

**TOWN OF WILTON**  
**August 19, 2025**  
**SELECTBOARD MINUTES**

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

**(FULL RECORDING IS AVAILABLE AT [www.mtbluetv.org](http://www.mtbluetv.org))**

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**Item # 1- Pledge of Allegiance**

**Item #2- Minutes from August 5, 2025, Select Board Meeting**

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

Vote 3-0 unanimous

**Item #3- Public to speak on non-agenda item**

Nathan Hiltz shared: Nathan shared parts of an article from 1846 with information about teachers and parents, their roles and interferences in feedback. The message was about building a positive feedback loop. The better understanding the public has about the operations of a well-run government, the more sympathetic they will be toward the perspectives of the employees. But if the pendulum were to swing to the opposite end of the spectrum, it would create a perception that can most accurately be characterized by a quote from Woodrow Wilson in 1913, "Government ought to be all outside and no inside. Everybody knows that corruption thrives in secret places and avoids public places, and we believe in a fair presumption that secrecy means impropriety."

**Item #4- Franklin County Solid Waste Interlocal Cooperation Agreement 2025-2026**

Maria spoke with Amy Bernard regarding the amount they budgeted for the solid waste for Washington Township. Last year, she had asked Maria to send 1% of the total budget for our transfer station budget, which is what the county budgeted for. However, both Maria and Amy don't feel that this offers an accurate reflection of these costs. Maria will work with Rhonda on how these costs were calculated and will give Amy this update prior to their budget discussions. Washington Township uses the transfer station in Wilton.

Motion by Phil/ Second by Nancy -To approve \$4,663 as written in the Franklin County Solid Waste Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

Vote 3-0, unanimous

**Item #5- Liquor License Renewal- Meadow Lanes**

All taxes and fees are current, no police issues

Motion by Phil/ Second by Nancy- To approve the request for liquor license renewal for Meadow Lanes.

Vote: 3-0 unanimous

## **Item #6- Department Head Updates- Ethan Kyes, Police Chief**

### **Staffing:**

- Currently there are 2 open positions
- One opening has been open for 14 months, the second position has been vacant for 8 months
- The two part-time employees will likely have less availability with one transferring from a local department to the Sheriff's Office, and the other one's schedule has changed.
- There is one individual in the early stage of the hiring process, if everything goes well with the hiring process and FTO, he might be able to take shifts in January 2026.
- Officer Stephen Charles for the Act of Bravery Award for the house fire on McGrath Road.
- The administrator assistant and Officer Brittany Villar are excellent new hires.

### **Call Volume:**

- This summer has been one of the busiest times in the last 5 years, maybe even the last ten years.
- There's been an increase in violent crimes in the last 8 weeks.
- 7 firearm complaints where individuals were threatening another person, law enforcement, or themselves.
- 3 search warrants, 1 weapons restriction order
- 1 officer involved shooting
- In the same 10 days as the officer involved shooting, there were 2 PFA violations, 2 DVA involving elderly females, reopened a case and charged an individual for aggravated assault involving an infant with broken bones.
- 10 times a supervisor was called out to a scene, 3 times Lt. Lynch after being called in came in the next day to do follow ups when not scheduled.

### **Other:**

- The conversion into the record management system is 2 months into the transition. There have been some issues, but they are working out the kinks.
- eAccident is not working. By law they have 5 days to upload accidents to the state that hasn't been working correctly with eAccident.
- Cloud base has some issues but has been helpful with administrative work
- Hotspots have been added in cruisers after the officer involved shooting. It's about \$30/car for each of the 4 cars = \$120 a month about.
- Bryne State Crisis Intervention Program Grant for \$12,000. They were 1 out of 5 to receive this. They will use it to redo the evidence room. The estimate is \$15,000, but with the \$12,000 grant and monies they have, they will be able to redo the evidence room.
- Heat pumps are being installed currently with the grant the town office applied for.
- Collaboration meetings are going well with Jay/Wilton.

Motion by Keith/ Second by Nancy- To approve moving forward with receiving grant money of \$12,000.

Vote: 3-0 unanimous

Keith asked if some cases might be released due to a lack of lawyers. Ethan hasn't seen that yet, they keep hearing it but not seeing it.

Nancy asked about how many people are getting picked up by ICE? Ethan said they haven't done any in the last few months. In the past, they have found some illegal immigrants, and they are turned over to ICE. Border control usually comes to pick them up.

#### **Item #7- Town Office Hours- Trial Period ends Labor Day**

Maria created a survey on SurveyMonkey that was added to the Town's Facebook and Website. The survey ended on 8/18/2025 and results are as follows:

- 49 responses
- 45 voters were residents
- 4 not residents
- 26 in support of keeping the trial hours
- 14 in support of returning to the old hours
- 9 voters had no preference to the hours

Wilton is a recreational community, and we provide lots of services to the town. We want to be available to the public. Staff is in favor of keeping the trial hours. With the trial hours, the town office is open to the public an additional 5 hours compared to the previous hours. We are still meeting deadlines. The town will look at expanding online registrations for Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and possibly paying taxes online.

Motion by Phil/ 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy- To make the trial hours the new permanent hours for the Town Office.

Vote: 3-0 unanimous

#### **Item #8- Upcoming Meetings: Selectboard Meeting- September 2, 2025- 6:00 pm.**

Yes, that is correct.

#### **Item #9- Other**

- CMP pole location starting at RT 4 and McCrillis Corner Rd and extending to Beedy Rd. There will be 4 poles: distance of 630 feet. There needs to be some further clarification about whether Beedy Rd is in Jay or Wilton.

Motion by Phil/ 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy- To approve the CMP application for pole location.

Vote: 3-0 unanimous

- There was a resignation from a Wilton/Jay collaboration committee member from Wilton. Maria will get the application advertised and have it due at the end of next week so that the approved applicant will be able to attend the next meeting.
- Services for the municipal departments in Wilton were shut down due to the Beeline/Spectrum buyout. Maria tried working on getting that set back up but eventually went with Fidium. The town office was back online on Monday. Ethan was a big help prior to that with getting the town office set up with hotspots. Maria will work through the costs.

**Item #10- Manager's Report:**

The town mailed 30-day letters of intent to file a lien for unpaid 2024 taxes. The 30 days expires on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> so they are due by Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately 290 letters sent. There are approximately 218 accounts that are still due. We have had approximately 70 accounts that have been paid since the letter was mailed. After September 8<sup>th</sup>, a tax lien mortgage certificate (tax lien certificate) must be prepared for every property for which taxes have not been fully paid. The lien certificate must be recorded within 10 calendar days after the end of the 30-day period.

Trio is going live on Wednesday, August 20, 2025. The town office appreciates everyone's patience.

**Item #11- Adjourn**

Motion by Nancy/ 2<sup>nd</sup> by Phil- To adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 3-0 unanimous, 6:46 PM