

Wilmington Selectboard Meeting Minutes July 21, 2026

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

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica Archambault, Marshall Dix, Sarah Kociela, Russ Beaudoin, Bob Fisher, Wayne and Jennifer Corse, Sam Kondracki, Cory Ross, John Lazelle, Jim Wiesner, Jessica Smith, Jason Dubac, Pam Greene, Therese Lounsbury, Gretchen Havreluk, Andrea Haynes, Reed Fay, Christine and Dennis Richter, Sara Molina, Sam Twining, Randi Capitani, Lynn Barrett, Deb Abbott, Rich Abbott, Olga Peters, Ed Zobitz, Philip and Vera Eisenberg.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Visitors, Public Comments, Possible Changes to the Agenda
 - Jason Dubac commented on conflict of interest.
 - Add Memorial Hall storm windows to Action Items.
 - Add resolution request from Town of Brattleboro to Other Business
 - Add Chamber Banners to Action Items
2. Approve minutes of June 16 and July 9, 2026
 - Tribuno moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2026, Rice second; all in favor
 - Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of July 9, 2026, Foster second; 4-0, Rice abstained.
3. Action Items
 - The Town appealed the COD last year, but they said they never received it. We were at 20.45%; anything over 20% triggers a reappraisal. Assessor Russ Beaudoin suggests sending out an RFP to do a reappraisal. There are very few companies to do them, and Russ will not be doing them in the coming years. Russ suggests following the state's request to go out to RFP and see if you happen to get any bidders. The Board must sign the Reappraisal Order (tonight) and then within 150 days a plan needs to be submitted to PVR. The state is looking to get towns on a 6-year reappraisal rotation by 2030.
 - Lebron moved to approve updates to the no parking section of the Traffic Ordinance (Section 19), Foster second; all in favor.
 - Fitzgerald moved to approve the Downtown Vibrancy Fund Letter of Attestation, Rice second; all in favor.
 - Foster moved to approve the increase of \$19,406.09 for storm windows at Memorial Hall as part of the MERP Grant, Tribuno second; all in favor.
 - The Chamber historically put banners across the state road for the bigger events in town. There are four main events that the Chamber is a part of; Chili Stroll, Fireworks, Wine and Harvest and Blueberry. The banners would be for these four events. Tribuno moved to authorize the annual installation of Southern Vermont Deerfield Valley Chamber of Commerce banners pursuant to 10 VSA 494 (18)(A)(B) for the Chili Stroll, Fireworks, Wine and Harvest Festival, and Blueberry Festival, Rice second; 4-0, Foster abstained.

4. 1% Local Option Tax

- Rice moved to approve \$200,000 for Memorial Hall capital projects, Tribuno second; all in favor.
- Lebron moved to approve Deerfield Valley News' request for \$30,000 from the 1% Local Option Tax Fund, Tribuno second; all in favor.

5. Green Mountain Beach

- The Lake Raponda Shoreline Erosion Control design is now at 90%; \$98,612 secured in grant funding. This request is for the balance to complete the project; \$61,000 was received to cover the design work. Tribuno moved to approve \$29,037.50 for the Lake Raponda Shoreline Erosion Control, Green Mountain Beach from the 1% Local Option Tax Fund, Lebron second; all in favor.

6. Riley Boyd Rd

- Corse would pay for and install the gates, if the town would install the signage. Abutters want to make sure the access remains real and not just in theory. The reason for the request is because the Corse's are trying to maintain the fields as prime hayfields. When people drive through the more impassable sections, they enter and rip up the hayfields. The town's ATV ordinance already prohibits ATV's on town roads. Mr. Abbott and Mr. Eisenberg are opposed to the Pent Road change and say there is no traffic. Jim Wiesner disagrees and says there is a lot of traffic every day. The Green Road side is impassable and people drive onto the fields to get around. GPS sends vehicles down the road through Green Road. If you want to leave it open, then the road needs to be maintained. The comments and discussion ended when Fitzgerald suggested the Board will take a field trip out to the area. Debra Abbott suggested a Dead-End sign. Mr. Radar is concerned about liability if someone gets hurt. The Selectboard will set a date for a site visit.

7. East Main Street Sidewalk/Sewer

- The East Main Street sidewalk project is on target to be completed by August 26th, although their contract extends through October 15th. Traffic continues to be a large complaint, and they are working on a solution directing traffic at the intersection. The retaining wall was engineered incorrectly, with the grade being too steep and the property owner would lose a parking space. Even with this change order of over \$26,000, we are still within budget. Two more houses need to connect to the sewer and all of the private lines will then be connected to sewer individually. An obstruction was discovered related to the water line, so a new manhole was installed by Family Dollar.

Entered Sewer Commission at 7:48 pm

8. Sewer Commission

- Rice moved to approve an additional 505 gpd at 117 West Main St for a 1-bedroom apartment and car wash, Tribuno second; all in favor.

Out of Sewer Commission at 7:50 pm

9. Highway

- Rice moved to approve \$31,492 from TRE for the second half of Truck #12 refurbishment, Tribuno second; all in favor.
- Foster moved to approve the purchase of a Ventrac in the amount of \$57,596.20 from MTE Equipment Solutions, Tribuno second; all in favor.

Entered Liquor Commission at 7:59 pm

10. Liquor Commission

Tribuno moved to approve, Rice second; all in favor

- A Second-Class renewal for Mill & Whistle;
- A Limited Event permit for Brandon Reilly for an event at Brook Bound Inn on 8/14/26 from 2pm-10pm
- A Request to Cater for La Casita for the Blueberry Block party on 8/8/26 from 4-9 pm
- A Special Event Permit for Vermont Distillers for the Blueberry Block Party on 8/8/26 from 4:30-8:30 pm
- An Open Container Exemption Permit for the Blueberry Block Party on 8/8/26 from 4-9 pm
- Tribuno moved to approve a request to Cater for WI Foster at the Brook Bound Inn on 8/21/26 from 4:30-9 pm, Rice second; 4-0, Foster abstained.

Out of Liquor Commission at 8:01 pm

11. Other Business/Correspondence

- Fitzgerald moved to acknowledge the letter from the Town of Brattleboro and adopt a resolution in support of keeping its birthing center, Foster second; all in favor.

12. Select Board Members Comments

13. Town Manager's Updates

- Police Dept has hired all full-time positions. Sergeant Kirkman received a thank you card for assisting someone with a ride home after breaking down.
- Bridge #31; state is working on drafting a utility relocation plan.
- Memorial Hall Floodproofing; this grant project is complete, and it will hopefully be closed out next week.
- Lake Raponda Dam Inspection; the state is recommending a preliminary design meeting.
- Zahringer; still waiting for a decision. 3-5 Main St; waiting on a schedule. Wilson; no oral argument, just waiting for a decision.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Archambault

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

Vince Rice, Vice Chair

Tony Tribuno, Clerk

Charlie Foster

John Lebron