

# TOWN OF WILTON

## SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: February 17, 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 and he opened the Public Hearing regarding parking on Main Street. Betsy Castro spoke for the Main Street merchants. They are requesting the two hour parking be eliminated; change the thirty minute parking spaces to 60 minute spaces; and put two 30 minute spaces in front of Nelson's Candy; and signage pointing to the public parking areas. Betsy stated that the Police Chief is fine with these requests. A petition in favor of these requests was signed by the merchants and submitted to the Selectmen.

David McBee, President of the Main Street Association, stated that signage with the word "Public" parking makes a lot more sense than "Municipal" parking. Chairman Donovan asked how many parking spots there are on Main Street; no one knew the answer. He suggested that a sign saying "Free Public Parking" might be helpful. Dennis Markaverich stated that the 2 hour signs make for a lot of confusion. Chairman Donovan spoke about a constant and ongoing complaint; that some of the merchants occupy spaces during the course of the day. He stated that this could worsen without time limits. He credited Dick Putnam with never parking on Main Street. Mr. McBee suggested that maybe some education would be helpful. Selectman Condra said we have parking restrictions but not the enforcement. Dennis said that posting random spots will open a can of worms. There was further discussion with input from audience members. Most agreed upon solution seemed to be as Mr. McBee stated: To state the hours for the two hour parking; a couple ten minute pickup spots for

C&S Pizza; and approved signage stating free public parking; and an incentive program set up by the Main Street Association to work with the merchants to keep spaces open. Dan thanked them for the input and told them that no decision will be made tonight and he made the following motion:

Motion: A motion was made to table a decision on the Main Street parking request until the next meeting. Selectman Condra seconded the motion. A vote with all in favor followed.

Dawn Tuomala was next on the agenda. She gave the Board a copy of the MS-7 report and the Warrant Articles. Dawn explained the change to article #4. All other articles remained the same, so the Selectmen signed the Warrant. They went over items on the MS-7 where the Budget Committee and the Selectmen differed. Chairman Donovan explained the process and said that he thinks it is better for the Selectmen to concur with the Budget Committee and have a motion made on the floor if there is a particular item that someone would like changed. It makes for a much cleaner process. In particular, Selectman Swanson did not agree with the \$6,500 reduction in the Other Culture & Recreation line as these reductions hurt the Community Center, and Main Street Association. But, after hearing Chairman Donovan's concerns he agreed to vote in favor of the Budget Committee recommendations.

Dawn explained the 10% rule to Rick and she stated that the bottom line amount of taxes to be raised has increased only .85%.

Chairman Donovan told the Board that Wilton won the lawsuit with the Town of Lyndeborough and that this amount of money has not been figured into the budget.

John Shepardson was next on the agenda to discuss the repair project for the Town Hall. Because it is an historic building there are certain exemptions, and John just needs to assure that safety concerns are met. John spoke of the ADA requirements. Chairman Donovan informed Selectman Swanson that Bill set up a meeting to develop a set of specifications for this work, and that he showed up during this review and discussion. After further discussion about the repairs, it was

decided that John and Bill will get together on Wednesday to lay out a plan.

Steve Elliott cancelled his appointment this week. The Selectmen looked at the job description for the Director of Public Works but noted that it has never been officially approved. Selectman Swanson distributed a draft performance review form. He explained how the form works and proposed using this form. Selectman Swanson suggested implementing a system that would bring in 360 degree feedback. Chairman Donovan stated that all the major town departments interact with each other extensively so getting their input would be helpful. He spoke of the 2008 ice storm and of how this group worked together flawlessly. He asked the Board to review the DPW job description and the proposed form and then ask Steve Elliott to come back.

Selectman Swanson brought up the issue of paying Steve Elliott for shoveling, asking the other two members what their stance was on the issue from last weeks meeting. Chairman Donovan understood going forward not to pay him and Selectman Condra agreed. Rick stated that he thinks it's wrong for him to be paid for that and Bill said that it seemed odd that a salaried employee would do work for the town and then submit a bill.

There was a discussion about sidewalks not getting plowed. Selectmen Condra and Donovan stated that other areas come first and on the last storm they were done by Friday morning. They will not second guess the DPW on the timing of cleaning the sidewalks. Selectman Swanson said that he has an expectation that the sidewalks get plowed in a timely fashion.

The Candidate's Night was discussed next. Bill Keefe will be the moderator and it will be held on March 4th at 7:00 P.M.

The minutes were approved as amended.

The accounts payable manifests were approved.

Dan Donovan updated the Board on the Fire Station saying that it looks like it will be completed in three to four weeks. He had suggested

that he would donate a pool table to the Fire Department but Chief Dick declined the suggestion saying that they would rather have cases for all the trophies. Therefore, Dan would like to construct trophy cases as a donation to the Fire Department; subject to Board approval. Motion: Selectman Condra made a motion that the Board of Selectmen accepts the gift, as described, from Dan Donovan to the Fire Department having a value of approximately four thousand dollars. Selectman Swanson seconded the motion. The vote was: Swanson, aye; Condra, aye; Donovan; abstain. The motion carries. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 P.M. by Chairman Donovan, seconded by Selectman Condra, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;  
Pamela L. Atwood,  
Recording Secretary