TOWN OF WILTON

June 3, 2025

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Members Present: David Leavitt, Tiffany Maiuri, Mike Wells, Phil Hilton, Maria Greeley (Town Manager).

Absent- Keith Swett

(FULL RECORDING IS AVAILABLE AT www.mtbluetv.org)

Public Hearing- ATV Access Routes

Item #1: Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2: To hold a Public Hearing to discuss ATV Access Routes

Tiffany Called Meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Tiffany stated there was some discussion last time if it was properly posted and stated it was properly posted. Notices were sent out to the papers and posted, however, still holding the meeting to invite more public comments.

Tiffany reviewed the public hearing rules and received the consensus from the Select Board to proceed forward.

Sarah Baker, president of the Chesterville Ridge Rider Club and Scott Currier, the trail master, reviewed their request of connecting Chesterville to Wilton through McCrillis Corner Road. This request is also contingent on state approval.

Justin Anderson states he is an ATV advocate. Justin stated as far as noise goes, the road couldn't get any noisier from dump trucks, motorcycles, no exhaust cars, etc. Justin stated as an ATV rider he doesn't want to get on the road and ride a distance. Justin stated he doesn't see much disadvantage to this.

Bryce Weeks thanks the town for sending out notices. Weeks stated he is opposed due to safety items such as low visibility, dangerous roads, speed, and bridges.

Carl Wegner states there were a lot of comments made at the May 6 meeting and states he is hoping those comments are still in effect. He states he repeated the same things he said in the last meeting. He states the road doesn't need more noise.

Bill Russo states it would be a safety issue as there are a lot of fast drivers around the bend.

Nancy Merrow states she is opposed to this because of added noise and speed.

Marge Russo stated it is a safety issue for her, and she doesn't feel safe on the road. Marge states it is a loud and unsafe road already.

Lynne Buchheit states cars go by her house very fast and is opposed to having atvs as well.

Maxine Brown stated she was curious to hear the Police Chief's and Road Foreman's comments on this

Pam Moore states it is a noise issue. Pam also states there are people doing donuts in the intersection. So, due to noise and safety she is opposed.

Justin Anderson states he rides all summer and has not run into violators on access roads due to game wardens being all over. He states there might be a rare few, but most people follow the limit. He states it will be no more noise than a dump truck or Harley.

Dennis Brown states it is a noisy road and there is a lot of speed involved.

Tiffany closed public hearing at 6:21 PM

Selectboard Agenda

Item #1: Action following ATV Access Routes Public Hearing, if applicable

Motion by David/Second by Mike- to approve

David stated accident reports have been looked at for the last five years and correlations between ATV's and change of accidents and there were none.

Mike states it can be a dangerous road but traffic in general is the danger. The population is increasing but hears what people are saying about noise and increased traffic.

Phil states that he has been thinking about ATV access and benefiting the town to bring people in to support our businesses, he has supported the past several years. The last few times all he's heard is negative things.

Jeff Chassion, owner of Ambition Brewing, stated the ATV users have always been respectful and are downtown to spend money. They support the hardware store, restaurants, and fuel. He states he has seen very little problems and doesn't hear them.

Nicki Girard states it is nice to have them recognize our town and the noise is just the sound of summer.

Eric Girard states the ATVs are frequenting the businesses downtown. He states he is in favor of adding additional trail systems to bring more people to Wilton.

Mike asked what the speed limits were.

David states Temple Rd. is 20 MPH and Depot St. is 35 MPH. and the state controls Depot St. McCrillis Corner Rd would be 20 MPH.

Tiffany states it was a difficult decision.

Vote: 2-2-1(Absent-Keith Swett) Fails

Item #2: Minutes from the May 20, 2025 Select Board Meeting

Motion by David/Second by Phil- to approve minutes from May 20, 2025 Select Board Meeting

Vote: 4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Item #3: Public to speak on a non-agenda item

Louise Hiltz asked if some of the committee meetings could be held in the evenings for people who work.

Douglas Hiltz stated that with the annual town meeting coming up, the McGuillicuddy Park sign is open.

Douglas also stated at the meet and greet he was asked "how elected officials should resolve pretentious issues?" and that he should have been firmer in his advocacy for the public. Douglas stated as public officials we should always strive to protect the citizens' right to participate in government.

Nathan Hiltz stated learning must start somewhere. Nathan referred to "Local Government in Maine" published by MMA in 2016. Nathan stated "One hundred years ago, people thought it would be nice to introduce the basics of American Government to the British. As we sit here one hundred years later, it is apparent to me that American Citizens are the ones that have never heard of America."

Nick Santora suggested getting a meter to test for noise on how loud things are, a radar gun to test for speeding, and videoing.

Item #4: Liquor License Renewal – Ambition Brewing, LLC

Motion by Mike/Second Phil: to approve liquor license for Ambition Brewing, LLC

Maria states all taxes and fees are current and there have been no police issues.

Vote 4-1(Keith Swett Absent)

Item #5: Establish Joint Jay and Wilton Collaboration Committee

Motion by David/Second by Mike: to approve Joint Jay-Wilton Collaboration Committee

Maria stated the towns of Wilton and Jay are beginning to explore collaborations between departments and how both communities can benefit from collaboration. Maria states a joint committee to thoughtfully explore the options being formed.

Motion to establish the Joint Jay and Wilton Police Collaboration Committee charged with exploring opportunities for collaboration between our police departments.

Motion by David/Second by Mike- moved as written.

Vote on Amended Motion: 4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Motion by David/Second by Mike- approve as amended

Vote: 4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Maria states five applicants were received.

Item #6: Appointment of Wilton-Jay Joint Collaboration Committee (2 members)

Maria stated the applicants were Shannon Smith, Nathan Hiltz, Amanda Lee, Mat **Bickford,** and Nick Santora.

Motion by David/Second by Tiffany- to move Mat Bickford and Amanda Lee

David stated it should be an agreement between both towns for committee membership and alternates. David stated he doesn't want it to appear that Wilton is trying to stack the deck.

Vote: 4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Item #7: Ed MacDonald Safety Grant Program Grant Award Acceptance – Maine Municipal Association

Motion by David/Second by Mike- to approve the grant.

Maria stated Justin Lowe applied to the Ed MacDonald Safety Grant Program on the behalf of the Fire Department. They applied for three cold water suits and were awarded the grant.

Vote: 4-1 (Absent-Keith Swett)

Item #8: Snowmobile Municipal Grant Award Acceptance

Motion by David/Second by Mike- to approve.

Maria stated December 3, 2024, Eric Brown came to the Selectboard meeting to discuss applying for the municipal grant and the town manager would have to sign on the behalf of that. The amount is \$20,020.

Vote: 4-1 (Absent- Keith Swett)

Item #9: MDOT Large Culvert Replacement Route 2 Agreement

Maria stated there was an agreement received from the state that requires the Municipal officials' signatures.

Maria recommends the Selectboard to request a bond.

Motion by David/Second by Phil- move Route 2 Agreement

Vote: 4-1(Absent- Keith Swett)

Item #10: Upcoming Meetings: Town Meeting - June 16, 2025 - 6:00 PM Academy Hill School Selectboard Meeting - June 17, 2025 - 6:00 PM

Item #11: Other

Maria stated on March 18, 2025, the water and sewer budgets were discussed and each budget said fiscal year 26 and it needed to be fiscal year 25. Requesting a motion to amend the minutes to approve the water and sewer department budget for fiscal year 25.

Motion by Phil/Second by Mike- Approve Water and Sewer Department Fiscal Year '25 Budget.

Vote: 4-1 (Absent-Keith Swett)

Maria stated she needed a motion to also accept the grant for heat pumps and move forward with heat pumps within the Public Safety Building.

Motion by Phil/Second by Tiffany- to accept the grant for heat pumps.

Vote: 4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Item #12: Manager's report

Maria stated the Town Office will be open for Election Day next Tuesday, June 10 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Deadlines for absentee ballots is June 5th. The Town Office will be closed on June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.

Maria stated Dylan Toothaker has accepted the position of HR/Finance Director and will begin work on Monday, June 9th. He brings with him many years of banking experience and we are looking forward to having Dylan join our team.

Item #13: Adjourn

Motion by David/Second by Mike- to adjourn. Vote:4-1(Absent-Keith Swett)

Out 6:58 PM