

## Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2025

**Present:** Tom Fitzgerald, Vince Rice, Charlie Foster, John Lebron. Absent: Tony Tribuno,

**Others Present:** Scott Tucker, Marshall Dix, John Lazelle, Therese Lounsbury, John Gannon, David Richman, Kathleen Comeau, Carol Sewall, Anne Soranno, Jessica Smith.

### Meeting called to order 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
  - David Richman commented that Fairview Ave is a disaster with potholes, there is wood on properties along Route 9 that was cut by GMP last year, and crushed stone along the side of the road on Castle Hill after repaving resulted in gravel on lawns after the snow season.
  - Under #5 add an update on the Class 4 section of Riley Boyd Road.
2. Approve minutes of May 20, 2025
  - Foster moved to approve the minutes of May 20, 2025, Rice second; all in favor.
3. Action Items
  - Fitzgerald moved to appoint Carol Sewall to the Beautification Committee, Rice second; all in favor.
  - Fitzgerald moved to approve the scope of work for FY25 audit from Sullivan, Powers & Co, Foster second; all in favor.
  - The Selectboard authorized the Town Manager to sign the agreement with Windham Regional Commission for the Town Plan Update by general consent.
  - Fitzgerald moved to appoint DRB alternate John Gannon as a regular member, term expires 2026, Rice second. Lebron does not think Gannon's candidacy should be considered since he is not a full-time resident, and is adamantly opposed. Lebron asked for a roll-call: Lebron, nay; Fitzgerald, aye; Foster, aye; Rice, aye. Motion passed 3-1.
4. Emergency Management Plan
  - Fitzgerald moved to approve the 2025 Local Emergency Management Plan, Rice second; all in favor.
5. Highway Superintendent Updates
  - Dix outlined ANR's site visit to the Transfer Station on Miller Road; issues cured within a couple of days from receipt of emailed report in May. A major concern was to keep prohibited items out of the burn pile, place lead-acid batteries on an impervious surface, update town website that household batteries are not to be disposed in the trash, handle refrigerant-containing appliances with care, and replace the leaning gas vent on the old landfill. All repairs completed.
  - Dix described Buzzy Towne Park resiliency work and improvements to be done this summer.
  - Dix reported improvements being made by a landowner (Corse) on the Class 4 portion of Riley Boyd Road for logging purposes; logging expected to take place during the winter time. A permit was issued for this work. The town does not maintain this Class 4 portion of the road.

Fitzgerald moved to go into the Sewer Commission at 6:45 p.m., Rice second; all in favor.

#### 6. Sewer Commission

- Fitzgerald moved to approve a connection permit for a one-bedroom cottage at 58 Winter Haven Drive, Rice second; all in favor.
- Rice moved to approve a connection permit for a four-bedroom house at 69 Ray Hill Road, Foster second; all in favor.
- Fitzgerald moved to approve an allocation application for a two-bedroom STR at 5 North Main Street at 230 gpd, Rice second; all in favor.
- Foster moved to approve an allocation application for 8 restaurant seats at 24 West Main Street at 240 gpd, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of Sewer Commission at 6:55 p.m.

#### 7. 1% request

- Lebron moved to approve a 1% request from the Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee in the amount of \$30,000 for celebration events and memorabilia, Foster second; all in favor. Therese Lounsbury gave an overview of events and celebrations that will last for 76-days, and read the June 17, 1775, proclamation from Philadelphia, the Second Continental Congress having finalized the terms of Washington's commission and prepares the document for delivery. It went on to announce violence on Breed's Hill outside Boston, where American Forces entrenched on high ground and repelled British assaults ... The courage of American militia astonishes all!

Fitzgerald moved to enter into Liquor Commission at 7:15 p.m., Rice second; all in favor.

#### 8. Liquor Commission

The Liquor Commission to possibly approve:

- Rice moved to approve a Request to Cater Permit for WI Foster for an event at Chimney Hill Club House on 7/5/25 from 2-5:30 p.m., and
- A Special Event Permit for VT Distillers for an event at the Wilmington Inn on 6/30/25 from 5-9 p.m., Fitzgerald second; all in favor, 3-0, Foster abstained.
- Foster moved to approve a Special Event Permit for VT Distillers at the Blueberry Block Party on 8/2/25 from 4-9 p.m., and
- A Second-Class renewal for Starfire Bakery, and
- A First - and Third-Class renewal for Maple Leaf Tavern, Rice second; all in favor.

Out of Liquor Commission at 7:18 p.m.

#### 9. Other Business/Correspondence

- None.

#### 10. Select Board Members Comments

- Foster - expect the new Chamber Director Mary Ann Montano to visit the Selectboard soon.
- Foster asking how town will address Richman's comments. Town Manager will discuss further with Highway Supt. It has been raining every week since January, pot holes develop on gravel roadways, and the town has spent considerable resources replacing culverts along the road, grading takes place on a regular schedule. Paving, numerous complaints about high speeds, with increasing volume of traffic, has been discussed.

- Rice asking about sidewalk projects – town still waiting for utilities to move their lines from the old poles to the new ones. GMP and Duncan completed their line transfers. Awaiting Consolidated and FirstLight.

#### 11. Town Manager's Updates

- A scoping report and presentation on alternatives for Bridge #31, replacement scheduled by AOT for 2029, expected in Aug/Sep 2025.
- Awaiting state review of request to install two GMP poles, on old Sprague property on Route 100 N that is town owned through a FEMA buyout, to facilitate electricity to an abutting landowner across the bridge/river.
- Explained changes in the Assessor's Office for the short term, with Finance Officer and Administrative Assistant working closely with NEMRC and the Assessor to meet deadlines for lodging of the Grand List Abstract, mailings of Notices, scheduling for Grievances, mailing results, and lodging of the Grand List, and scheduling a Special Meeting of the Selectboard to set the rates for FY-26 estimated on or about July 18<sup>th</sup>.
- A few more updates on Highway, having received A Better Roads Grant with Windham Regional Commission Jeff Nugent, GIS Planner, assisting in updating Road Erosion Inventory for MRPG; \$12,480, includes an in-kind match; Lake Raponda 1000-ft section reclamation and rebuild is complete, with 3,000 feet more to go over 3-years – project cost \$60,000 in material + 630-man hours; Chimney Hill Road milling has begun, with paving to begin June 26<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting; stumps are being pulled on Haynes Road and a few others to improve road width.
- Vermont DEC, Dam Safety Program, penned a review of MSK's March report on the health of the Lake Raponda Dam and plans for improvement. There will be a meeting scheduled soon between MSK Engineers and the state to discuss questions raised.
- Legal Corner – three cases in Windham Superior Court Appeals of BCA decisions: 43 Stearns Way (Lacombe); 140 Elwell Heights Road (Zyskowski); and 21 Aldrich Road (Zahringer).

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Tucker

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

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Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

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Vince Rice, Vice Chair

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Tony Tribuno, Clerk

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Charlie Foster

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John Lebron