

TOWN OF WILTON

SELECT BOARD MEETING

TOWN HALL COURTROOM

DATE: Monday, August 27, 2018
TIME: 6:30 pm
PLACE: Wilton Town Hall
PRESENT: Selectman Kermit R. Williams, Acting Chair; Selectman Matt Fish, Town Administrator Paul C. Branscombe, Administrative Assistant Janice Pack

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL: Selectman Williams opened the Select Board's regular meeting, noting that Chairwoman Boissonnault was on vacation, and invited all to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Selectman Williams explained to the public the meaning of the Consent Agenda. **Selectman Fish moved to approve the Consent Agenda, and Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

JANE FARRELL – Selectman Williams said that he and Jane had researched the property known as Tax Map M-11 to clarify who the owner is. There was a resident who had planned to bring an application before the Planning Board, but has withdrawn that application pending more research. Selectman Williams said that we need to be sure that we know what land belongs to the Town. If the Town had purchased it with the intention of enlarging the cemetery, then we need to find out for sure what the boundaries are. Selectman Fish suggested that the Board hire a surveyor to update the tax maps. Selectman Williams agreed, saying that he has asked our Legal Team to suggest a set of steps to take to define ownership.

DEB MORTVEDT – Update on Citizen's Meeting 8/20/18 – Deb said that there were 15 residents who exercised their right to a peaceful assembly last week. One discussion topic was that they wanted the Select Board to meet weekly after Labor Day rather than every other week. Another topic was trash at Garwin Falls and the Horseshoe. Deb said that she spoke with Sam Proctor today, telling him that citizens were concerned that the DPW was picking up trash from his property. Mr. Proctor said that the land is in a trust between two families; he does not own it. He said that the DPW has never picked up trash; he picks it up and recycles it. He said that people who are there are trespassing and that it was private property in the Trust, though it is not posted. Selectman Williams said he knows that the DPW does pick up the trash bags that are on the roadway. Deb said that she did invite Mr. Proctor here tonight, but Mr. Proctor said that he had a prior commitment. He is looking forward to the Town buying the Horseshoe, and Deb told him she would look forward to that fundraising project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Edwina Hastings said that the operative word here is "trespassing" and we need to think about that. Selectman Williams said that the property is in Current Use, and if it is

not posted, then it is open to the public. Selectman Fish said that Mr. Proctor is well aware of that. If a property is in Current Use, there is a tax deduction of 20% to allow for public use. Selectman Fish said that Mr. Proctor's family has been very generous to allow people to use this land.

Ruth Smith said that the meeting Deb Mortvedt called last week was a de-facto Select Board meeting because Selectman Williams attended. She called him a "stifling influence" on the degree that people were willing to speak. She suggested that when the townspeople meet to talk about the town that elected officials do not attend. She stated that there were 2 reporters there who were not residents of Wilton, and she was not happy that they attended a meeting open to Wilton residents and both filed stories with their newspapers. She then called out Selectman Fish for discussing town business on social media, and for interfering with the actions of a police officer. She said that this town has been engaged in a public relations fiasco and she asked the two Selectmen to please hold their tongues.

Selectman Williams said that we were not going to debate Ruth's comments but Ruth said that she wanted to go on record as saying that Selectman Fish accused her of misspeaking when she exercised her right to speak at a public meeting. Selectman Fish said that he was asked if he wanted to go to Deb's meeting, but decided not to. He defended Selectman Williams' right to go, saying that he was proud of him for attending.

OLD BUSINESS

GARWIN FALLS – Mr. Branscombe shared the revisions made to the parking ordinance. He will put a complete set in the Select Board office for residents to review. We will also put them on the town website for review. Selectman Williams said this will be scheduled for a Public Hearing on September 10th at 6:00, specifically about the changes to local ordinance 200-21.

He said that knowing we were going to talk about Garwin Falls today, he went up there, and was surprised to see a sign at the cemetery regarding unattended cars. The Selectmen felt that the sign was premature. Selectman Williams said that he had previously mentioned people taking the trail from the High School to Garwin Falls, and it took him 10 minutes to go from the Falls to Holt Road, and then another 15-20 to go down the snowmobile trail and come out at the School parking lot. He said he wasn't sure if he had taken the best route as there were a number of trails there. He said he thought that 25 minutes to go from the Falls to a legal parking place wasn't a bad thing. He would like the trails to be clearly marked if we were going to encourage that.

Selectman Fish said he had taken the trails in the winter on a snowmobile and that the snowmobilers were a very courteous group but he thought there might be opposition to people taking the trails to the Falls in the other seasons.

Selectman Williams said that he took a very close look today and thought it was every bit as clean as it was when he first went there 15 years ago before it was discovered and put on social media. He wonders if to a certain extent we have overblown the situation. Selectman Fish said he agreed. He understood the neighbors concerns about parking and trash, but he didn't see any of those problems himself. He said he had spoken to Chris Wells of the Piscataquog Land Conservancy and discussed how it could be preserved if the Town was interested in owning it.

He said that just for the record, he thought that this Board had been very clear about asking the Police Chief to tow the cars, and he was disappointed that it wasn't being done. He hopes that this

Board will work diligently to make strides in the process to make next season better for all of those involved.

COMP TIME - This includes the casual arrangements made by the previous administration to some of the salaried employees. Selectman Williams said that he personally did not think that we should do a comp time policy as it would be very tedious. He preferred to pay people overtime when due, and to be fiscally responsible to manage the overtime to reduce it when possible. Selectman Fish agreed. Mr. Branscombe shared that tracking and administrating comp time would be hard. Selectman Williams said that he did not believe that this decision called for a vote.

BMSI - Selectman Williams asked for an update, and Ms. Pack spoke about the BMSI training and Deb Harling had attended, stating that it was an annual training offered to all users and over 30 attended from Maine, Connecticut and New Hampshire. She shared some of the reports and manuals she was given. When asked what BMSI had done for the 100 hours of work that their salesman spoke about previously, she shared the beginnings of the chart of accounts that had been done, and the list of vendors that had been entered, as well as some email correspondence between Caitlin Martin and the staff of BMSI. She is excited to share more with the Select Board as the work progresses.

TIM BRODERICK - Selectman Williams said that although Tim Broderick was not on the agenda, he had asked to speak tonight. Tim said that he wanted to follow up on Chairwoman Boissonnault's comment regarding him "making" a video, which he felt was unfair. Selectman Fish agreed that he had watched the video, and agreed that what Tim said transpired was true. Tim wanted to go over the emails sent after the bids were opened. He said that if the Board was going to have a policy, they should stand by it. Selectman Williams said that he agreed with him but that this Board did not have an official bid process. He said that he had apologized to Tim, and did feel that he had kind of gotten screwed in the process but that this Board had made a decision and the other bid was accepted.

Tim said that the reason the Board gave him for the way the award was made was because they did not read the forms, and he felt that wasn't fair; they had given Janice a job to do and she did it. Selectman Williams said that they had made a deal with Mr. Poisson, cashed his check, and now they needed to move on. He looks forward to receiving the bid policy that Selectman Fish is drafting, and reviewing it; and looking at things more closely in the future.

Selectman Williams said that you cannot have Select Board meetings over emails. He said if Tim had something specific he wanted to bring up, he would listen, but he did not want to have another hour long discussion rehashing what we did last time. Tim asked if just one Select Board member could make a decision, and Selectman Williams said No, it has to be the majority. Tim said that when the bids were opened, Chairwoman Boissonnault was the only one doing the talking. Selectman Williams said again, there wasn't a bid process in place at the time, but we definitely need one so we know what we will do next time. There is no state law saying how a bid opening is to be conducted. Tim feels strongly that the bid award should've been voted on. Selectman Williams said that he could not insist that the Chair ask for a vote, as that is the Chair's purview. He said that in this process, we are done. He apologized again for Tim's dissatisfaction with the way the bid was handled. Tim felt that his Right to Know request was not handled properly. Selectman Williams said that the Right to Know Law is one where someone asks for something

very specific and it is given to them. He hopes that our office will give anyone what they are asking for.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Old County Farm Bridge – Jim Lavacchia provided an email update of the options regarding the Old County Farm Bridge. Jim has a concern about what would happen if anything happened to the property owner. Selectman Williams said he had spoken to Fred and he is more than willing to work with us on this. However, we need to have an official agreement in place. Selectman Fish would like to see an easement of 50' on both sides of the walls. Selectman Williams said we should decide what we need and discuss it with the Rodells. He feels we should at least get the vegetation part of the project done now. Selectman Fish said that Jim is right on the money with what he's written and asked for, even as far as opening up the emergency lane. The Selectmen discussed how to proceed with the project. Selectman Fish said that it is an access route and Selectman Williams said it is a limited weight bridge. Selectman Fish wondered if we should increase the land clearing bid then, to clear both sides to make it passable for the construction process. Jim Cutler said that the Fire Department wouldn't go out there unless they absolutely had to and he has discussed this with Jim L. **Selectman Fish moved to authorize the DPW Director to work with Town Counsel to negotiate with the Rodells and to solicit bids for the land clearing. Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.**

Per Diem Ambulance Staff – Mr. Branscombe brought 3 staff members' PAF's to the Select Board for their review. All 3 included pay increases. Selectman Williams said that his concern is not what any particular person is paid, as the Board has already spent a lot of time discussing pay rates, but he is very concerned that we don't overstaff. We are already over budget and he would like to see a current Ambulance budget. He has no objection if the pay rates are appropriate. **Selectman Fish motioned to rehire Lee Duval at the specified pay rate, and approve the new pay rates for Belynda Morgan and Allan Goohs. Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.**

Rules of Procedure – The revised copy was shared and amended once again. It will be reviewed at the meeting on September 10th. Mr. Branscombe will email it to the Select Board.

CivicLive Website – We are ahead of schedule.

Ambulance Inter-Municipal Agreement – Lyndeborough and Temple have both agreed to the one year opt out.

Habitat for Humanity – A memorandum of understanding is being revised. Selectman Williams said in order to proceed, this Board needs to meet with the Planning Board and then hold a Public Hearing.

IT – On Friday Kevin Verratti from SAU 63 is coming to discuss IT. Selectman Williams said he is hopeful that we can look at an opportunity that will save the town some money.

Fuel Bids – Mr. Branscombe shared the rates negotiated for the Town Fuel with Ciardelli for the 2018-2019 winter season.

RMON – We have received a quote of \$4384 for budget purposes for 4 desk tops which RMON said need to be upgraded.

Mr. Branscombe brought up the fact that he had purchased 4 magnetic signs with his own money, 2 for his car and 2 for Norma's car. He wanted to dispel the rumors that the Town had given him a "company car".

SELECT BOARD ITEMS

Selectman Williams said that the MACC Base inter-municipal agreement is being worked on, but we need to get it done and signed before the end of the year. Mr. Branscombe said he had spoken to the TA in Milford and he was concerned. Selectman Williams said that with 2 towns voting in favor, we can still continue; he's not sure what Milford would do. Jim Cutler, the Fire Chief who is our MACC Base rep, joined the table to bring everyone up to date. He said they have a meeting tomorrow morning. They have been working on this for the past year trying to address some of Milford's concerns. They are trying to keep Wilton from becoming a "client user" rather than 3 towns working together. Jim explained how this could work if just Mont Vernon and Wilton sign the agreement. He said they are dealing with many things including the FCC requirements. They are being asked to put up more antennas. MACC Base can't get funding until the current agreement is in place. They are looking for a 7 year agreement so the funding can be spread out over the 7 year term.

Selectman Williams asked if MACC Base would write the bond, or the towns. Jim felt that the towns would need to write the bonds. There was further discussion regarding the term and the financial agreement needed. Mr. Branscombe asked if we could go somewhere else. Jim said that the previous administration had received numbers from Goffstown but he had not seen them. He said that we will still need to add towers. Jim said it would be the same with Keene Mutual Aid. No matter what we do, leaving MACC Base would be complex and expensive. He would prefer to stay with MACC Base. Selectman Williams will look forward to hearing what happens in tomorrow's meeting.

Selectman Williams said that he's glad to hear that we're making progress on the Ambulance inter-municipal agreement and he asked if we had heard from Greenfield as he had spoken to one of the Select Board members who had expressed interest. Mr. Branscombe said that the 2 other towns would like to come here for the signing of the agreement, and this was further discussed. On the Recycling Agreement, he noted that we are waiting to hear back from Greenville. Selectman Williams said they are supposed to give us 6 months notice if they do not plan to continue. We'll need to get those agreements squared away.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Tim Broderick showed a bag of trash that he had picked up at Garwin Falls last night, and he said that he had never been to Garwin Falls until yesterday even though he's lived here all his life. He thinks that instead of disagreeing, we need to work together and find a solution. He said he would be willing to go up there with his equipment and level off the area across from the existing parking area to allow for more parking. He'd be willing to buy a few trash cans with his own money. He felt that since we had taken the time to post Tow Zone signs, we should enforce it. Selectman Williams said that he supports the Police Department's ability to make the decision to tow or not.

Nikki Andrews of Curtis Farm Road said that she was at Garwin Falls a week ago Sunday and they found soiled clothes, needles, and spray paint among other things. She noted that in Mason recently she saw a nice sign which said "Take only photographs, leave only footprints". She also mentioned that it is private property, and she doesn't think we should rely on local people picking up other people's trash.

Ruth Smith said she was delighted that Matt and Tim had visited Garwin Falls and found it clean. She said that there had been bears sighted at the Horseshoe and if we decide to put trash cans there, could we please not make it accessible to wildlife.

Jane noted that this room will be set up for voting on September 11th, so it was suggested that the Public Hearing and Select Board Meeting on September 10th take place instead at the Fire Station. This was agreed.

Tim said that he did notice that someone had spray painted "Go Home" on a tree, and he thought that was an act of vandalism.

Felice Fullam said that she agreed with what Nikki Andrews said. She asked if there were trash cans put on town property, does the money for maintenance come out of taxpayer dollars. She said this should be addressed first before trash cans are brought out.

NON-PUBLIC UNDER RSA 91-A:3, II (c)

At 9:00 PM Selectman Fish motioned to enter Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c); Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

At 9:23 PM Selectman Fish made motion to exit non-public session; Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Selectman Fish made a motion to seal the minutes due to reputation. Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

APPROVALS: MINUTES, CORRESPONDENCE, SIGNATURE FILE

The MS-1 was signed, as were Timber Tax Warrants and the Payables manifest.

At 9:37 PM Selectman Fish made a motion to enter Non-Public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c), Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Selectman Fish made a motion to exit Non-Public session at 9:57 PM, Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Selectman Fish made a motion to seal the minutes; Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Selectman Williams asked if any progress had been made in hiring a parking enforcer; Mr. Branscombe said not to his knowledge.

Selectman Williams said that Bill Chalmers said if anything was written on the manifests they should be initialed; this was notated on one manifest.

Selectman Fish noted that lots of people were watching the Live Streams; the only complaint heard was that sometimes it is hard to hear people talking.

Selectman Fish asked Selectman Williams why Ruth Smith was so upset at Selectman Williams being at Deb's meeting, and this was discussed further.

ADJOURNMENT

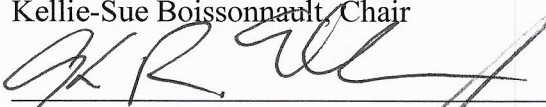
Selectman Fish moved to adjourn this meeting, Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:24 PM.

The next meeting will be held at the Fire Station on Monday, September 10, 2018 and will begin immediately after the Public Hearing.

Respectfully Submitted:
Janice Pack, Administrative Assistant

(absent)

Kellie-Sue Boissonnault, Chair



Kermit R. Williams



Matthew S. Fish