

Wilmington Selectboard

August 29, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: John Gannon, Sarah Fisher, Ann Manwaring, Scott Tucker, Gretchen Havreluk Christine Richter, John Lazelle, Bill Hunt, Joe Szarejko, Deb Kingsley, Brandon Brassor, Craig Ohlson

1. Welcome by Selectboard Chair Tom Fitzgerald

Gannon stated that the Board is excited to work with Tucker and see how we can move the town forward.

2. Visitors, public comments, changes to agenda

3. TM Scott A. Tucker Comments

Tucker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Introduction

a. "Tell me something I don't know..."

Sarah– joined the Selectboard in February due to a member resigning. Her family climbs mountain peaks as a hobby.

Bill– Has been working for the town since 1992, supervisor for 13 years. He talked about the Hermitage Club expansion and the effect on the Highway winter maintenance budget. He has six kids ages 13–30.

Joe– He started working for the town in 1982; Chief since 1998.

Ann– She was on the Selectboard for 12 years earlier on. At least half of those present today were already working for the town.

Craig– started in 2014. He has two kids—one in Colorado and one that just graduated from St Lawrence and on an internship in Copenhagen.

John Lazelle– started working for the town in 1987. When his dad retired in 2003 he became Chief Operator and he hired Jeff. They just finished the refurbishment project. First started working for the town as a senior in high school and took some state courses while still in school.

Debby– worked for the town for 34 years. She was adopted and found her birth family 8 years ago.

Christine– started in 2005. Town Manager has changed multiple times since she has worked here. During the flood the employees really got to know each other.

John Gannon–Serving second term on the Selectboard. He moved here full time in June 2011, right before the flood. He is the state rep for Halifax, Whitingham and Wilmington. He has two grown kids. He was the executive producer of a documentary on investment fraud that aired on PBS.

Brandon– Has been working for the town since 2007. He is addicted to hunting.

Gretchen– Worked for Dr. Ruhl and then for Key Bank. She decided to go into consulting, and Irene hit the valley while she was creating her business plan. She volunteered during the flood recovery. Then the Town of Wilmington hired her. She started working 3 days a week as a consultant in 2014. She loves to ski.

Scott– In Rutland police employees (other than the Chief) must retire by the age of 60. The Chief can stay on until the age of 65. His dad became a trooper in 1960 and eventually went on to become a Detective. Scott went to Northeastern University and the University of Maine. His daughter is 3rd generation law enforcement, working in Northfield. His wife works for Rutland County Sheriff's Department. He previously worked as "support services" which was centered on human resources. He started working on Project Vision in 2014 as Executive Director. He has never done so much cleaning in his 35 years of marriage as he has moving into his Wilmington apartment.

5. Wilmington Staff Meeting

There were questions about Scott's contract. The calculation for his annual leave time was based on 26 pay periods. Realizing there are 52 pay periods, his annual leave will be just under 4 weeks. He has family obligations which will require him to take some extra leave. Gannon noted that the error was his as he has always worked in companies that had 26 pay periods. It was suggested that the newspaper be contacted to correct the calculations that were previously made.

Richter commented that she hopes the Selectboard starts asking more questions. They sign warrants every week which include payroll. Communication with the Selectboard is lacking. During the hiring process, town employees were not kept informed. There was discussion about email correspondence and signing warrants. The Town Manager line item and the overspending was discussed.

a. Wilmington DH "Open Mic"

1. Storytelling..."It could only happen in Wilmington!"

b. Next Steps

1. *TM Meetings with DH Staff*

Scott would like to start meeting with Department Heads the week of September 11th. Each Department Head should let Jessica know their needs and available times to meet. Scott would also like to meet with other staff individually.

2. *Communication-transparency*

Scott would like a Department Head meeting every other Tuesday.

3. *Goals/Projects-October*

Scott will send the list of goals from the previous Town Manager. Some are projects, some are outcomes. These will be discussed with individual departments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica DeFrancesco
Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher

Ann Manwaring