

**Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2022**

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon, Vince Rice, Sarah Fisher, Tony Tribuno

**Others Present:** Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine Richter, Gretchen Havreluk, Kathleen Comeau, Marshall Dix, Bob Bois, Bob Harnish, Al Wakefield, Carolyn Palmer, Heidi Taylor, Samantha Prince, Amelia Nick, Jessica Lee Smith, Therese Lounsbury, Betty Hillman

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

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
  - #5 moved to November meeting
  - Under action items add the resignation of Rebecca Sweeney from the Green Up Committee
2. Approve Minutes of September 20, 2022
  - Tribuno moved to approve the minutes of September 20, 2022, Fisher second; 4-0.
3. Action Items
  - Gannon moved to appoint Kathleen Comeau to the Beautification Committee for remainder of a 4-year term expiring 2023, Rice second; all in favor.
  - Fitzgerald moved to appoint Bob Bois as WRC representative for remainder of a 1-year term, Tribuno second; all in favor.
  - Gannon moved to accept the snow removal bid from Saladino Property Maintenance, Rice second; all in favor.
  - Gannon moved to approve the purchase of a skidsteer with additional equipment from the Highway Equipment Capital in the amount of \$30,000, Rice second; all in favor.
  - Fitzgerald moved to accept, with deep regret, the resignation of Rebecca Sweeney as Co-Chair for Green Up, Rice second; all in favor.
4. Inclusion Initiative
  - The Inclusion Initiative is an initiative asking towns to be a welcome and unbiased place. A total of 71 towns in Vermont have adopted the Declaration. Gannon moved approve the Declaration of Inclusion, Tribuno second; all in favor.
5. Trails
  - Moved to November meeting
6. Health Insurance
  - There is an increase this year, but there was a sizeable decrease in premiums last year. Comparing 2021 to 2023, there is about a 6% increase, which is standard. Gannon moved to approve the Health Plan for 2023, Rice second; all in favor.
7. ARPA Request
  - The request is being asked as ARPA or 1%. The Trustees are looking for the Town to give the Librarian \$5000 outside of the \$60,000 request. Jessica Lee Smith wanted to state her support for the library. Gannon moved to approve \$65,000 from Pettee Memorial Library, from the 1% Local Option Tax, Rice second; all in favor.

## 8. Social Services

- Deerfield Valley Rescue–appropriation increase of \$10,000; short on volunteers and have had to hire people to cover shifts at very high rates, increase in fuel and supply costs. Will probably come back for an increase next year as well. General consensus to accept the increase.
- Windham County Safe Place–New Request; started a local group for kids age 14–18 that have survived any type of trauma, they are asking all towns in Windham County for a portion of their budget. They are asking for \$750. This would apply to things that grants don't pay for like gas cards to help families commute to the location. Police, DCF, medical all go to SafePlace, rather than them sending people to these other services. They do forensic interviews for people of all ages. Kids are referred to SafePlace by DCF or a medical provider. Their environment isn't sterile, it is very inviting and comfortable. Jessica Lee Smith asked about the privacy of reporting. General consensus to warn the request.

## 9. Other Business

### 10. Select Board Members Comments

- Gannon asked about plans for renovating the first floors–paint, clean carpets
- Marlboro and Halifax are changing state highway districts to ours.

### 11. Town Manager's Updates

- Wilmington and Dover Selectboards will meet via zoom for a Bi-Town Campaign presentation
- Kathy Larsen may be looking for a new team to takeover Green Up
- Town attorney's fees will be increasing \$50/hr as of December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Highway has hired Lorne Betit to fill the open space.
- Rec Committee has started the process of opening a youth center for after school at OSEC

### 12. Executive Session

- Fitzgerald moved to find that premature general public knowledge of the real estate would place the town at a substantial disadvantage, Rice second; all in favor.
- Fitzgerald moved to enter into executive session at 7:16pm, to include the Town Manager, to discuss the possible real estate sale, Rice second; all in favor.  
Out of executive session at 7:25 pm
- Gannon moved to approve the sale of Parcel ID 005–01–016.00, known as Oxbow, Legal Notice and Authorizing Resolution, Rice second; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica DeFrancesco, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

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Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

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John Gannon, Vice Chair

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Vince Rice, Clerk

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Sarah Fisher

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Tony Tribuno