

**Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon, Vince Rice, Tony Tribuno, Charlie Foster

**Others Present:** Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Christine Richter, Gretchen Havreluk, Bethaney LaClair, Therese Lounsbury, Scott Moore, Bill Spirka

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

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
  - Under other business, the Fire Dept to give an update on grant received for a new boat.
2. Approve Minutes of February 4, 2025
  - Tribuno moved to approve the Pre-Town Meeting and regular meeting minutes of February 4, 2025 Rice second; all in favor.
3. Action Items
  - Vince moved to approve the Town Road and Bridge Standards and the Certificate of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards, Tribuno second; all in favor.
4. 1% Local Option Tax Request
  - July 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date of fireworks. Since the holiday is on a Friday, it was difficult to find a date that the company could come out, so fireworks will be on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, with a rain date on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber is asking for an increase due to the cost of fireworks and the certified pyrotechnic. Police are on-site all evening. Tribuno moved to approve a 1% request from the Chamber for the 2025 Fireworks in the amount of \$15,000, Rice second; 4-0, Foster abstained.
5. Town Policies
  - Delinquent Tax Policy; last year the state made changes to how and when you can collect at tax sale. The new statute says taxes have to be 12-months delinquent before a town can take parcels to tax sale; we have been doing it by two installments.
  - Utility Policy; water and sewer billing are now combined, so a policy has been created, and the old sewer policy will need to be rescinded.
  - Foster moved to approve the Delinquent Tax Policy, the Delinquent Utilities Policy, and rescind the 2007 Delinquent Sewer Policy, Rice second; all in favor.
6. Route 9 Construction Updates
  - Route 9 Infrastructure- total cost \$5,084,000 and we have \$5,240,000 in funding. A USDA application will be submitted in April and if granted it will be in lieu of bonding, with a lower rate and some possible forgiveness. There is no ACT 250 for this project, wetlands reviewing is in progress and water/sewer has

been received; VTrans 1111 permit application can wait until the project gets closer. Construction should start in fall of 2025 and completed in 2026. Easements have been created, but property owners have not signed, yet; all are expected to sign;

- East Main sewer line- \$836,750 estimated cost; still applying for funding. Easements have been reviewed, and are with the state for the final stamp of approval. Getting utility lines off poles and moved to the new poles has been difficult; Duncan Cable, CCI and Firstlight need to be moved next so the project can move forward.
- Hoot Toot and Whistle – had to do an amended grant agreement with VOREC due to increased permitting cost. Applied for another grant of \$62,504 bringing the total to \$390,204.

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 6:24 pm, all in favor.

#### 7. Liquor Commission

Fitzgerald moved to approve, Rice second; all in favor.

- A First- and Third-Class and Outside Consumption Renewal for Wilmington Village Pub;
- A First- and Third-Class and Outside Consumption renewal for L&W Hospitality dba Nutmeg Inn;
- A Second-Class Renewal for Bearclaw Holdings LLC dba River Valley Market;

Fitzgerald moved to approve, Rice second; 4-0, Foster abstained.

- An Open Container Ordinance Exemption and Request to Cater for the Beer & Chili Stroll on March 28, 2025 from 4-7 pm at Memorial Hall, Pickwells Barn, The Village Roost, Bartleby's Books, VT House, Jim McGrath's Art Gallery and Ratu's, catered by WI Foster LLC;
- A First- and Third-Class and Outside Consumption Renewal for WI Foster LLC,

Out of Liquor Commission at 6:27 pm

#### 8. Other Business/Correspondence

- Assign town meeting articles
- Fire Dept update on grant for a new boat; have been looking at a pontoon style boat made for the rocky type of water we have in town. Spirka found a used boat that looks like it would work. He applied for a grant in the amount of \$29,847. The Board agrees that it sounds like a great idea. The Firefighters Association receives the boat/grant, turning it over to the town, and the town insures it.

#### 9. Selectboard Members Comments

- Foster asked about the vacant building ordinance and if owners are being fined. Some buildings are having conversations with zoning and legal.

- It is Gannon's last meeting on the Board and he thanked everyone. He has enjoyed working with all of the staff.

10. Town Manager's Updates

- MERP; required to hire a consultant for MH to review the windows.
- The plowing that has been done this season has been exceptional. There are always complaints about noise or snow not being cleaned up "fast enough". The beeping at night is for safety and can't be turned off. Sidewalks are done at night but many times start earlier than their contracted time of 11 pm.
- Gallup Pitch 75 acres have been sold.
- WCSWMD had a meeting about a joint RFP for hauling. We are in the middle of a contract and will see what happens this time around
- Lake Raponda Dam; MSK Engineering is working on the plan for the town.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica DeFrancesco

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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Tony Tribuno

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Charlie Foster