

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

Selectboard Members Present: Thomas Consolino, Margaret Streeter, Susan Haughwout, James Burke, and Diane Chapman

Others Present: Scott Murphy, Mary Towne, Mike Eldred, Chris Mays, Jake White, Adam Grinold, Carl Boyd, Carolyn Palmer, Liliias Hart, Lisa Sullivan, Sheila Osler, Mary Wright, Arlene Palmiter, Felicity Ratte, and several more.

Chair Consolino called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. **Minutes:** Streeter moved and Burke seconded to approve minutes of January 2, 2013. Vote: All in favor.
2. **Visitors and Public Comments:** None
3. **Action Items:** None
4. **Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing for VCDP-DR Grant Application, scheduled for 6:15, has been cancelled due to illness. It will be re-warned and rescheduled for a later date.
5. **Long Term Community Recovery Steering Committee Draft Charge:** Several people have resigned from the committee and it is now down to Mary Wright, Renee Galle, and Sheila Osler. The board discussed the charge proposed by the committee. There were questions about whether every project would go through the committee or if projects could also go directly to the Town Manager. Some projects are already planned and ready to be implemented so would not need to go to committee. The committee said their aim is to help, not hold up, and to give people a place to start and get information. The Committee will submit a revised draft of the charge.
6. **Possible Reappointment of Current Zoning Administrator to New Three Year Term:** Under Title 24 Section 4448, the Select Board must vote to possibly reappoint the current zoning administrator, Alice Herrick, to a new three year term. The Planning Commission will provide a written summary as to their recommendation, but it has not been received by the Selectboard yet. Streeter suggested that the Town Manager look at the duties of the position to see if it still needs to be full-time since there are fewer applications and the state has taken over septic permits. The board will discuss the appointment once they receive the recommendation from the Planning Commission.
7. **Temporary Wireless Communication Facility Permit Extension Request:** The Selectboard received a request from KJK Wireless (who represents US Cellular) to extend the 90 day temporary cell tower permit for an additional 90 days, through May 24. The original 90 day permit was granted on October 3, 2012. Streeter moved and Haughwout seconded to extend the temporary permit for 90 days to May 24, 2013. Vote: All in favor
8. **Budget review and possible vote to approve FY 2014 Town Budget:** The board reviewed the budget for the items changed at the last meeting. Haughwout moved and Streeter seconded to approve the budget totaling \$3,991,678 with the exception of the Town Clerk's section. Vote: All in favor.

Haughwout recused herself and left the room. Burke moved and Chapman seconded to approve the Town Clerk portion of the budget. Vote: 4 in favor and Haughwout recused.

9. **Discuss Procedure for use of 1% Option Tax Funds:** Murphy said there are two articles on the warning which he spoke to two attorneys about. The articles ask the voters if they want to set up a reserve fund and then to fund it. Consolino said he was troubled about how the added wording of “Community Development” got into the article. He mentioned several emails and then suddenly the new wording appeared without being discussed by the board. Haughwout clarified that she had asked Murphy to add the wording to the draft. It is still a draft and has not been voted on by the board yet.

10. **Review and possibly approve Warning for Annual Town Meeting, March 5, 2013:**

The board continued discussion of Article 10 (setting up reserve fund).

- Audience members asked for definition of Community Development and Economic Development. Discussion of whether infrastructure is also economic development.
- Some thought that when voted, the 1% was specified for economic development only. Haughwout said that although some people spoke of economic development, the vote did not mention any purpose for the funds.
- Someone asked why the Selectboard did not second Consolino’s motion to include that the fund not be used to reduce taxes.
- Board members said they compromised their preferences. Some support for not using to reduce taxes, but in favor of leaving Community Development in so as not to box in options. In favor of flexibility.

Discussion of Article 11 (funding the reserve fund). The article as proposed will come up each year. It could be altered so that it would be perpetual unless petitioned otherwise. Consolino moved and Streeter seconded to add to the end of the current wording “and to fund the reserve fund each year with the proceeds of the 1% local option tax.” Vote: Consolino in favor and 4 against. Audience members said they had wished to make comments before the vote. Haughwout moved and Chapman seconded to reconsider the vote. Audience comments were then made. Consolino’s motion would make it perpetual and not come up every year. Several people wanted it to be perpetual so there would not be a big debate every year. Also having it perpetual would be a more reliable funding source for long term projects. Discussed whether it is different than the budget which is voted every year. What is the harm in giving people a chance to vote? After all the comments Consolino asked the board to re-vote. Vote: Consolino and Burke in favor and Haughwout, Streeter, and Chapman against.

Warning: Streeter moved and Burke seconded to approve the warning as presented subject to adding any articles that may be petitioned by the January 24th deadline. Vote: 4 in favor and Consolino opposed.

11. **Correspondence to/from Selectboard:** None

12. **Other Business - Selectboard Members Comments and Other Action Items:**

- a. Streeter gave a Bi-Town Economic Development Committee update that one of the goals selected is for Dover & Wilmington to work together to get their trails connected.
- b. Murphy said that they have applied for permits for the Hoot, Toot, and Whistle Trail and it is hoped to start in the spring.
- c. Haughwout reminded people of the Twin Valley Budget Vote tomorrow from 10 am to 7 pm. Voting has been moved to the music room at the high school.
- d. There will be a public hearing on February 5th on the proposed zoning. The warning and documents are posted on the town website.
- e. Burke reported on a problem at the town garage with the heating system, which is being fixed.

13. Town Manager's Updates:

- a. Local Government Day at State Capital is scheduled for February 20, 2013.
- b. Dover has requested a joint meeting regarding the education lobbying effort.

14. **Executive Session:** Streeter moved and Burke seconded to go into executive session with the Town Manager present for evaluation of a Public Official. It was so voted and the board entered executive session at 7:40 pm. They came out of executive session at 7:50 pm and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Towne, Administrative Assistant

Approved by Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas P. Consolino, Chair

Margaret L. Streeter, Vice Chair

Diane Chapman, Clerk

Susan Joy Haughwout

James R. Burke