

**Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission**  
**July 3, 2012 at 6:00 pm**  
**At Twin Valley High School Library**  
**MINUTES**

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

**Others Present:** Scott Murphy (by telephone), Mary Towne, Mike Eldred, Christine Richter, Dennis Richter, Adam Grinold, Shelley Park, Lisa Sullivan, Renee Galle, Mary Wright, Felicity Ratte, and others.

Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm by Consolino.

1. **Minutes:** Streeter moved and Haughwout seconded to approve minutes of June 20, 2012. Vote: All in favor.
2. **Visitors and Public Comments:** None
3. **Action Items:**
  - a. **Memorandum of Understanding with Wilmington Water District re: evaluation of WWD by A & E, Water Engineering firm:** Scott Murphy explained the memorandum to the board. The Memorandum was signed by the board.
  - b. **Adopt Tax Overpayment Policy and Authorize Resolution to abate taxes owed of \$5 or less and credit overpayments larger than \$5:** Christine Richter explained the two documents. Streeter moved and Haughwout seconded to adopt the Tax Overpayment Policy as amended and to approve the Resolution to abate taxes owed of \$5 or less and credit overpayments larger than \$5. Vote: All in favor.
4. **Set FY 2013 Tax Rate:** Christine Richter went over a spreadsheet with the board. Streeter moved and Chapman seconded to set the Fiscal Year 2013 town tax rate at \$ .4529 as presented on the spreadsheet. Vote: All in favor. The combined town and school tax rates are shown below. Tax bills will be mailed by July 16.

<b>Tax Rate Fiscal Year 12-13</b>	
Town Rate	0.4529
Residential School Rate	<u>1.5227</u>
<b>Total Residential Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$ 1.9756</b>
Non-Residential School Rate	<u>1.3531</u>
<b>Total Non-Residential Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$ 1.8060</b>

**Due Dates:** August 17, 2012, February 22, 2013

5. **Designated Downtown Options:** Murphy and Consolino went over the sheet of options and costs for various plans to apply to the VT Downtown Program for Downtown Designation. Murphy then presented another alternative option that was not on the sheet. Since Bill Colvin will still be here a few weeks, he suggested having Colvin work on the Downtown application and then at the end of July re-evaluate. Consolino and Murphy would assist Colvin. Haughwout moved and Streeter seconded to approve moving forward with the application for Downtown Designation following the Town Manager's recommendation for the scope of work and not to exceed \$1500. Vote: All in favor.

**6 Discuss and Evaluate Economic Development Position:** Murphy went over a sheet with several options for the Economic Development staff position. He recommended option 3 which is to hire consultants on an as-needed basis for specific projects, which would be accomplished with a clear cost and timeline associated with them. The consultants might not be needed for the whole completion of the project. After the grant application, the town could manage the grant.

Discussion included concern about the Bi-Town Committee and relationship with Dover. Colvin has been doing on-going coordination with the group. The board expressed support for the Bi-town effort and keeping it going. The board would like to meet with the Dover Selectboard regarding common economic development issues and the Mullin Report. Colvin has also been keeping the FEMA Long Term Recovery process going and wondered who will be doing this once he is gone.

Mount Snow Valley Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Adam Grinold and President Lisa Sullivan urged the board to hire a replacement for Colvin, saying that hiring consultants on a project specific basis would only accomplish a portion of the work done by someone in a permanent full- or part-time position.

The Board decided that they would like more information and will continue the discussion at their next meeting.

**7. Discuss Possible Uses for 1% Local Option Tax Funds:** Consolino passed out a sheet with options when the tax was originally proposed. The tax went into effect July 1, 2012 but the town will not receive any revenue until late October. He said he would like to see the Champions who have not yet done so to come in to present their projects and plans to the Board.

Streeter said she thinks the funds should go into the General Fund and then projects be taken to the voters at town meeting. A special town meeting could be held if needed before March.

Haughwout agrees on taking to the voters as that gives voter buy-in. She said that at the town meeting, some voters said it should be used for economic development, others to reduce taxes, and others for recovery efforts. She suggested renaming recovery as improvements. She also suggested another option would be a rainy day fund. Also a lot of effort has been spent on village recovery, but it should be fair to the whole town as well.

Grinold's recollection of the town meeting discussion was that the consensus was to use the funds for recovery. He said the village is important for the town's economy and the region. He said the economic development position is also important to be funded.

Streeter said the budget has money for ½ of a salary and benefits, but we had gotten a lot more than that from Colvin.

There should not be a line drawn between the village and the town. There needs to be communication so that all people understand that the village center is vital to the whole town.

There was discussion of how the projects would get chosen to be taken to the voters. Also, with buildings empty after Irene, the revenue may not reach the previous estimates.

More discussion will be held at future meetings.

**8. Motor Vehicle Racing Permit for Demolition Derby and Street Closing for Deerfield Valley Farmer's Day Fair:** Towne explained that the town racing permit is needed every 2 years in order for the fair to get a 2-year state permit to hold the demolition derby. The closing of a portion of Beaver Street for the fair on August 16-19, 2012 is the same as has been done in the past. Chapman moved and Haughwout seconded to approve the racing Permit and Special Traffic Regulations as presented. Vote: All in favor.

**9. Naming of Private Town Road:** The board read a memo from 911 Administrator Deb Kingsley and Fire Chief Ken March requesting that a new private road off of Fannie Hill Road be named Rushing Brook Lane. Haughwout moved and Streeter seconded to approve the private road as presented on the map. Vote: All in favor.

**10. Correspondence to/from Selectboard:**

- Reviewed Act 250 log – no action taken.
- Resignation: Haughwout moved and Streeter seconded to accept with regret Spencer Crispe's resignation from the Planning Commission. Vote: All in favor. Haughwout will do an exit interview.

**11. Other Business:** Selectboard Members Comments and Other Action Items

- a. Burke reported that the renovation of both the Police Department and Town Clerk side of the Town Hall are moving along well.
- b. The Bridge for the Riverwalk was discussed briefly. Apparently there have been problems with the permitting so the project may not be completed this year.

**12. Town Manager's updates:** None

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