

**Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission**  
**October 30, 2018**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon, Sarah Fisher, Vince Rice, Ann Manwaring

**Others Present:** Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Chris Mays, Mike Eldred, Kristin Brooks, RT Brown, Meg Staloff, Sheldon Brassor, Travis Brassor, Bill Hunt, Mike Stevens, Bret Brown, Travis Wheeler, Doug Wheeler, Darby Howe, Rob Marzelli, Chris Lavoy, Adam Grinold, Christine Richter, John Lazelle, Lisa Sullivan

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

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

Grinold wanted to express that the Selectboard continue to participate in the river corridor discussions. He has concerns about why it is being pursued.

D Wheeler-CHOA and snowmobile club went above and beyond putting extra signs up this past winter.

Remove item #6. Add to #4 budget meeting schedule.

2. Approve Minutes of October 16 and 24, 2018

Rice moved to approve 10/16, Manwaring second; 3-0 Fisher and Gannon abstained

Gannon moved to approve 10/24, Rice second; all in favor.

3. Wilmington Water District

- Gannon moved to accept the MOU between the Selectboard and Wilmington Water District regarding the water district merger, Rice second; all in favor. MOU signed, no questions.

4. Health Insurance

- The Finance Officer discussed health insurance plan options for 2019. Richter recommends staying with the platinum plan that we are currently using. The out-of-pocket amounts increase each year but the town portion that is put into an HRA has not increased to accommodate that out-of-pocket increase. The plan is increasing 4% which is a smaller increase than last year. A few years back we had an HSA which could be used for eye and dental, the HRA cannot. Gannon stated that associations are now allowed to offer health insurance plans again. The Selectboard would like to check with VLCT to see what they are offering for costs. Hunt commented that the insurance is very important for maintaining and recruiting health; and his department appreciates it. Gannon moved to approve the BCBS Platinum Plan on condition that VLCT comes in on comparable benefits, Rice second; all in favor.

- Budget meetings-11/5 at 8 am, 11/8 at 8 am, 11/13 8 am, 11/15 at 5 pm, 11/16 at 8 am, 11/26 at 6 pm, 11/29 8 am, 11/30 8 am

5. BDCC

- Kristin Brooks, RT Brown and Adam Grinold from the BDCC gave an update on their current programs. The internship program placed 10 interns; 2 in Wilmington. Recruitment fairs in NH, VT and MA at local colleges are beginning. Professional communication has been brought into Twin Valley Middle High School. A business plan competition just wrapped up; Make it on Main St. Some contestants that didn't make it very far are participating in a start-up lab. A youth entrepreneurship program is being looked at for Twin Valley MHS. BDCC thank Wilmington for the long-term support. Last year 13 communities gave funds to the BDCC. They are asking again for \$5628 for annual funding. Manwaring asked what kind of challenges are seen in Wilmington vs the larger communities. Grinold-the difference is the opportunity here vs elsewhere. The larger populations have a limit on the BOD. The smaller communities may not have this same challenge.

## 6. Duncan Cable

- Removed from agenda

## 7. 1% Local Option Tax Fund

- Wilmington Works is requesting \$60,000 to be dispersed over two fiscal years. They are requesting the same amount per year as their last request 3 years ago. The Downtown Designation has been renewed, which gives them access to things like tax credits for business owners, downtown transportation grants. Wilmington Works helps with grant writing, and project execution (West Main St sidewalk). \$788,000 in tax credits have been received since 2013. They put together many events in town, which numerous merchants participate in. Hope to work with the community and town on a plan for the Beaver St area, incorporate art into the downtown, begin South Main St sidewalk project, continue to work with Make It on Main St applicants, staff engagement, fiber access for merchants. They will continue with well-established events, continue to develop Apres Ski event, recruit new board and committee members, and expand fundraising. They are in the process of applying for their own 501c3. By asking for multi-year funding it lets Wilmington Works plan for long-term staffing and projects. Manwaring doesn't feel the Selectboard members that sit on the Wilmington Works board should have to recuse themselves from the vote. Fitzgerald replied that it was the perception. Gannon and Manwaring recused themselves. Rice moved to approve the request for \$60,000 in 1% Local Option Tax Funding to be dispersed over 2 fiscal years; \$30,000 in FY2020 and \$30,000 in FY 2021, Fisher second; all in favor.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 7:29 pm, Rice second; all in favor.

## 8. Liquor Commission

- Gannon moved to approve a Special Event Permit for American Crafted Spirits Inc dba SILO Distillery for an event being held at the Wilmington Inn on November 7, 2018, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of LC at 7:30 pm

## 9. Correspondence to/from Selectboard

## 10. Other Business

## 11. Select Board Members Comments and Other Action Items

Gannon would like to be sure the Board understand the revenues and that they are accurate within the budget; valuations on commercial properties. Vt's credit rating was reduced which will affect the interest rates should we need to borrow in the future. Mann Road work received some complaints/request for information regarding shoulder and driveway work. Road closures should be posted online.

Fitzgerald- nice farewell to the police chief yesterday.

## 12. Town Manager's Updates

- Twice Blessed donated \$200 to Memorial Hall
- WSWMD no longer has responsibility over the recycling containers. Discussions are happening with TAM about what will happen when they become un-roadworthy.
- We should be receiving energy credits soon from the solar project.
- Deerfield Valley Rescue would like to be on the next agenda to discuss an article for funds at town meeting.
- TAM discussion regarding public/private transfer station
- Police Chief's last day is tomorrow. Sgt Murano has signed a conditional offer of employment.

Adjourned at 7:52 pm

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