

## Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2021

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon, Vince Rice (6:28 pm), Sarah Fisher, Tony Tribuno

**Others Present:** Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Meg Staloff, Therese Lounsbury, Julie Koehler, Tracy Bartels, Nicki Steel, Deb Boyd, Amelia Nick, Mary Genella, Gretchen Havreluk

### Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
2. Approve Minutes of October 5, 2021
  - Tribuno moved to approve the minutes of October 5, 2021, Fisher second; all in favor.
3. Action Item(s):
  - The Selectboard set a date for the zoning ordinance amendment hearing for January 4, 2021 at 6 pm
  - Gannon moved to approve Peckham Industries' bid for winter sand for the 2021-22 season at \$17.20/cy for sand and \$21/cy for gravel delivered, Fisher second; all in favor.
4. Mail-In Ballots
  - Unless the Selectboard chooses to do town meeting differently, we would go back to floor voting. A decision by the second meeting in November would be helpful for the Town Clerk. Also, whether to mail-out ballots to all voters again.
5. Old Home Week
  - Nicki Steel and Mary Genella updated the Selectboard on OHW 2020/21. The committee bought everything they could in the valley, or bought as close to the valley as they could. At least 350 people went to the event at Adam's Farm; including many locals who are not seen around town often. Monique White raised \$10,000 in sponsorships; Bonnie Lorimer stepped up to help with the parade; the committee members worked very hard during all the meetings. Old Home Week has a 131-year history. Total expenses were about \$33,000 and revenues came to \$55,737. There is \$22,688 coming back to the town. (Vince arrived). The Selectboard and Havreluk thanked the committee for their hard work in making the event happen.
6. Beaver Brook Children's School Update
  - Julie Koehler gave an update on the children's school opening at OSEC. The original plan was to open pre-k in September and infant care in October. They are close to being ready to open. The biggest delay is the furniture delivery. There are 20 families already signed up. Spent \$42,000 on improvements so far, staying in the original budget. Open House next Friday October 29<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm. Awarded a \$45,000 grant, and \$15,940 grant, and are applying for one more. Flooring, painting, construction, electrical and plumbing was covered with the funds awarded by the town and local businesses were used as much as possible.
7. 1% Local Option Tax Fund
  - The Planning Commission is applying for a Bylaw Modernization Grant. There is a 25% forgiveness if it is enacted by a certain deadline. Gannon moved to approve a request for \$3800 for a Bylaw Modernization Grant Program, and approve the Resolution, Fisher second; all in favor.

8. Mt Snow Update

- Tracy Bartels updated the Selectboard on the upcoming winter season. Summer was a great season; biking, conferences, and weddings. Valve houses have been updated to keep employees safer. "Epic Mix" app has been created with numerous features including calling for rescue. Over 80% of the staff received a wage increase. Face masks will be required indoors; indoor dining will require proof of vaccine. Reservations to ski will no longer be required. Internationals are being recruited for employment; all employees must be vaccinated.

9. Other Business

10. Selectboard Members Comments

- Gannon commented that according to Act 160 we would have to have an in-person meeting to vote on moving to Australian ballot. There are some parties concerned with Wilmington not being the first responders for Somerset and there will be a meeting held at the Deerfield Valley Rescue building on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m., organized by Rep. Sibilia and Rep. Gannon

11. Town Manager's Updates

- We are still waiting for the final Lake Raponda Dam report. There is enough information gathered during the inspection where some work could be started. Highway completed some work; after publishing a public notice to remove boats, they will be moved to the upper parking lot; trees need to be cleared to 15' away from the dam; and signage will then be put up noticing the 15' maintenance and protection buffer.
- Have been sitting in on ARPA webinars

12. Executive Session

- Fitzgerald moved to find that premature general public knowledge of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program will put the town at a substantial disadvantage, Tribuno second; all in favor.
- Fitzgerald moved to enter into executive session at 7:13 pm to include the town manager, to discuss the possible purchase/buyout of buildings for the Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF) application, and for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) application, Fisher second, all in favor.

Out of executive session at 7:53 pm; no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica DeFrancesco, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

-----  
Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

-----  
John Gannon, Vice Chair

-----  
Vince Rice, Clerk

-----  
Sarah Fisher

-----  
Tony Tribuno