

TOWN OF WILTON
SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
WILTON FIRE STATION

Date: February 26, 2018
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Place: Fire Station
Present: Chairman William F. Condra, Selectwoman Kellie-Sue Boissonnault and Selectman Kermit R. Williams. Town Administrator Scott Butcher. Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood.

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

The first order of business was to conduct a public hearing regarding KENO. Selectman Williams gave the details of KENO and said that this is a way the State has come up with to fund kindergarten. Some parts of all lottery proceeds goes toward education with this plan for KENO money to fund all-day kindergarten. He explained that a full liquor license is needed to offer KENO. The American Legion would be able to offer it. Selectwoman Boissonnault stated that even if Wilton votes it down we will still receive funding – the money is not tied to the vote. Audience member Edwina Hastings asked questions, one being – what is the incentive for Wilton, to which Chairman Condra answered that it would put money into the KENO funds. There were additional questions and comments between the audience and Select Board. Chairman Condra closed the public hearing. Selectwoman Boissonnault voiced her opinion that she supports the warrant article to allow KENO in Wilton. Selectman Williams stated that he thinks the Select Board should be neutral. Chairman Condra stated that he will support it.

Public Comment

Tracey Ewing offered her opinion that the Town Office staff is overstressed this year, stating that it concerns her and she worries about them. It seems excessive this year, she said. Chairman Condra thanked Tracey, saying it was on his mind also. He said there are an excessive number of warrant articles this year and the staff is overrun. He said, short of budgeting for additional staff, we ask them to persevere. He suggested temporary help for the short term.

Nelson's Flooding Problem

Town Administrator Scott Butcher spoke about the basement flooding issue at Nelson's Candy Store. It goes back to the Main Street sidewalk rehabilitation project, he said. Something changed during that construction that has made the problem worse. The previous DPW Director was working with store owner Doug Nelson to line up a contractor to come up with a solution. Doug has requested to get the issue solved. After further discussion the Select Board agreed that it falls under the Town's Highway budget. The Board authorized Scott to work with the new DPW Director to get an engineer. Audience member Bill Chalmers said that he was running unopposed for the seat of Town Treasurer, and he cautioned the Select Board that they don't, technically, have any money yet until Town Meeting. Selectman Williams stated that every year before Town Meeting we pay our bills and our employees, and if the proposed budget is not approved then we would be on a default budget, which is last year's budget. Selectman Williams directed Town Administrator Scott Butcher to proceed and find an appropriate contractor.

Old Business

Selectman Williams wanted to discuss the name of the Board issue again. He said it is important to a lot of people to change the name so he made the following motion:

Motion: Selectman Williams moves to revisit naming and changing the Board name from Board of Selectman to Select Board. Selectwoman Boissonnault seconded the motion.

Chairman Condra still opposes the renaming of Wilton Board of Selectmen. He said it has been this way for more than half a century. He strongly opposes a movement of political correctness and so he strongly opposes this motion. Selectwoman Boissonnault said we need to move forward and empower our next generation. Make our name gender neutral, she said. Chairman Condra informed the audience that this subject is not open to public comment. Selectman Williams said he is here to represent the people, and he has heard from a lot of people, so he supports them. Chairman Condra stated that there are 2,600 registered voters in Wilton; he asked Selectman Williams if he heard from 10% of them? Selectman Williams said no. Selectwoman Boissonnault said she has heard from 35-40 people. Chairman Condra would prefer to see it voted on by the town's people.

Motion: Chairman Condra moves to table this until next year at election time. There was no second. Motion dies. After further discussion regarding changing the name, the vote was taken.

Vote: Selectman Williams, aye; Selectwoman Boissonnault, aye; Chairman Condra, nay. Motion carries 2, 0. The name of the Board of Selectmen will be changed.

Motion: Chairman Condra moved, second by Selectman Williams to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 7:34 P.M. Motion passed unanimously, 3-0

The regular meeting was back in session at 8:31 P.M.

Motion: Selectman Williams moved, seconded by Selectwoman Boissonnault to seal the minutes of the nonpublic meeting. Motion passed with vote: Condra, Aye; Boissonnault, Aye; Williams, Aye.

Old Business

The Select Board had a discussion about the Assessor's recommendation to get pole licenses from Comcast and SegTEL. Selectman Williams agreed that they should require SegTEL to sign an agreement with the Town, and he said to engage legal counsel to put the agreement together. It needs to be done right away.

Another item that the Assessor is suggesting gets done is getting the two lots that the Fire Station sits on merged into one. The Board said to move forward with this and to pass it on to the Building and Land Use Administrator.

New Business

There was no new business.

The Board signed their paperwork and reviewed their informational material.

TA Scott Butcher told the Select Board that all of their boxes have removed from the Courtroom. He asked what was to be done with the rest, which were mostly Town Clerk/Tax Collector boxes. Tomorrow is two weeks from Election Day and he asked what the Select Board's plan was. He suggested hiring movers because our DPW doesn't have the appropriate trucks. Selectwoman Boissonnault is not opposed to moving it back to storage. Scott said most articles that would be for scanning will be building and land use items. Selectman Williams would rather not take it off-site again. Scott said the rumors are that he will be the scapegoat for this fiasco. He reminded them that he had the room empty. He is being set up for a fall. The Select Board needs to give him direction. There was some discussion but no direction was given.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 P.M. by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectwoman Boissonnault, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;

Pamela L. Atwood

Pamela L. Atwood,
Recording Secretary

William F. Condra

William F. Condra, Chairman

Kermit R. Williams

Kermit R. Williams

Kellie-Sue Boissonault

Kellie-Sue Boissonault

3-5-18

Date Signed