

Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission
January 17, 2018
Meeting Minutes

Present: Tom Fitzgerald, Vince Rice, Sarah Fisher, Ann Manwaring, John Gannon–by phone

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Deb Kingsley, Lenny Chapman, Gerry Osler, Brian DeCesar, John Lazelle, Christine Richter, Randy Capitani, Mike Eldred

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

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

2. Approve Minutes of December 18 and 20, 2017 and January 2 and 3, 2018

Manwaring moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2017, Gannon second; Gannon–aye, Fitzgerald–aye, Manwaring–aye, Fisher–abstain, Rice–abstain

Manwaring moved to approve the minutes of December 20, 2017, Gannon second; Gannon–aye, Manwaring–aye, Fitzgerald–aye, Fisher–aye, Rice–abstain

Rice moved to approve the minutes of January 2 and 3, 2017, Fisher second; all in favor.

3. Action Items

- Rice moved to approve the annual Certification of Highway Mileage, Manwaring second; all in favor.
- The Selectboard discussed the proposed bill S. 97 that would allow municipalities to post public notices on media sites rather than in the printed newspaper and possibly signing a letter of support. Randy Capitani from the Deerfield Valley News asked to comment. He feels that there are flaws in the bill: 1. Many places in Vermont do not receive good online access to be able to access these media sites, 2. Some media sites may not be running 10 years down the road. Archiving the records is a problem. How are they archived? Will there be one central location where these will be digitally archived? Going primarily online is taking a huge risk. He is encouraging the Board not to sign the letter in support of this bill. Tucker commented that even if the bill passes “as is” it could still change in the future. After some more discussion the Board decided to table this issue.

Gannon moved to enter into Sewer Commission at 6:32 pm, Fisher second; all in favor.

4. Wastewater Budget

- John Lazelle and the Selectboard discussed the sewer allocations and impact on the Wastewater budget, with possible need for additional funding. There may be a budget shortfall this fiscal year of about \$25,000. There are a few things that have happened that have caused this:
 - OSEC relinquished a lot of allocation which created a \$8,000 reduction in sewer rent
 - There was initially a \$13,000 surplus budgeted for this fiscal year but due to bond payment confusion that surplus was washed out.
 - A couple of pump station failures
 - There was an issue with an RBC. Currently negotiating with the manufacturer but there could still be some out of pocket cost to the town.

The Board thanked him for updating them. When they get closer to the end of the year they will look again and decide what to do should additional funds be needed.

Rice moved to exit Sewer Commission at 6:44 pm, Manwaring second; all in favor.

5. Reappraisal

- The Selectboard and Listers discussed the possible town-wide reappraisal and potential impact on the taxpayers. The Listers met with their district advisor and a town-wide appraisal is imminent. The estimate for the appraisal is \$310,000 but there are no hard numbers available yet. The Listers have all agreed to stay on the Board until the reappraisal is complete. The cost is affected due to the fact that the state is requiring the way appraisals are done to be changed. This requires purchasing new software and going into all the houses in town. The Listers will be interviewing a software company this week to see how their program will fit with Wilmington. It takes about two years to do a full appraisal. Many property exteriors have been done over the last few years so it would be aimed mostly at interiors. The Selectboard agreed to add an article for \$75,000 to be added to the town meeting warning. With the funds already in the budget this would give them \$125,000 for the first year.

6. FY19 Budget

- The Selectboard reviewed the FY 19 budget as presented. Gannon moved to approve the FY 19 General Fund Budget of \$4,811,744 plus \$75,000 for the Listers Reappraisal, Rice second; all in favor. Gannon amended his motion to include the Highway fund. Gannon moved to approve the FY 19 General Fund and Highway budgets of \$4,811,744 plus \$75,000 for the Listers Reappraisal, Rice second; all in favor.
- The Selectboard reviewed the Town Meeting warning articles. Some wording and the order of articles was discussed.

7. Correspondence to/from Selectboard

8. Other Business

9. Select Board Members Comments and Other Action Items

- Rice- if the Town votes to keep the recycling at the old highway garage site, he would like to look into getting compactors at the site.

10. Town Manager Updates

- Police Chief met with Dover Police Chief about a concert at Mount Snow this spring.
- Looking to see if the town can log any of the land owned at the East Tract. A forest inventory is being looked into.
- Budget wise, we were currently on target halfway through the fiscal year. The General Fund was at 52% and Highway was at 74% and Sewer was at 48% .
- Still negotiating the Glebe Lease
- Waiting for a proposal from Stevens Associates on Reardon Bridge. They are looking at possibly a cement ramp.
- Stevens suggesting venting and bracing the basement of Memorial Hall to shore up and preserve the hall from collapse during possible future flooding.
- Still have not heard from Secretary Holcombe regarding the pump track
- A letter was received for Darby Howe thanking him for helping someone get to their house during a snowstorm.
- A letter was sent to Sgt Murano and Officer Hammond for helping a single mom who was in need of housing and went out of their way to help her find adequate shelter.
- A letter was sent to Detective Denault and Officer Briggs for a job well done on a drug bust of 150 bags of heroin.

Rice moved to adjourn at 8:42 pm, Manwaring second; all in favor.

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