

TOWN OF WILTON

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: January 13, 2014
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Place: Town Office

Present: Chairman Daniel E. Donovan, III, Selectmen William F. Condra and Richard E. Swanson, and Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Donovan.

Jane Farrell attended the meeting to discuss taxes. Chairman Donovan called for a nonpublic session at 6:32 P.M. per RSA 91-A:3,II(c). The motion was seconded by Selectman Condra and followed by a unanimous vote.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M.

Phil DuPont attended the meeting to tell the Selectmen that he was going to cut some trees from his property and the only access was from a scenic road. He would need to take down part of the stonewall on a scenic road. He has spoken to Alec MacMartin on the Planning Board who suggested that Mr. DuPont come to the Selectmen to let them know. The 50-60 foot section of wall will be put back when he is done. Chairman Donovan said that as long as the wall is restored it is probably not an issue and that is enforceable by the Planning Board. Mr. DuPont stated that it will go back exactly as it is and the work is being done by Eric Oxman. He has submitted an Intent-to-Cut Timber form. Chairman Donovan suggested that he get a timber forester involved. Phil thanked the Board.

Steve Elliott and Dawn Tuomala attend the meeting to discuss the Recycling Center budget. Dawn explained her handout. The expenses

are under budget by \$10,000 but revenue is down by \$26,000. Steve indicated that the decrease in revenue was attributable to lower scrap metal prices and less aluminum cans sold. There was a \$4,500 difference in the income reported for scrap metal which Steve will look into.

There was a discussion regarding the Recycling Center Capital Reserve funds and whether to close the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Account and use that money to reduce the deficit. It was decided to do so. The Selectmen will put together a warrant article to close the account.

Dawn presented the Ambulance budget next with Gary Zirpolo present. The revenue was up but the expenses were up also. Dawn used the same report format this year for the Ambulance budget as she did with Recycling. Her figures showed a \$5,000 surplus overall. By contract Wilton does not have to credit a surplus back to the member towns but it has done so in past years. Chairman Donovan said it's not a bad idea and the other Board members agreed.

Jennifer Scales of 210 Captain Clark Highway was next on the agenda to discuss an icing problem in the road in front of her house. She stated that this ice problem has been there ever since she moved in and each year the Highway Department will come out to break up the ice dam when she contacts them. Ms. Scales stated that it is a dangerous situation and she is terrified that something is going to happen and it is unacceptable. Selectman Swanson asked where the water was coming from. Public Works Director Steve Elliott was asked for his opinion. He stated that this happens in other places also. It's a natural spring from under the road or embankment; nature finding its way out. It's up the hill from Jennifer's driveway where it comes out. Steve stated that this was a terrible year and he discussed some solutions, such as riprap or hay. Chairman Donovan asked if it could be diverted and if a swale with a culvert under the driveway would help. Steve will take another

look at it. Selectman Swanson asked if the responsibility lies with landowner. Steve suggested getting it fixed. It was agreed upon that the homeowner would pay for the pipe and the Highway Department would install it. Jennifer thanked the Board. Selectman Swanson stated that he is in disagreement with the Town taking responsibility for it. Steve said that the Town is not taking responsibility because we don't know where the water is coming from. He stated that he has resolved situations like this before. Rick said that he was on board and the Board voted in the affirmative to remedy the situation as discussed.

Steve Elliott was next on the agenda to discuss raises. He gave some history on how the Budget Committee suggests a percentage for raises at the beginning of budget season, usually two percent. But this year there seems to be issues as other departments are not following this guideline. The Police Chief has done a salary survey and is asking for 6.5% raises. Steve is in disagreement with him expecting more than other departments. Steve put together a spreadsheet of the fourteen highest paid people in the Town, with six of the top paid people being from the Police Department. Steve is asking the Selectmen to be fair across the board with raises and he recommends an independent study be done, but doesn't think he should do a study for himself. Next, he mentioned that the Police Chief and Ambulance Chief's gross pays are much more than their salaried amounts and he wondered why, stating that there are several salaried Town employees who work more than their scheduled time and do not receive extra compensation.

Chairman Donovan stated that he had spoken to Steve about a salary survey for DOT drivers. Dan mentioned to Steve that during a previous conversation with the other Select Board members he had received authorization to go to the Budget Committee with a proposal. There was further discussion regarding certain salaried employees making more than their set salaries. Chairman Donovan expressed his concern with the Town's classification of salaried employees compared

to the actual definition of a salaried employee.

Ian McSweeney from the Russell Foundation was next on the agenda to discuss the impact fees assessed on the Frye/Highfields development many years ago. He gave the history on the land and the agreement to pay the impact fees. In 1992 a Memorandum of Agreement was recorded stating that the Frye's had to pay a \$10,000 Impact Fee. The agreement allowed them to pay \$800 per lot as they were sold until the amount of \$12,000 was reached. This agreement was recorded at the Registry of Deeds but has never been released; therefore, it sits as a lien on the property. Ian researched Planning Board and Building Department files for the subdivision, and found evidence that some of the fees had been paid as well as an indication that the whole amount had been paid. The Selectmen listened to Ian's presentation and agreed that the Impact fees seem to have been paid, so they agreed to release the lien. They asked Ian to submit his evidence of payment for the file and they signed the release.

Chairman Donovan noted the Notice of Hearing for a Status Conference on January 27th at 9:00 A.M. for the NTV, LLC case. He stated that he would not be available to attend and asked if another Board member could attend. Selectman Condra will attend. Chairman Donovan thanked Bill.

The manifests were signed.

The meeting minutes were signed.

Payroll for period ending 1/11/14 was approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 P.M. by Chairman Donovan, seconded by Selectman Condra, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;

Pamela L. Atwood,

Recording Secretary