

TOWN OF WILTON
October 21, 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 October 7, 2025, Select Board Meeting

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

Vote 3-0-2

Item #3- Public to speak on non-agenda items.

Brian Patterson spoke. He is looking to get cannabis inspections, permits, and payments to be aligned at one time for his business. Currently there are 2 separate times that he has inspections and needs to pay, but it would be helpful if the inspections could happen all at once.

Nathan Hiltz stated, “gravestones are symbols.” When the maintenance of these symbols is discussed, he’d like people to think about something different. “State law requires that veteran’s graves should be maintained by towns and flags be placed on them. Unfortunately, some of the symbols in the cemetery have fallen to poor condition because of years of vandalism and neglect. The flag stands for many things including holding a public meeting. The Boston Tea Party convinced King George that his inability to control Massachusetts was partly rooted in the highly independent nature of the local government. To undermine that government, he imposed the Massachusetts Government Act of 1774. One provision of this act said, Selectboards could no longer call meetings without royal approval and limited business to only items that had been approved. It also revoked the charter that Massachusetts had created for itself and dissolved many elected positions shifting them to royal appointments. Our public meetings in Wilton today would make King George proud. Much like what has happened to the symbols in our cemeteries, the value of public meetings has fallen victim to years of vandalism and neglect. The Town Manager form of government shifts many duties from elected officials to an appointed one, significantly muting the business conducted in public meetings. The blame for neglect can be shared across thousands of people over many decades and will take many years to correct, but for that to happen we will need to see a generation of people that decide they no longer share the King’s vision of undermining the value of local government meetings.”

Item #4- Review and approval of Cannabis License Renewal- The Honey Comb Farm

All taxes and fees are current, no police issues.

Motion by Keith/ Second by Phil to approve the Cannabis license renewal for the Honey Comb Farm.

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Item #5- East Wilton Cemetery

It has been determined that there is an encroachment within the plots of the cemetery. The town of Wilton took over the East Wilton Cemetery in 2016 and in the Town Manager's opinion therefore assumed responsibility entirely for the cemetery. They have discussed the lot owned by the Goodwin property with one of their heirs and Kent Wiles, which the Goodwin lot appears to have been encroached upon. In Kent's perspective, the least inexpensive way to fix this is to move the interments further down one of the rows and Anthony (the heir) is in favor of this. The cost for Kent, as Sexton, to complete this is \$3200. The Town Manager will be looking into the roles and responsibilities of a Sexton, specifically in Wilton, and the history of the position. This has been ongoing for quite some time, and the Town Manager will be pleased to see this task moving forward.

This has been a long-going discussion with the cemetery committee.

Motion by Tiffany/ Second by Phil- To approve funds to be paid out of the Cemetery Trust fund and authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the town.

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Item #6- Upcoming Meetings: Selectboard Meeting- November 4, 2025- 6:00 PM at the Public Safety Building

Because of the election, the location will change for the meeting.

Item #7- Other

There were no other items discussed.

Item #8- Manager's Report

Election Updates: Election Day is scheduled for November 4th from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm for the Referendum Election. Registered voters can fill out an absentee ballot application, and ballots can either be picked up or mailed to you. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot, except in certain emergency situations is by close of business Thursday, October 30th at 5:00 pm. Voters may come into the Town Office to register to vote or may do so at the polls on voting day.

The Town Manager spoke with Mark Parlin, the project manager of the Maine Dot Bridge Program, regarding the Pond Road bridge project. In his email, he stated that 'originally we had specified that the bridge needed to be open to traffic by November 22nd of this year, but there were some setbacks acquiring precast concrete beams.' They are hoping they will be paving and opening the bridge back up to traffic by Thanksgiving if the weather holds out. If that changes, they will let us know. In addition, the project completion date is the end of June next year. They will need to finish up some minor details but should remain open to traffic. There may be times when they will require one lane alternating traffic but will maintain the area with flaggers.

Just a reminder that the Town Office will be closed on Tuesday, October 28th for the town wide Annual Safety Training Day. The Town Manager will ask to have this posted on the town website, Facebook, and signage on the Town Office door.

The Trunk or Treat and Halloween Walk on High Street will be October 31st from 6:00-7:30. High St will be closed to all vehicle traffic for the annual Halloween Event Friday Oct. 31, 2025, from 5:30-7:30 PM.

Item #9- Adjourn

Motion by David/ Second by Tiffany- To adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 5-0 unanimous, 6:14 PM