

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes August 20, 2024

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Gretchen Havreluk, Joanne Yankura, Elynn LeBron, Matt Murano, Kate Kirkwood, Sam Kondracki, Carol Bois, Marshall Dix, Jason Dubac, Ivy Kirby, Jessica Roberts, Dawn Lowe, Christine Richter, Lori Higgins, Cliff Leinonen

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
 - Public Comment: Jason Dubac (Woodshed); received a call from the Zoning Administrator (about signage with no permit) and found her to be on a power trip. He feels the per day fine is unfair since the previous ZA didn't keep a record of their previous interaction stating the wood barrier with carvings was allowed. He feels it is selective enforcement.
 - Under action items; to possibly accept the resignation from Matt Cole from the Energy Committee
 - Under action items; to possibly approve a letter of intent for the Road Erosion Inventory grant
 - Under the Opioid Settlement, the amount should be \$5282.04
2. Approve Minutes of July 16 and August 9, 2024
 - Fisher moved to approve the minutes of July 16, 2024, Tribuno second; all in favor.
 - Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of August 9, 2024, Tribuno second; 4-0, Fisher abstained
3. Action Items
 - Tribuno moved to approve the Wilmington Works Letter of Attestation, Rice second; 3-0; Fitzgerald and Gannon abstained.
 - Fitzgerald moved to appoint Elynn LeBron to a 4-year term on the Trail Committee expiring 2028, Tribuno second; all in favor.
 - Tribuno moved to approve granting Voices of Hope a National Opioids Settlement distribution through their fiduciary, Twice Blessed, in the amount of \$5282.04 to help abate the effects of the opioid epidemic on our community, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Tribuno moved to appoint the Town Manager as the voting delegate at VLCT's annual meeting, Fitzgerald second; all in favor.
 - Fitzgerald Fisher second; all in favor.
 - Fisher moved to approve the letter of intent for the Road Erosion Inventory grant, Rice second; all in favor.
4. Hoot Toot and Whistle
 - One bid was received; the Trail Committee approved it to bring to the Selectboard. Gannon moved to approve the bid from Saladino Property Management for the Hoot Toot and Whistle Trail Improvement Project in the amount of \$276,479.15, Fisher second; all in favor.
5. HUD Grant Opportunity
 - Kate Kirkwood, a lead and healthy homes program manager, discussed a regional HUD grant opportunity to mediate lead in homes and rental properties. She is looking for a letter of support for this opportunity. Gannon moved to approve a letter of support for a HUD application to Kate Kirkwood, Tribuno second; all in favor.

6. Tax Stabilization

- Gannon moved to approve a tax stabilization request for The Vermont Lodge at 85 West Main St, Rice second; all in favor.

7. Police Dept

- One officer was appointed to the SRO position, one officer resigned for another local job in early August, and one officer resigned to join another law enforcement agency earlier in the year. Initial on-line advertisements solicited feedback that the pay-rate for police officers needed to increase 17-21% to be competitive. The new pay rate recommendation will help the Police Dept. retain current staff and draw interest for hiring new officers. Gannon moved to approve new pay rates for the Wilmington police officers, Tribuno second; all in favor

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 7:13 pm, Fisher second; all in favor.

8. Liquor Commission

- Gannon moved to approve a Request to Cater Permit for a private event on 9/7/24, catered by Coridon Bratton Catering, and
- An Open Container Ordinance Exemption and Request to Cater Permit for WI Foster LLC dba Wilmington Inn for the Wine & Soup Stroll on September 20, 2024, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of Liquor Commission at 7:17 pm.

9. Other Business/Correspondence

10. Select Board Members Comments

- Gannon commented on how nice the new signs on Town Hall look.

11. Town Manager's Updates

- Tucker thanked the Board for supporting the Zoning Administrator tonight.
- Wastewater has a visit with DEC for a permit renewal on September 24th.
- WCNRCDC is working on a design at Green Mtn Beach for installation of stormwater practices.
- FEMA work from last July's flooding is nearing completion- some reimbursements have been received.
- Floodproofing of Memorial Hall; Jessica D and Ham will attend a site visit on 9/18.
- Water service line inventory has been submitted.
- There is interest in some property on Route 100 that could be purchased perhaps with some state/federal funds, to help with flood mitigation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica DeFrancesco

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher

Tony Tribuno