

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes October 15, 2019

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine Richter, Meg Staloff, John Lazelle, Michelle Doucette, Dennis Richter, Chuck Clerici, Travis Wheeler, Scott Moore, Doug Wheeler, Bill Spirka, Jake White, Randy Capitani, Matt Murano, Shelley Park, Melanie Lopez

Meeting Called to Order at 6:01 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
 - Add under Other Business, a joint meeting with Whitingham, as requested by Whitingham
 - There is a housing study out and more input is needed. It is in the newsletter, and a card with the information is on the back table. Gannon commented that the demographics are not confidential so it may be turning people away.
2. Approve Minutes of October 1 and October 4, 2019
 - Gannon moved to approve the minutes of October 1 and October 4, 2019, Manwaring second; Fisher abstained.
3. Action Items
 - Fisher moved to approve the Resolution approving the town HRA plan for 2019, and authorized Scott Tucker as representative to execute the plan, Gannon second; all in favor.
4. Health Insurance
 - The current plan is no longer offered due to state and federal law. BCBS Platinum is what is being recommended. If the plan had stayed in place from 2018 to now, the increase would have been 7-8% each year. MVP would be a savings, but we are still waiting on questions to get answered.
5. Public Safety Facility Committee
 - The Public Safety Facilities is recommending the old town garage site for the public safety facility. Proximity to Fire volunteers, town owned-no acquisition costs, water and sewer already on site; are some of the reasons this site was chosen. Police presence in the center of town is a focus as well. Manwaring moved to support the public safety recommendation to proceed with the old town highway garage, Gannon second. Staloff suggested that there is a plan for the whole neighborhood that will address other needs like traffic flow, pedestrian safety, community gathering space, substantial parking. There is a planning grant available that could help with some of this. Michelle Doucette feels that the town needs a town green space; as is stated in many of the reports that had been done after Tropical Storm Irene. She doesn't feel a 5-bay building that would use up the whole lot is the best use of that space. Vote; all in favor. A feasibility study is the next step.
6. Gifts Policy
 - The Selectboard reviewed the employee gift receiving policy. Manwaring feels that the policy should be written so that employees do not receive gifts. Many gifts are given in the form of baked goods or something that can be shared with the whole department. A draft will be written up.

7. Other Business/Correspondence

- Our board can go to Whitingham since they are initiating the meeting; but Halifax should also be invited.

8. Select Board Members Comments

- Gannon thought that it might be worth mentioning to departments at our next department head meeting how important economic development is; we have lost about 500 people in town.
- Fitzgerald commented on the town fair.
- Fisher would like someone to look at the distillery on Hogback. It is so scary to go through there with all the traffic. She mentioned writing a letter to Act250 regarding new legislation.

9. Town Manager's Updates

- US Bankruptcy court issued an order of termination regarding a property that had gone to tax sale.

10. Executive Session

- Fitzgerald moved to find that premature general public knowledge of the employee evaluation would place the town at a substantial disadvantage, Fisher second; all in favor.
- Fitzgerald moved to enter into executive session at 8:12 pm under 1 vsa 313 to discuss an employee evaluation, Gannon second; all in favor.

Out of executive session at 8:37 pm, no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 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