority on these signs, White second to discuss.

After discussion on matter, Haughwout withdrew her second motion, White agreed.

8. Tax Stabilization Request for 20 West Main St-

Gretchen Havreluk came before the Board to discuss WMRE Holdings LLC requesting tax stabilization based on the policy passed at Town Meeting. Havreluk stated that an agreement should be written up to protect the Town from losses should the building be sold or some other unfortunate event happens. The owners of the building submitted a written request, and then Havreluk drafted into a summary, which will be the same process for everyone. Murphy stated that the only gray area on this request is the "jobs created". The Town will need the owner to verify they are paying an average state wage, and that the owner and all full time employees will be taking home a qualifying paycheck and meeting all the requirements of the tax stabilization agreement. Fitzgerald moved to accept the Tax Stabilization Request from WMRE Holdings, White second. All in favor. Haughwout stated that the Listers, Town Manager, Select Board, Economic Development all need to stay in communication with one another regarding these requests so it can be verified that they are remaining within their parameters.

9. Correspondence to/from Select Board-

a. Act 250 Log-

Fitzgerald asked about the concerns Act250 had regarding the map of Green Mt Storage-Joe Montano-. They didn't have a definitive driveway or shrubbery on their application and will be responding directly to Act250.

10. Other Business-

White stated that the Valley Trail is now connected through to Dover and the Grand Opening will be June 7th at the Gate House. There have been some comments and concerns made by residents and visitors regarding the area where the trail crosses Route 9. White said that getting signs placed on Route 9 will take some time as it would have to go through the State. Haughwout suggested putting signs on the trail cautioning hikers about their approach to the highway.

11. Town Manager Updates-

- a. Route 9 West end Molly Stark kiosk area improvements- Wilmington Works will be maintaining the kiosk itself. The Beautification Committee has created a design that is self-maintained. The kiosk will also be getting renovated. The Chamber of Commerce will be cutting the grass.
- b. Memorial Hall Ramp-the handicap ramp should be completed for Memorial Day.
- c. There was discussion on a banner brought to the Board before it went to Wilmington Works. Some members of the Board agreed that they would rather see insignia than the Memorial Hall door and will make the suggestion to Wilmington Works.

Haughwout moved to enter Executive Session to include the Town Manager to discuss appointment or employment of a public employee and relay exit interviews at 7:40 pm; White second. All in favor. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:55 pm with the following results:

Motion by Fitzgerald, seconded by White, that the ZA/Health Officer position remain full-time. Chapman/White/Fitzgerald in favor – Haughwout opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Haughwout, seconded by White, to accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation, and to authorize the Town Manager to offer the ZA position to, and negotiate terms with, candidate #4. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by White, seconded by Fitzgerald. All in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica DeFrancesco
Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Jim Burke, Chair

Diane Chapman, Vice Chair

Susie Haughwout

Jake White

Tom Fitzgerald