

TOWN OF WILTON  
SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: October 30, 2017  
Time: 6:30 P.M.  
Place: Town Office  
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 at 6:37 P.M. by Chairman Condra.

Sewer Commissioners Tracey Ewing and Tim Mortvedt and Clerk Joanna Eckstrom were in attendance for the meeting. Town Administrator Scott Butcher suggested to start with setting a timeframe to pay back the money owed to the Town. Tim said they are looking at potential rate hikes. Tracey said it was planned to be taken care of. Selectwoman Boissonnault said they were running well in 2017 but need a payment agreement going forward. There will be an interest percentage added, she said. Joanna said interest is unclear as to whether it can be charged, at times there was surplus money that may have been collecting interest; this needs clarification. She said the Sewer Commission wants to talk to Jamie Dow at the Department of Revenue Administration and NHMA. Selectwoman Boissonnault said that Attorney Little suggested adding a small fee, because it is considered a loan. She said the Sewer Commission should come up with an amount and timeframe. We don't want to strain your budget.

Selectman Williams suggested they make the payments on a quarterly basis. Tracey Ewing asked if the Select Board was united about charging the Commission interest. Selectman Williams said it would not be a significant amount; 2% is not much. Selectwoman Boissonnault said something should be given back to the tax payers. Joanna Eckstrom asked about calling the Town's legal counsel. Selectman Williams said that was ok but no need to call DRA because this is between the Commissioners and the Board of Selectmen.

Next, Selectwoman Boissonnault spoke about the jet system the Sewer Commission was buying; she said they should have had the funds in the account before purchasing it. Chairman Condra said the Select Board is not united about charging an interest fee; he is not in favor of it because it's like taking money out of one pocket and putting it in another. Tracey said people fell down on both sides of this equation, we've resolved the situation, and it seems like the better we do the more the town wants to punish us. Selectwoman Boissonnault stated that previous conversations with Chris Carter confirmed that the Sewer Commission would have their debt paid off by the end of the year, then this jet flusher thing came up, the budget can't handle both. Tracey said that doesn't mean you have to charge interest; it's not a mandate from counsel. Selectwoman Boissonnault said the Board had not voted on it yet. Selectman Williams said he is not devoted to charging interest; he is more focused on getting the money paid back. Joanna said there will be a surplus that can be used. There was a discussion on how the Commission billed. Joanna said there is a debt management line item in the budget that they can use per Jamie Dow. TA Scott Butcher told the Sewer Commission to come back and tell the Board how many years so we can structure an agreement. Tracey confirmed that this will be a priority in their budget. Chairman Condra directed them to work with Selectwoman Boissonnault until they get their plan together. He asked that they come back in three weeks.

Tim Mortvedt asked if the issue regarding the Town employees running the jet flusher was resolvable. Tracey asked about renting space and hiring the Town employees. Selectman Williams said the space issue is not resolvable; there is no room and it's not heated. Joanna said that originally Steve Elliott told Chris Carter there was space. Selectman Williams said the space is used by the Water Commission now and there's no room for other equipment. Scott Butcher said the Water and Sewer Commissions rely on the DPW a lot. Next there was a discussion about the use of Town employees by the Sewer Commission. Selectman Williams said the pump station work is an ongoing agreement. Scott said the Sewer Commission is somewhat of a separate entity and that the new DPW Director will have to look at their resources and determine what is available. Joanna offered to put together a list of man hours per year used by the Sewer Commission. Scott stated that any interdepartmental sharing of resources needs to come to him and the Select Board.

Chairman Condra spoke about the letter of no confidence issued to the Sewer Commission regarding the jet flusher. He said after Scott Butcher did a large amount of research and provided advice for less expensive options, the Select Board could not support buying a 20-year-old piece of equipment for \$20,000 when it was purchased new for \$26,000. He said he is still not supporting the purchase. Tracey said it was a moot point to put together a list; the budget will just have to be higher. She said the Commission didn't disregard the Select Board's input but there are other items that they had to take into consideration, plus the unit is in mint condition. We feel there's other value, she said. The decision has been in the works since December, 2016. Chairman Condra said they would have another discussion in three weeks.

John Shepardson was next on the agenda for his budget review. He talked about on-going discussions about burner permits and inspections. In other towns those are handled by the Fire Department. Selectman Williams said to ask the Fire Department if they can do them. Chairman Condra agrees. Scott asked John about his labor line increase. John said it includes four weeks of overlap for training a new employee when he retires. Selectman Williams asked if we should increase our building permit fees, saying these fees should cover our costs. TA Scott Butcher suggested comparing our permit fees with those of other towns, but, he said, the Planning Board sets the fees, and he asked why this was the case. No one knew the reason. Selectman Williams suggested identifying the labor expenses to help determine the fees. Chairman Condra thanked John.

### **Public Comment**

Paul Levesque of Isaac Frye Highway asked the Board to lower the speed limit on Isaac Frye Highway near the Café. He said the present speed limit is 30 mph which means people can go 40 mph. He said there is a lot of pedestrian traffic and it is dangerous. He has talked to the Chief and Scott Butcher about this. Since it got paved the speeds have increased. Chairman Condra said the Board will take his input under advisement but no action will be taken tonight.

Tim Mortvedt asked about the boiler breach. Scott explained the situation.

Chairman Condra moved, seconded by Selectwoman Boissonnault to enter non-public session at 7:54 P.M. per RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

### **Town Administrator Update**

Scott spoke about the construction project saying that it is pretty much wrapped up. It took longer than anticipated and there are still some lingering issues. The fire alarm system isn't done. The conference room table and chairs are being delivered tomorrow. The flue replacement will be the next project to get done.

Scott visited High Mowing School last week for a tour and to meet the staff. They are now our biggest employer.

Old County Farm Road bridge road washed out during the last storm. It is on the national register. The DPW made the road passable. Steve Trombly will bring in two excavators to repair it. We have \$6,000 left in the budget. Scott will call DES tomorrow.

Steve Desrosiers accepted the position as Chief of the Ambulance Service and will start on Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>. A discussion took place about people finding out about it on Facebook. Scott said it was a lesson learned.

### **Old/New Business**

We are getting applicants for Director of Public Works and the other position. Selectman Williams asked if they would use the same process as they had for the Ambulance Chief. He would like to add Mike Bergeron to the interview process. Chairman Condra agrees due to the interaction between departments.

TA Scott Butcher spoke about the events that had taken place with Sewer Commissioner Chris Carter. The discussion that happened between Chris and Mike Bergeron was very similar to the situation that took place between Chris and Scott in August. Scott told the Police Department about both disputes. Chris Carter should resign, said Scott. No employee should have to put up with this type of behavior. Selectman Williams said an RSA allows for removal for some kinds of maleficence. Have Chris come before the Select Board. Selectwoman Boissonnault said to make him aware that they are unhappy with his behavior. Scott said the Sewer Department is not running well; there are infrastructure issues. Chris doesn't want to acknowledge the issues. It will not be a nonpublic session because he is an elected official.

Riverwalk Project discussion: Chairman Condra asked for a discussion relevant to the outburst made by Matt Fish in a previous week. TA Scott Butcher said Matt showed up with Jim Jasper for site walk and was whining then. Sam Trombly actually did more than was in the bid documents and would still be under the \$11,600 from Matt's bid through Jim Jasper. Selectman Williams said we are not required to go out to bid. Chairman Condra doesn't think Matt has a leg to stand on. Selectwoman Boissonnault agrees.

Selectman Williams will organize the Reservoir Committee with the list of interested participants he was given.

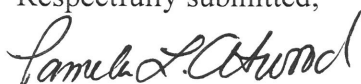
The Board discussed the Department of Public Works and the openings to be filled.

Two complaint forms were discussed with no actions being taken.


Increasing the 457(b) Retirement fund town match was discussed. Selectwoman Boissonnault will write a proposal and bring it to Budget Committee for presentation.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 P.M. by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectwoman Boissonnault, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;



Pamela L. Atwood,  
Recording Secretary

  
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William F. Condra, Chairman

  
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Kermit R. Williams

  
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Kellie-Sue Boissonault

  
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Date Signed