

Wilmington Selectboard/Sewer Commission
February 1, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Present: Tom Fitzgerald, Susan Haughwout, Vince Rice **Absent:** John Gannon, Diane Chapman

Others Present: Town Manager Scott Murphy, Jessica DeFrancesco, Tom Consolino, John Lazelle, Craig Ohlson, Chris Mays–Brattleboro Reformer, Mike Eldred–Deerfield Valley News

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to Agenda

- Consolino requested that the Selectboard take a closer look at the Open Meeting Law, in particular subsections 312–314, which pertain to Right to Attend Meetings of Public Agencies, Executive Sessions, and Penalty and Enforcement. Haughwout suggested this subject be put on a future agenda.
- Fitzgerald added a possible Executive Session to the end of the meeting

2. Approve Minutes of January 18, 2017 and January 23, 2017

Haughwout moved to approve the minutes of January 18 and January 23, 2017, Rice second; all in favor.

3. Action Items

The Selectboard signed the Legal Notice for the previously approved sale of Town owned land to David Boliver.

Haughwout moved to officially accept receipt of the Planning Commission's proposed Town Plan as set forth in the Planning Commission Report dated January 3, 2017, Rice second; all in favor.

Ohlson suggested that the Selectboard and Planning Commission have a work session to address questions before the hearing. The Board agreed and would like to meet with the Planning Commission on March 15, 2017 during their regular meeting. They will set a hearing date at that time.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 6:10 pm, Haughwout second; all in favor.

4. Liquor Commission

Haughwout moved to approve a Second Class liquor license renewal for Jolley Associates, LLC dba Short Stop #147), Rice second; all in favor.

Haughwout moved to approve a Request to Cater permit and an Open Container Exemption Permit for Twice Blessed for events at Memorial Hall, catered by Wilmington Village Pub, Inc on 5/27/17, 6/24/17, 7/22/17, 8/19/17, 9/16/17, 10/7/17, Rice second; all in favor.

Exited Liquor Commission at 6:12 pm

5. Personnel Policy Changes

Haughwout felt that since the policy pertained to her and her staff as well that she should recuse herself. This left the Selectboard with no quorum to vote. It will be addressed at the next Selectboard meeting.

Fitzgerald moved to enter Sewer Commission at 6:14 pm, Rice second; all in favor.

6. Sewer Commission: Possibly Approve the FY 18 Waste Water Budget

Lazelle reviewed the Wastewater budget. There was a \$13,800 surplus from FY16 that was rolled over to FY18. The only major change was the bond payment. Haughwout moved to approve the FY 18 Waste Water budget and set the ECU rate at \$445.50, Fitzgerald second; all in favor.

Exited Sewer Commission at 6:17 pm.

7. SeVEDS Request for Funding

SeVEDS has requested \$5,628 for funding through the 1% Local Option Tax for regional economic development. Haughwout moved to approve a \$5,628 expenditure from the 1% Local Option Tax Fund for the SeVEDS request, Rice second; all in favor.

8. Whitingham Selectboard Proposal

The Selectboard discussed the proposal by the Whitingham Selectboard to challenge the State on school funding inequities. There is currently no plan in place for the funds if approved and they are unsure if their voters will approve the expense. The Wilmington Selectboard supports the grief that Whitingham is feeling but agree not to add an article to the Wilmington Town Meeting Warning asking voters to appropriate \$100,000.

9. Correspondence to/from

10. Other Business

Fitzgerald informed the rest of the Selectboard that Diane Chapman has resigned. Her term has one year left. The vacancy will be posted for ten days and then the Board can discuss and interview any who show interest in filling the remainder of the term.

Lazelle asked if there was a specific reason or event that caused her resignation. Fitzgerald commented that her letter stated she can't in good conscience remain on the Board.

Eldred asked if it was too late to add someone to the ballot? Yes it is too late. A special election could be held, or the Selectboard could appoint someone, which is most likely the direction this will take.

11. Select Board Members Comments and Other Action Items

12. Town Manager's Report

Murphy told the Board that the Town, along with himself, Chief Szarejko and one officer have been served a lawsuit. This is from a 2013 Dover case that Wilmington Police Dept assisted on. It has been reviewed by VLCT and the Town Attorney is on the PACIF list of attorneys, so they will be able to handle the case.

Highway Salt-salt line item is close to being spent, at 69% of budgeted amount. It is a front heavy line item so they may not go over budget. It will depend on the weather.

Look Rd Bridge-Daniels Company is still working hard. Haughwout mentioned that no one has complained about the construction so far.

Haughwout moved to adjourn at 6:35 pm, Rice 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

Susan Joy Haughwout

Diane Chapman