

1 **Wilton Conservation Commission**

2 P.O. Box 83, Wilton Town Hall, Wilton, NH 03086

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9 Peter Howd – 727-439-6517 – peterhowd@gmail.com

10 Leslie P. Tallarico, Alternate

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12 Minutes of Monthly Meeting

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14 The Wilton Conservation Commission held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at
15 7:00 pm in the Library History Room.

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17 **Call to Order:** Bart Hunter, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

18 Those attending were:

- 19 • Members: Bart Hunter William Mahar, Jennifer Beck, Al Preston, Peter Howd, and Jeff Stone.
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21 • Adam Royds stopped by to say goodbye and thank you for his opportunity to be part of the
22 Conservation Commission.

23
24 **Old Business:**

- 25 • **Minutes:** Approval of last month's minutes, July 9, 2019, and the Special Meeting Minutes of
26 June 10, 2019, were tabled till our September meeting.
27
28 • **Budget and Expenditures:** B. Hunter indicated we finally got our budget numbers, and that
29 we have not spent much of it yet.
30
31 • **ZBA:** J. Stone indicated he had only attended one of the two meetings last month. At one of
32 them the ZBA approved the application for the septic system on Davisville Rd, and they sent
33 Quinn Brothers away to get more information before a determination would be made.

34
35 P. Howd indicated that he had also attended the meetings. He indicated that the ZBA is going
36 to do a site walk for the application that was planning a new driveway over the wetlands. He
37 also indicated that the question of change of use from a quarry to an asphalt plant has not
38 come up yet on the Quinn application.

- 39
40 • **Planning Board:** B. Hunter indicated things were quiet. There was discussion regarding the
41 Shoreland Exemption. He indicated that Milford and Merrimack are the only two towns in our
42 watershed that have the Shoreland Exemption. He also indicated on speaking with members
43 in Milford that they were having problems with projects along the river.
44
45 • **Frog Pond:** J. Stone there was nothing new. The pond is low. He also indicated that he will
46 be suspending seepage weir inspections because the thorn bushes are really high. He also
47 indicated there is no evidence that we should be concerned about seepage.
48

49 A. Preston indicated that he would write up a bid for mowing and other work that needs to be
50 done.

- 51 • **Forest Management:** W. Mahar indicated that there are two new timber cuts. We are still
52 waiting for the numbers on current use. J. Vinton indicated she will request them when D.
53 Harling is back from vacation.

54
55 J. Stone inquired about what was happening with the Heald Tract. A discussion was had
56 regarding this cutting.

57
58 B. Hunter indicated that the Spring Trail going to pond is now open. He indicated that it was
59 mowed all the way over to the other side on Kimball Hill Road to Heald Road and down to the
60 pond.

- 61
62 • **Wildlife Sightings:** A. Preston indicated he saw a cotton tail in his garden. It was the first
63 one in many years. J. Beck indicated she has a family of eight raccoons. W. Mahar indicated
64 he saw a really big porcupine.
- 65
66 • **Shoreland Protection Exemption:** B. Hunter indicated that SoRLAC was not informed of
67 Wilton's intent to apply for an exemption. They wrote a letter to the Select Board and Planning
68 Board in opposition of this application. (See attached) He indicated that they are directly im-
69 pacted because they have custodianship of the river.

70 P. Howd indicated that the NRPC did the application and the Planning Board had initiated it.
71 There was never a public hearing regarding the application. A long discussion was had
72 regarding the impact an approval of the application would mean to the Town.

73 P. Howd indicated he has been doing research on this issue. He indicated that the State's list
74 of what you can do is bigger than the cannot do list. So he was questioning why Wilton would
75 want a Shoreland Exemption.

76 J. Beck indicated that there have been no requests for development in downtown. The
77 Commission believes there needs to be an open and meaningful discussion on what the Town
78 wants. They indicated there needs to be a public hearing.

- 79 • **Asphalt Plant behind Goss Park Update:** B. Hunter indicated there needs to be more re-
80 search the plant. P. Howd indicated that they only came in front of the ZBA regarding a vari-
81 ance for the height of the tower. The Planning Board indicated that it does not violate the Town
82 Ordinances. Eco Development said this would not be a good business for Wilton.

83 P. Howd indicated he was doing research of the Town Ordinances on this subject. The Quinns
84 would have to prove a hardship in order to have the variance approved. They can not use the
85 fact that the quarry is there to claim a hardship in justification of the requested variance. More
86 discussion was had regarding the asphalt plant and access to it.

87 B. Hunter indicated that blast zone is right behind Goss Park. He also indicated he has re-
88 ceived a phone call from a concerned citizen on Burton Highway, that there have been several
89 letters to the newspaper in opposition. He also indicated that as a Commission we need to
90 study and prepare a letter to the Planning Board and the Select Board.

91 • **Bounds on Wilton Center Property:** B. Hunter and Karen checked all the bounds and found
92 them to be as they should be.

93 • **Garwin Falls Parking:** B. Hunter indicated that the Select Board discussed parking at Garwin
94 Falls Monday night. The Board is considering opening the closed log landing at the New
95 Reservoir for parking. B. Hunter indicated we should put the land in conservation so that this
96 Commission can manage it. The Board indicated that it would cost about \$1600 to clean up
97 the logs. There was discussion about putting this and other properties into Conservation.

98 B. Hunter also indicated that they had reviewed the plans for the Stagecoach Road and said
99 these looked good.

100 • **Stage Coach Road Bridge:** B. Hunter indicated the engineer reviewed the plans and indic-
101 ated they looked good. They are going to make the bridge longer so they can make it lower. It
102 is going to be premade and delivered in pieces then installed. It will be built with an arch under-
103 neath, the abutments are concrete, and wood railing will be put up.

104 **New Business:**

105 • **Peter Howd:** P. Howd indicated he was sworn in this morning by the Deputy Town Clerk.
106

107 • **Report on WCC Conservation Plan:** B. Hunter indicated that the Planning Board is already
108 done with it and they will get back to it in a few years. However, we can still update our plan.
109 Discussion was had regarding what will be needed to be done.
110

111 It was determined that the work would have to be done by November so we have time to get it
112 ready for Town meeting if we planned on putting any of these properties.
113

114 **Adjournment:**

115 • A motion to adjourn was made by P. Howd and seconded by J. Beck. **The motion passed.** B.
116 Hunter **adjourned the meeting 9:11 pm.**
117

118 Respectfully submitted,
119

120 Jeanette Vinton, WCC Recorder
121

122 APPROVED: XXXXXX
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