

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes November 21, 2023

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Marshall Dix, Tim Dolan, Gretchen Havreluk, Thomas Simmons, Katie Boyd, Andrea Seaton, Bryce Boyer, Dawn Lowe, Samantha Kondracki, Fred Marra, Bethaney LaClair, Shannon Wheeler, Donna Rooney, Jeanine Quicker, Daniel Derose, JD Roberto, Chris Lariviere, Arnold Katz, Fred Marra, Hugo Gomes, Morgan Rothblat, Marie Gatti, Shawn Wagner, Michele Carlson, Greg Savino, Kelli Gould, Thomas Elkind, Kevin Barnes, John Lebron, Adam Rinne, Carrie Polglase, Jessica Lee Smith, Lisa Sullivan, Evan Steiner, Therese Lounsbury, Bonnie Lorimer, Mel Lopez

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
2. Approve Minutes of November 7, 2023
 - Gannon moved to approve the minutes of November 7, 2023, Rice second; all in favor.
3. Social Services
 - Senior Solutions; responded to 53 calls from Wilmington seniors, have time at the OFH twice a month, provide 20% match to MOOver for trips made for residents; request \$1,000.
 - Grace Cottage; 31,000 patient visits per year at primary care. Emergency room volume is increasing. The are approved to build a physician clinic. 177 residents from Wilmington use Grace Cottage for primary care; request \$2,500.
 - Wings; re-applying for grant this year which requires a 50% match. Other towns contribute to this program. TVES summer program had over 120 kids registered each week; request \$11,000.
 - VNH; no show
 - SafePlace; no show
4. 1% Local Option Tax Fund Request
 - Bi-Town 2024 Digital Marketing Campaign; the click-rate/search doubled in the fall. Tik-Tok and Instagram reels were utilized. Over 4-million impressions and 9500 clicks on the website, with over 23-million impressions for the year and 54,949 clicks on the website. Offered a partial grant in the amount of \$38,400 from the Vermont GROW Program. Would like to create a new position of content creator. A new campaign will be needed; photos, videos, media. The request is about \$50,000 increase from last year. Gannon moved to approve a funding request for the 2024 Digital Marketing Campaign by Bi-Town Marketing Committee in the amount of \$107,548, Fisher second; all in favor.
5. Action Items
 - Fitzgerald move to re-appoint Jessica Roberts to the Town Hall Re-Location Committee, Tribuno second; all in favor.
 - Tribuno moved to accept, with regret, the resignation of Karen Molina from the Recreation Commission, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Planning Commission Chair Lebron requested that the Selectboard send a section back to the Planning Commission, since he isn't comfortable with the last-minute change. Gannon commented that if people have issues with the outcome from the Planning Commission, they

can speak to it at the Selectboard hearing. Fitzgerald moved to receive the proposed Zoning Ordinance and report, Fisher second; all in favor. Meetings will be December 12th and 19th, with a hearing date on January 9, 2024; all at 6 pm.

- Proposal to increase costs to the nearest dollar; increase permits by \$5; seniors change to \$3 per bag. Gannon moved to approve the updated Transfer Station Fee Schedule, effective January 1, 2024, Rice second; all in favor.
- Replacing a 2018 RAM with a Ford F6 and can only get the truck body from one place. Truck prices have gone up significantly. Gannon moved to approve the purchase of a highway truck body from Viking-Cives for \$66,000 and a truck from Autosaver for \$45,351 for a total cost of \$111,951, Tribuno second; all in favor.
- Road sale price is the same as last year, with a different vendor. Gannon moved to accept the road salt quote from Cargill in the amount of \$86/ton, Rice second; all in favor.

6. Other Business/Correspondence

7. Select Board Members Comments

8. Town Manager's Updates

- FEMA has sent the final closeout for the Shafter St and Rt 100 N properties.
- Trails is beginning their work on the parking area.
- Assessor's office is working on the statistical reappraisal.
- One BCA case is going to PVR; plan to shire an outside appraiser for that meeting.
- We dropped the case on the Rt 100 property owner (Sheets) as they came into compliance
- Hitt appeal; abutter (The Vermont Lodge, LLC) appealed the change of use; and an ongoing civil case caused the town to join Hitt's in pausing the appeal in E-Court.
- Status conference on a public record request case regarding attorney's fees. Judge is giving them time to submit a brief. Town attorney stated the town could actually be awarded fees.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher

Tony Tribuno