

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes December 4, 2018

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

Other Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine Richter, Matt Murano, Mark Denault, Gretchen Havreluk, Nicki Steel, DJ Boyd, Mike Eldred, Heidi Taylor, Eric Durocher, Eric St Denis, Fred Houston, Susan Luchsinger, Andrea Berg, Julie Moore, Mary Towne, Kevin Pusey, Glenn Toole

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
 - Andrea Berg wanted to bring to the board her issue with the Hermitage property on West Main St not plowing their section of the parking lot. It has prohibited the use of handicapped spaces and mobility in and out of the lot. She plans to come to the Board at the next meeting to discuss possibly using 1% funds to clear the snow during the winter months.
 - Chief Murano recognizes Detective Mark Denault for his 15 years of service to the Wilmington Police Department. He is an exceptional investigator and a reliable servant to the department. Chief Murano presented Detective Denault with a plaque for his service. Detective Denault has enjoyed his time with Wilmington and has had great experiences.
2. Approve Minutes of November 20, 26 and 29, 2018
 - Rice moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2018, Fisher second; all in favor.
 - Rice moved to approve the minutes of November 26 and 29, 2018, Fisher second; Fisher-aye, Rice-aye, Manwaring-aye, Gannon-aye, Fitzgerald-abstained.
3. Budget Meetings
 - 12/6 @ 5 pm, 12/10 @ 6 pm, 12/13 @ 8 am, 12/17 @ 8 am, 12/21 @ 8 am
 - Reschedule 1/1/19 meeting to 1/8/19
4. 1% Local Option Tax Fund Request
 - The Old Home Week Committee has traditionally received funds from the town. It's hard to come up with solid numbers because only certain things can be done ahead of time. In 2010 OHW received \$35,000 and gave back about \$22,000. They are asking for 1% funds to help them get going on things and when they need more funds they could come back and ask for more. Grants will be sought out to help fund. A Facebook page has been created and a website is being looked at. Depending on fair dates, some costs like tents and porta-potties could be shared. The Committee does do fundraising for the event. Manwaring moved to approve the Old Home Week Committee's 1% request for \$30,000, Fisher second; all in favor.
5. Bi-Town Marketing
 - The Board feels that the billboards are a poor choice and should be removed from the option. New ways to try and track sales are still be looked at and researched. Gannon moved to approve the Bi-town Marketing budget option 2 for 2019 year 1 minus \$20,000 for a total of \$46,500, contingent on the Dover Selectboard also approving, Rice second; all in favor. The Board generally supports Bi-Town marketing work.
6. Action Items
 - Dufresne Group has been selected as the engineer for the South Main St sidewalk project. The project needs to go before the DRB, hearing date January 7, 2019. The curbing and lighting will match West Main St. Hoping to go out to bid for construction in February with construction starting once the snow melts, lasting 4-6 weeks. Each property owner on South Main are applicants through the DRB process. The

Board needs to authorize the Chair or Town Manager to sign the DRB application. Manwaring moved to give the Town Manager the authority to sign the DRB application, Rice second; all in favor.

7. Tax Stabilization

- The town has a tax stabilization policy, approved by the voters, shortly after the flood. Currently the policy is only for a 5-year stabilization, which isn't a huge incentive. Statute allows up to 10 years. In order to adjust this, it has to go back before the voters.

Fitzgerald moved to enter Liquor Commission at 7:32 pm, Rice seconded; all in favor.

8. Liquor Commission

- Fisher moved to approve a First-Class Liquor License for Southern Vermont White House Inn at 178 Route 9 East and for The Maple Leaf Tavern LLC dba The Maple Leaf Tavern, at 3 North Main St, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of Liquor Commission at 7:37 pm

9. Correspondence to/from Selectboard

10. Other Business

11. Select Board Members Comments

Fisher-town attorney has commented that the plastic bag ban could open the town up to liability. The Board agreed to put it on the next agenda.

12. Town Manager's Updates

- Warming shelter was opened during the storm last week. The Police and Fire Chiefs worked together to open this for two days. Shaws, Dunkin Donuts and other businesses donated food and water. Town businesses opened their doors for warmth and electricity usage during the day. Highway had been short staffed so they are now doing tree and debris clean-up. FEMA will be down to look at damage.
- Parking and snow removal are still a challenge.
- Animal bite occurred a couple weeks ago. Stiches were required, the parents didn't want to file an official complaint. The dog was on a retractable leash when the incident occurred. The owner had quarantined the dog and has voluntarily decided to muzzle the dog when in public.
- The Stump Jumpers has asked Bill Hunt to re-route a portion of the trail up Higley Hill and along Miller Road. Bill isn't keen on making the change. Looking into it and gathering more information.
- Police Department is hiring. The residency requirement has been an issue and the Chief is looking at that aspect when looking at candidates.
- Aldrich & Elliott has been chosen for the East Main sewer project. Wayne Elliott suggests asking the sidewalk engineer if they will do the sewer engineering to try to save in some costs.
- A letter of appreciation was sent to Officer Hammond for his calm and cool confidence during a traffic stop.
- Fisher & Fisher is appealing the DRB decision on behalf of the HIREHC regarding the permit extension.

Rice moved to adjourn at 8:31 pm, Fitzgerald 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