

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes December 17, 2019

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine Richter, Todd Gareiss, Ellen Ostrander, Chuck and Mazey Clerici, Dennis Richter, Matt Murano, Sasha Kondraski, Andrew Kirkman, Scott Moore, Meg Staloff, Gretchen Havreluk, Michelle Doucette, Jessica Smith, Mike Eldred, Adam Grinold

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
 - Todd Gareiss read a statement encouraging the Selectboard to halt the public safety facility project until more research is done; feels it is being rushed.
 - Add approve minutes of December 4, 2019 to item #2.
2. Approve Minutes of December 3, 4 and 9, 2019
 - Rice moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 4 and 9, 2019, Manwaring second; all in favor.
3. Police Department
 - Chief Murano introduced Officer Kirkman and Officer Kondraski as full time officers who completed the academy in November. Officer Kirkman has received many warm welcomes since starting his employment. Officer Kondraski feels she has been welcomed with open arms.
4. Public Safety Committee
 - The Selectboard discussed the work previous committees had done prior to this point, as well as the current committee's work. An RFP went out and seven bids were received in early December. The committee scored the bids individually and then combined them to get final scores. NBF and NCA were the two top bids, though all seven were good bids. The committee was split up to check references and get some additional questions answered. A feasibility study and schematic design is the first step to make sure the site will work. The committee recommends contracting for the study and design with NBF for \$39,000 in time for town meeting. \$39,000 would be contracted now and \$221,000 would be voted on at town meeting. There is no conclusion as to whether the Haynes Hall and Allen Barn would need to be moved. NBF is Rutland based, and that makes the committee more comfortable, should ACT 250 come into play. They have done similar projects. There are some bonds that will be paid off when this bonding comes due for repayment. Murano stated that this feasibility study will have a lot of information that is not currently available. Both NBF and NCA are happy to work in community use to the site; green space, landscaping, etc. Michelle Doucette asked if there was opportunity to have input in the design process; one meeting for public to give input. Both firms have mentioned community involvement. Grinold thinks there may be other solutions that would include other communities. Rice moved to approve the recommendation to use NBF for the feasibility study of a public safety facility at the former highway garage on Beaver St for \$39,000, Fisher second; all in favor. Special meeting at 8 am on 12/23 to vote on funding.

5. Errors and Omissions
 - Fisher moved to accept the Errors and Omissions List for adjustments to the 2019 Grand List, Rice second; all in favor.
6. Action Items
 - Fitzgerald moved to accept, with regret, the resignation of Sheilah McConnell from the Recreation Committee, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Rice moved to appoint Stacie Brooks to the Old Home Week Committee, Fisher second; all in favor.
7. Other Business/Correspondence
8. Select Board Members Comments
 - Manwaring; WRC has received a grant to do a lot of the groundwork that any one town would have to do when starting a broadband project. There will be a meeting in January. Suggested possibly taking this to town meeting.
9. Town Manager's Updates
 - A contract was signed with a new police officer. He will need to go to the full-time academy in February.
 - Legal work for the water district merger has begun.
10. Executive Session
 - Fitzgerald moved to find that premature general public knowledge of confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the body 1 VSA 313(a)(1) would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Fitzgerald moved to enter executive session at 7:40 pm under T 1 VSA 313(a)(1) to discuss confidential attorney-client communications, to include the town manager, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Out of executive session at 8:02 pm; no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 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