

Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission
September 6, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Present: Tom Fitzgerald, Vince Rice, Sarah Fisher, Ann Manwaring–6:20

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine & Dennis Richter, Craig Ohlson, Gretchen Havreluk, Mike Eldred, Bill Spirka, Janet Boyd, Camille & Doug Swanson, Meg Streeter, Diane & Lenny Chapman, Robin & John Howe, Bette Crawford, Mary Jane Finnegan, Meg Staloff, Anne Saracino, John Bertucci, Steve Goldfarb, Todd Gareiss, Ellen Ostrander, Nicki Steel, Cindy Hayford, Jack Dolan, Andrea & Joel Berg, Bettina Krampetz, Karen Molina, Susie Haughwout, Bob Grinold, Selma Schiffer, Carol Herbert, Crystal Martineau, Lisa Sullivan, Cheryl LaFlamme, Michelle & Peter Park, Monique & Jake White, Jeremy White, Renee Galle

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda

Joel Berg– he spoke with the foreman on the Rt 9 paving project and was told that the Town Manager had the choice of time that the project would take place. So why was this busy time of year chosen instead of April? Fitzgerald responded stating that the Town Manager did choose April, however because of the rain, the project was delayed. Andrea Berg asked about evening work. They opted out of evening work because they didn't think there would be an issue in April. Haughwout clarified that since the project wasn't bid out as an evening job, they couldn't change the plan when the project got delayed because it would affect costs.

Remove "approval of minutes for August 29, 2017" since there is no quorum.

2. Approve Minutes of August 16 and 29, 2017

Rice moved to approve the minutes of August 16, 2017, Fisher second; all in favor.

3. Action Items

- Rice moved to designate the Town Manger as Voting Delegate for VLCT Annual Business Meeting on 10/4/17 and the Town Fair on 10/5/17, Fisher second; all in favor.
- The Selectboard appointed Anne Saracino to the Beautification Committee
- There has been a request for a new road name for a road off Look Rd to be named "Tarheel Trail". This road will be a private road and not maintained by the Town of Wilmington. Fisher moved to approve the new road name "Tarheel Trail, off of Look Rd, Rice second; all in favor.

4. 1% Request

Old School Enrichment Committee presented their business plan to the Selectboard. They are projecting 10–25 jobs will be created with their plans for the former high school; most of which will be above minimum wage. They plan to make the building ADA compliant and to fix the leaking roof. Fisher commented that according to the business plan, it will be run by volunteers, however, she feels it should be run by paid employees. Howe commented that OSEC is invested in making this work, and that OSEC members would be those volunteers managing the building. Steel commented that locals aren't able to use the many gyms in this valley as they are for "members only" to exclusive clubs. There needs to be a place to start building connections again, and this plan that OSEC presented could be it. OSEC is also has a 1% request for \$98,000, and annual \$60,000 use as Emergency Shelter and other uses. When OSEC has a closing date, the Board will make a decision on the 1% request for \$98,000. Fitzgerald feels that the \$60,000 rent needs to be discussed and negotiated. Selma Schiffer asked if OSEC considered knocking down and rebuilding. It was more cost efficient to repair than to rebuild.

5. Traffic Ordinance

John Dolan has filed a petition as follows: We the undersigned legal voters of the Town of Wilmington, VT do hereby do petition the Wilmington Selectboard to hold a special town meeting to consider the following article: "Shall the voters of the Town of Wilmington disapprove the Traffic Ordinance adopted

by the Wilmington Selectboard on August 2, 2017?" The newly amended Traffic Ordinance limits overnight parking (Article VI, Section 23) in the Church St and South Main St lots, which prohibits vehicles from parking there from 2–6 am from November 15–April 15 for snow removal. Dolan understands there is a problem with snow removal and appreciates it. Where do people who live here, or work past 2 am park their cars? Mary Jane Finnegan has apartments on South Main St with no parking, as does Todd Gareiss. Sullivan asked about opening areas of the lot on specific days. Haughwout agrees that it is difficult for the highway department to plow efficiently, but also feels more work should be done to find a solution. She also noted that the highway crew already put up the stop sign at Haystack Rd heading toward Chimney Hill, and it needs to be placed differently as it currently blocks the view of oncoming traffic. When asked if a petition can be withdrawn, Haughwout commented that a signator can remove their name, but the Secretary of State doesn't outline if a petition can be withdrawn. Matthews suggested parking permits for tenants where they can park from midnight–6 am. A petition has already been filed so a special town meeting will need to be warned. The Selectboard has 60 days from the submission of the petition to call a date.

6. Fire Department

Havreluk and Assistant Fire Chief Moore presented the Selectboard with the Fire Department report submitted by Dave Larsen, who facilitated meetings with the Fire Department to analyze the needs of the department. The conclusion was that a full time Fire Chief is necessary. The job description still needs to be updated, and communication between members and management needs to be maintained. The Fire Department is a highly skilled department, with safety being their #1 priority. With a full time Fire Chief they can recruit and maintain members, work on improving public relations, maintain agreements with large developments, maintain equipment and hydrants, keep ISO ratings low. Moore commented that things were in disarray for a long time. Since he took over they have new members joining, inactive members coming back, the equipment is in good shape, and attitudes have improved. With winter coming things will get busy and people will burn out. He feels the process for hiring a Fire Chief needs to start. Tucker will look into the process of advertising in-house first and get the process started.

7. Zoning Ordinance

The Selectboard reviewed the Zoning Ordinance with the changes made as agreed proceeding the Public Hearing. Steel helped LaFlamme with some of the changes in the Historic and Village district. The second hearing will be held on October 2, 2017 at 6 pm.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 7:42 pm.

8. Liquor Commission

Manwaring moved to approve a Request to Cater for Jim's Bistro @ the Roadhouse, dba The Roadhouse on 9/22/17 at Memorial Hall–14 W Main St, Jim McGrath Art Gallery–22 W Main St, Bartleby's Books–17 W Main St, and West End Antiques & Collectables–35 W Main St for the annual Wine and Soup Stroll, Fisher second; all in favor.

Rice moved to approve a Special Event Permit for American Crafted Spirits, Inc, dba SILO Distillery for a tasting at the Hermitage Club, 183 Gatehouse Trail on 9/15/17, Fisher second; all in favor.

9. Other Business

10. Select Board Members Comments and Other Action Items (5 minutes)

Manwaring asked for a work session to discuss the 1% and how each member views the 1% and future use of the fund. The Selectboard will hold a work session at 5 pm on September 20th. She would also like to discuss at another meeting all the services still in the flood plain.

11. Town Manager Updates

Recycling–There has been some contamination at the downtown recycling. Contamination is anything other than paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, aluminum.

RT 9 Paving– There is one more coat of asphalt that still needs to be put down.

Look Rd Bridge–Hoping to pave on Friday, plantings in 1–2 weeks, then the project should be complete.

Coldbrook Rd– Paving should start tomorrow.

West Lake Project– Just about complete. They are online for snow making to start November 1st.

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