

# TOWN OF WILTON

## SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: June 23, 2014  
Time: 6:30 P.M.  
Place: Town Office

Present: Chairman William F. Condra and Selectmen Richard E. Swanson, Kermit R. Williams, and Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Condra. The first order of business is a Public Hearing to remove a Planning Board member. Chairman Condra presented documentation of the letter that was sent to Brok-Alan Griffith regarding this Public Hearing. It was noted that the letter was not picked up by Mr. Griffith. This Public Hearing is being held to remove Mr. Griffith for lack of attendance. He has attended only three meetings, and numerous attempts to communicate with him have gone unanswered. Chairman Condra read the letter and RSA 673:13. Planning Board Clerk Heather Nichols was also in attendance, and she was asked by Selectman Williams for Mr. Griffith's attendance record at Planning Board meetings. Heather stated that he was elected in March 2013 and attended only three meetings. The Planning Board has tried to communicate with Mr. Griffiths on several occasions with no success. Heather stated that there are others who would be interested in serving on the Planning Board. There was a discussion on how Planning Board members are replaced. The Selectmen spoke in favor of having a fully staffed Board.

Motion: Selectman Williams made a motion to remove Brok-Alan Griffith from the Planning Board for neglect of duty. The motion was seconded by Selectman Swanson followed by a unanimous vote in the affirmative to be effective on June 23, 2014 at 6:39 P.M.

Director of Public Works Steve Elliott was next on the agenda for a budget review. The Parks and Recreation budget was talked about first. Selectman Swanson asked what Steve's expectations were for next year. Steve stated that he was unaware that the intent of these budget reviews was to forecast for next year. Rick apologized for this but explained that he wants to see taxes the same or lower and feels it is best to look at expenses to see how we can keep things level for next year. Steve stated that he hopes this budget will decrease by \$6,000 for the irrigation system that will be put in this year.

The remainder of Steve's budgets will be reviewed at the end of the meeting so the Board could continue to the next scheduled item. Steve Elliott had a presentation to make for the Russell Street paving topic. He showed a map of Russell Street and showed where the 30' right-of-way was. His recommendation was to widen Russell Street to 22 feet. He indicated which properties would lose some of their lawns.

Treasurer

Jerry Greene got up to speak on the subject. After discussing different measurements that he got than what Steve Elliott got, he said that he doesn't see the point to picking up a foot of width because of the costs involved to rebuild a lot of curbing. And, he stated that it doesn't seem necessary to widen the road for 20-30 days of inclement weather. Steve believes there are more than 20-30 days.

There were several residents or home owners in attendance and they had some questions. Phil Pellerin asked what will happen to his driveway, it's already steep enough that his wife bottoms out. Chris Jubert of 18 Russell Street stated that he sees the point made by Jerry Greene about parking but suggested to take the entire right-of-way if it's going to be widened. He stated that he would not object to taking the whole right-of-way because he doesn't use his yard anyway.

Selectman Williams asked for Police Chief Hautanen's thoughts. The Chief stated that he would be against taking away parking from the

residents who must use the street. There have not been any accidents there, but the traffic pattern will change with the renovated elementary school project. He stated that the street does get congested at times.

Bill Graham asked about drainage and Steve explained his plan. Steve said that he would also like to move the telephone poles to the other side of sidewalk, closer to the houses.

The audience was asked again by the Selectmen for their thoughts on possibly reduced frontage. Wayne Fisher of 14 Russell Street said that he is fine with losing frontage in order to make it consistent but he voiced his concern about how the corner of his lot would be graded. Mr. Jubert asked about speed bumps. Chief Hautanen gave his suggestion on where speed bumps should go if they are to be added. Jerry Greene asked what the cost would be to do reconstruction for 18 Russell Street. Steve responded that he has not gotten estimates until he knows what will be done. Charlie McGettigan thinks that the street should be left like it is, stating that it is nonsense to take peoples yards and spend a lot of money. There was further discussion about the drainage.

Selectman Swanson is inclined to do it right with straighter curbs and a road that lines up better; he feels it is a good investment but he would like to know the cost difference.

Selectman Williams agrees to do best job we can and he noted that these folks are not objecting to a piece of their front yard being turned into road. He would like to see remediation to their front yards and fix the curb, and he likes the idea of speed bumps. He would like to see a plan that identifies all the costs to do a 22 foot passage way to see if it is already in the budget. Chairman Condra asked for a motion.

Motion: Selectman Williams made a motion that Russell Street be widened to 22 feet, and in that process the curbs be straightened and any necessary adjustment be made to the border of properties to

provide access to houses, and the plan will include two speed control devices positioned as needed. Selectman Swanson seconded the motion.

Jerry Greene stated that the motion should be opened to the public for discussion. Chairman Condra stated that he has opened it up for discussion among the Selectmen. Jerry believes that the public gets another chance to comment and his comment is that the motion is premature with no cost factors for curbing being presented.

Selectman Swanson asked about underground utilities. Steve Elliott stated that they are not cost effective.

Selectman Williams said that he misstated the motion because he also wants to see cost estimates.

Motion: Selectman Williams amended the motion to include a review of a cost estimate prior to any work being done. Selectman Swanson seconded the amended motion. A unanimous vote with all in favor followed.

Motion: Chairman Condra restated the motion saying that Public Works Director Steve Elliott is to get a price for widening Russell Street as well as a price to repave Russell Street without widening it. A unanimous vote with all in favor followed.

Jane Farrell was next on the agenda. She had a handout for the Selectmen. It was tax related and showed money coming in for taxes. Next she asked if the Selectmen would consider letting her bring someone into her office for part time help. She explained that she would be short staffed throughout the summer because of vacations and taxes were due. She will pay \$10 per hour as she did last year when she brought in additional help. Chairman Condra asked Jane if there was money in the budget for this expense and she said no. They discussed the total number of hours needed to get through the summer and decided on a maximum of forty hours. Selectman Swanson asked

about a process to pay taxes on the internet. It was discussed briefly. Motion: Chairman Condra made a motion to allow Jane to use up to 40 hours at \$10.00 per hour, using money from the contingency fund if necessary to get her through the summer. Selectman Williams seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Dawn Tuomala from Monadnock Survey was next. She was here to discuss the addition of an access road to be called Cleaves Way. Dawn showed the two parcels on the tax map stating that it was difficult to sell one lot with two houses on it. The suggestion was to split the lot with a variance that would make a restriction on the road access. She would like to call this access road "Cleaves Way". It would be a private way. Dawn stated that she had gotten an ok from Fire Chief Ray Dick and the Planning Board. Selectman Swanson said he was ok with it; Selectmen Williams was also but he recused himself because he is an abutter to the property.

Motion: Selectman Swanson made a motion accept the road with the name of "Cleaves Way" as a private way. Chairman Condra seconded the motion and the vote was two in favor and one abstention.

Steve Elliott returned to discuss the rest of his budgets. The Selectmen asked Steve about income on the Cemetery and Recycling budgets. Selectman Swanson stated that if Steve sees a shortfall or a windfall on any of the revenues then the Board should know. He asked Steve if the money owed from Recycling Services Company was going to be sought after and Steve replied yes.

Steve noted that his budget is driven by the weather. He projected the need for a cement mixer to tow behind a vehicle for next year. He discussed his 18 year resurfacing plan. The Selectmen discussed the difficulties to keep a budget level with materials and contracted services increasing each year. Selectmen Swanson stated that he doesn't want to deal in a reactive way like last year and he asks what needs to be cut to be able to give everyone a 3% raise. After further discussion it was

requested that the minutes show that Selectman Swanson wants to give three percent raises next year but keep the budget low. Chairman Condra stated that he is not in favor of a second year of three percent raises. And Selectman Williams stated that he is concerned about how to achieve what Selectman Swanson proposes without reducing the current level of service; he would hate to reduce the services significantly. He is open to suggestions but wants to maintain the infrastructure.

At the end of the discussion Steve Elliott stated that Hazardous Waste Day is this Saturday from 9-1.

The next topic discussed was the new signage list. After the Board answered Steve's questions, Selectman Williams made the following motion:

Motion: The motion is for Steve Elliott to order all signs on the list with the exception of the handicap ones. Selectman Swanson seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

Steve will get a copy of resurfacing plan and will follow up on red list bridges.

Selectman Williams spoke briefly about block grants that may be available to help with the equipment purchase for the Town Hall Theatre.

The Accounts Payable manifests were signed.

The meeting minutes were approved.

Three (3) Abatement Recommendations were signed.

One (1) Pole License was signed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 P.M. by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Swanson, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;

Pamela L. Atwood, Recording Secretary