

TOWN OF WILTON
August 5, 2025
SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Members Present: David Leavitt, Tiffany Maiuri, Keith Swett, Nancy Allen, Phil Hilton, Maria Greeley (Town Manager).

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

Item # 1- Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2- Minutes from June 17, 2025, Select Board Meeting

Motion by Keith/ Second by Phil- To approve the minutes.

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Item #3- Minutes from July 15, 2025, Select Board Meeting.

Motion by Phil/ Second by Keith- To approve the minutes.

Vote 5-0, unanimous

Item #4- Public to speak on non-agenda item

Nathan Hiltz shared: He is on a crusade to get the public more engaged. People only care about things when they affect them directly. A 1950 report found that the principal agreement against the town manager form of government was that it works so well people lose interest in local government and don't attend meetings where decisions are made. In the 2025 vote, how many of the voters will care about what impact their vote will have on the year 2055? In conclusion, when a person becomes a part of the government, they do not suddenly become imbued with an immunity to human condition as evident in the current information crisis

Item #5- Sevee & Maher Engineers- Proposal for Civil Engineering and Permitting Services

Jeff Reed spoke about meeting with Maria in December about carrying the shoreline project forward. Some things have changed with DEP permits and things, but he did put together a proposal. It's about 90% set right now with submitting permits, offering bidding assistance, and construction administration assistance. He submitted the proposal about a week and a half ago and followed up with Maria and she thought it would be helpful if he attended this meeting to help answer questions.

Motion by Keith, Second by Tiffany -To approve the town manager to sign and pay out the retaining wall account.

Vote 5-0, unanimous

Tiffany asked about the functions and value assessment. Jeff answered that the functions and value assessment is a wetland study and that evaluates the proposed work and the value that it offers the public. It provides additional support.

Nancy asked about wildlife and if that's been considered. Jeff said yes, the project looks at how wildlife exists now and proposes how it will exist after the project.

Tiffany asked about the light photometric plan. Jeff answered that it's how the lighting will affect the neighbors and a plan to make sure they're good neighbors.

Sevee & Maher are assisting the town with construction documents and permitting. The project needs to be completed by December 2026. Bids will be gathered before Spring so that the project can be started as soon as the ground is ready.

Item #6- Friends of Wilson Lake- Annual Meeting 2025 Update- Robert Rogers

Robert was in attendance and gave an update on the FOWL annual meeting held in July. Robert shared a PowerPoint presentation. He shared pictures from the watershed survey that was completed and the impacts of watershed in various places in Wilton. They created a watershed protection project after the watershed survey in 2017. Phase one was in 2017-2018. 2025 was the watershed-based protection plan and phase 2 of the watershed protection project will take place in 2026-2027. To qualify for the section 319 grant, they needed this watershed-based protection plan. It is a ten-year road map. There are 76 sites in the Wilson Lake watershed plan.

Nancy asked if there was a difference in the temperature of the water over the years. Robert answered yes, they have been collecting data since 2018. From November until about Christmas, the water is a uniform temperature. By January, the surface is colder than the bottom. April waters are uniform temperatures and then the temperature rises.

Phase 2 project budget: \$150,000 from the federal government, \$420,728 non-federal match = \$570,724 proposed total cost.

Item #7- Request for Liquor License Renewal- Comfort Inn & Suites

Motion by Keith/ Second by Tiffany- To approve the request for liquor license renewal for Comfort Inn & Suites.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous

Item #8- Department Head Update: Sonny Dunham, Fire Chief

Sonny shared there are 20 firefighters and 3 of those are Juniors in HS. He just had a 15-yr old join. The fire department has had 71 calls as of yesterday and 3 months back. 4 were structure fires. There have been 14 medical calls, which are rising. They have 3 EMTs which is helpful, but he's hoping maybe they could get a couple more through a grant. They need an EMT to go with them to the calls. They have also had some CO calls and propane calls. They are short-handed during the day. He's hoping to get 2 per diem firefighters added.

They have started work on the public safety building and Ethan's area. They are rewiring new lines from the panel and have been doing some painting.

Ladder truck #7 is going to Lake Region to re-align/adjust the cables hopefully by the end of the month. There is an out-of-state company coming to recertify Ladder 7. Engine 1 has some air leaking with the braking system, and they are going to take care of that. The other trucks are good.

They have been completing a lot of training, every month at least 4 hours including confined space and hazmat. Hazmat is coming up in October with an outside trainer. MMA grant and EMA grant will help with the costs. The balance is reasonable and will be split with Jay when they join the training.

They have been working on specs for a new truck to replace Engine 1 down the road. The trucks take 36-48 months to be built after the paperwork gets put in. It could take up to 8-12 months to get the specs together.

They have been working on some grants. They got a grant for 3 cold water suits through MMA. They are working on applying for an exhaust system through the Stephen King grant. They will be applying for a Walmart grant for 8 thermo imaging cameras that attach to the front of the firefighters.

They have had calls that needed a side by side, but they don't have access to one. They will be working on a grant to try to get a side by side.

The Blueberry Festival went well; 1 firefighter was used during the festival to cover medical on Saturday. They used a side by side from Powersport and 1 from Osgood's to go around and assist as needed. There were lots of events at the festival going on for kids and there were lots of kids there. About 300 kids had rides on the fire truck.

Item #9- Review and Approval of Police RFPs.

- a. Police chief recommended the cruiser from Quirk for \$45,639
- b. \$21,401.79 from Island Tech Services of Maine for all the equipment.

Motion by Tiffany/ 2nd by Phil- To approve the RFPs for the cruiser and equipment.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous

- c. Chief recommended rejecting the current proposals for the body-worn camera and going back to bid to get more vendors applying.

Motion by Nancy/ 2nd by Tiffany-To approve the chief's recommendation to go back out to bid.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous

Item #10- Recreation Committee Appointments: Betsy Mancine and Kathleen Mills

Item #11- Planning Board Appointment: Michael LeClair

Item #12- Board of Appeals Appointment: Peter Robichaud

Motion by Keith/ 2nd by Tiffany- To do appointments as listed: Betsy, Kathleen, Michael, and Peter

Vote: 5-0 unanimous

Item # 13- Maine Municipal Association- MMA Annual Election: Vice President & Executive Committee Members

The ballot election for Vice President and executive committee members. The Vice President for a 1-year term is Anthony Ward. The Executive committee members for a 3-year term are: Phil Crowell, Suzette Francis, and Mark Leonard.

Motion by Keith/ 2nd by Phil- To approve the ballots are written and to authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the municipal officer's decision.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous

Item #14- Upcoming Meetings: Selectboard Meeting- August 19, 2025- 6:00 PM

Yes, that's the correct date. David may not be in attendance.

Item #15- Other

There were no other items discussed.

Item #16- Manager's Report

The blueberry festival was last weekend. Maria's understanding is that most everything went smoothly. A huge thank you to Renee Woodard for working through all the details in bringing the community together. She puts a lot of effort into coordinating all the activities. She also wanted to thank all of Renee's family members, numerous volunteers, the public works crew, police department, and fire department for their assistance throughout the festival and leading up to it. We will be coordinating a post meeting with department heads and Renee to discuss this year's festival.

Maria met with the County and other local municipalities regarding the regional ACO position. Last fall the town sent a letter in support of this position to Commissioner Saviello for the County to apply for the Betterment Grant. We were notified that the County did not receive the grant unfortunately. As a result, the County asked if we would still be interested in applying for this grant again this fall. Christa Powers is our current ACO, and she is doing a fantastic job. She even works in other municipalities. It is Maria's understanding that the town would still be interested in sending in a letter of support alongside this grant resubmission to apply for this next round of funding through the Betterment Grant.

Town Office staff and Maria completed the TRIO WEB training last Wednesday. There were some minor work arounds that needed to be addressed, but overall, the training went well. Logins are being issued thanks to Dylan and go live is Wednesday, August 20th. Everyone's patience during this transition has been appreciated. Maria has also promised staff that if it's within her control, there will not be any other major changes for a while. She appreciates their patience also as we've been working towards making our processes more secure.

Item #17- Adjourn

Motion by Keith/ 2nd by Tiffany- To adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous, 7:06 PM