

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Wayne Elliott, Christine Richter, Sherman Turner, Ivy Kirby-DVN, Therese Lounsbury, Colin Bratton, Carl Boyd, Adam Cohen, Will Galway, Jennifer Betit-Engel, Christian Engel, Chris Lavoy, Merrick Gillies, Dan Zern, Bryce Boyer, Hugo Gomes,

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
2. Approve Minutes of January 2, 9 and 11, 2024
 - Tribuno moved to approve the minutes of January 2, 9 and 11, 2024, Rice second; all in favor.
3. Action Items
 - Tribuno moved to approve the annual Certificate of Highway Mileage, Rice second; all in favor.
4. CC Haynes
 - Carl Boyd is asking for Selectboard support to change the Trustee of the CC Haynes Fund to Pettee Library Trustees. He will need to go to Probate Court. Fisher moved to approve the Resolution for CC Haynes Trust, Rice second; all in favor.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Cannabis Commission at 6:12 pm, Fisher second; all in favor.

5. Cannabis Commission
 - Ratu's gave an update on their first year of business. They have full-time employees with benefits, there is a lot of continuing state compliance, and purchasing products from a local distributor.
 - Tribuno moved to approve a renewal for S-000005793, Retailers for Ratu's Cannabis Supply, LLC, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Fitzgerald moved to approve application S-000003680, Indoor Cultivator Tier 1 Small Cultivator, Nighttime Land Productions LLC, Fisher second; all in favor.

Out of Cannabis Commission at 6:32 pm.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 6:32 pm, Rice second; all in favor.

6. Liquor Commission
 - Fitzgerald moved to approve:
 - A Second-Class Renewal for Ratu's Liquor & Market Inc, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of Liquor Commission at 6:33 pm.

Fitzgerald move to enter into Water and Sewer Commission at 6:34 pm, Rice second; all in favor.

7. Rt 9 Water/Sewer Expansion Update
 - Wayne Elliott gave an update on the Route 9 East Water/Sewer Expansion Project. Cost estimate is challenging. There is still a shortage of contractors. There are challenges regarding the stretch from the bridge to Ballou Hill Rd. At some point in the future, the town may need to look for additional water sources as we get closer to our maximum gallons permitted per day. Colin Bratton, on behalf of WRC, spoke in support of this project and the facilitation of housing and businesses this project could bring.

Out of Water and Sewer Commission at 6:55 pm

8. FY25 Budget

- Total budget is at a 9.54% increase. Flower barrels expenses were moved to 1% Fund and Public Lands and Fences expense line was reduced. Tribuno moved to approve the FY25 budget, \$5,523,520 (amount to be raised), Fisher second; all in favor.

9. 1% Local Option Tax Fund

- Fitzgerald moved to approve an additional \$24,000 for flower barrels, Rice second; all in favor.
- Fisher moved to approve \$150,000 to build new tennis courts and/or pickleball courts out of the floodplain, Rice second; all in favor.

10. Zoning Ordinance Changes

- Fitzgerald moved to approve and recommend the changes to the proposed zoning ordinance to the Planning Commission for subsequent notice and hearing the proposed zoning ordinance, Rice second; all in favor.

11. Other Business/Correspondence

- Zoning Ordinance hearing date; March 12th at 6 pm, reorganization on March 6th at 8:15 am.

12. Selectboard Members Comments

- Gannon; House bill H269 is a problematic bill.

13. Town Manager's Updates

- Some informational materials may go out regarding the Rt 9 expansion project and resolution questions on the ballot.
- Public records lawsuit; attorneys' fee requests were denied for both parties.
- Wastewater discharge permit violation last month, with excessive rainfall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica DeFrancesco

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher

Tony Tribuno