

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2020

Present: Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon, Vince Rice, Sarah Fisher

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Gretchen Havreluk, Meg Staloff, Mike Eldred, Chuck Clerici, Jessica Lee Smith, Lisa Sullivan, Matt Murano, Therese Lounsbury, Adam Grinold

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
2. Approve Minutes of June 16, 23, 29 and amended minutes of June 5, 2020.
 - Gannon moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 23 and 29, 2020, Fisher second; all in favor.
 - Gannon moved to approve the amended minutes of June 5, 2020, Fisher second; 3-0, Rice abstained.
3. Police Department Update
 - Chief Murano discussed 18-months of work pursuing an imbedded social worker for Wilmington and Deerfield Valley to include Windham County Sheriff's Office and Dover Police Department. The social worker selected is Knowles Wentworth who works for HCRS, the primary organization providing crisis, substance abuse and mental health services. In the future, the social worker will work (i.e. connecting people to needed services) in the field with police officers; currently; this is a grant and he works 20-hours per week remotely because of COVID-19 constraints. Gannon said good work by the Chief and pointed out other police agencies are doing the same.
4. Public Safety Facility Committee
 - Gannon moved to approve the updated charge (resolution) for the Public Safety Facility Committee and reappointments (Chief Murano, Chief Moore, Mr. Chuck Clerici, Ms. Melanie Lopez, Mr. Jeremy White, Mr. Dennis Richter), Rice second; all in favor.
5. 1% Local Option Tax Fund
 - Public Safety Facility Committee Chair, Clerici explain the request for \$9,400 is outside the architect's agreement (as are security and communications consultants) for a Geotechnical Investigation at the building site - to perform borings at important locations for footings to inform planning and design, rather than assuming the worst case scenario which will affect construction cost for the proposed building. Gannon asked about additional costs not assumed by the architect as this is second visit by the committee in a month; Clerici explained the possible security and communications consulting. Grinold indicated that when the 1% Local Option Tax Fund was established the purpose and discussion was about community and economic development, not to reduce taxpayer burden; he feels this project was proposed to have broad public support, rather than using 1% Fund to reduce taxes. Fisher moved to approve \$9,400 for a geotechnical investigation for the Public Safety Facility Project, Rice seconded; Rice-aye, Fisher-aye, Fitzgerald-aye, Gannon - no; motion passed.
 - Wilmington Works, Lisa Sullivan and Meg Staloff explain the summer version of the holiday "Eat, Sleep, Shop Local" program running for 6-years, requesting \$5,000, if the ACCD RFP -

CARES Act request is not granted. This summer program will include a matching request from the Dover Selectboard. Gannon moves to approve \$5,000 to Wilmington Works for the Eat, Sleep, Shop Local Deerfield Valley SUMMER program, Fisher seconded; all in favor.

6. Other Business

7. Select Board Members Comments

- Gannon sent an email to the town manager and area administrators that the Legislature passed and the Governor signed H. 966 on July 2nd, on the availability of \$15 million, with \$12.65 million available through grants to counties and towns to reimburse them for eligible COVID-19 expenses.
- Fitzgerald drove by Green Mountain Beach at Lake Raconda over the July 4th weekend and found activities to be relatively mild; while Whitingham was packed.

8. Town Manager's Updates

- The Wilmington-Stratton Resurfacing Project is underway along Route 100 through the towns of Wilmington, Dover and Stratton.
- Legal work is underway for the Water District Purchase and Sale Agreement / Water District Merger Agreement.

9. Executive Session

- Fitzgerald moved to find that premature general public knowledge of attorney-client communications would put the town at a substantial disadvantage, Rice second; all in favor.
- Fitzgerald moved to enter into executive session at 6:47 p.m., to include the town manager, under T1 VSA 313(a)(1) to discuss attorney-client communications, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of executive session at 6:58 p.m.

Gannon moved to approve the Town of Wilmington, Vermont, Vacant Selectboard Seat - Resolution to Appoint, Fisher second; all in favor. The Selectboard will search for a qualified voter to appoint to the vacant seat by August 18, 2020, pursuant to the requirements of T 24 VSA 963(a) to serve until an election is had for the seat.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica DeFrancesco, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher
