

Minutes of the Wilton Select Board Meeting
December 16, 2025

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

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

Item #1- Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2-Minutes from November 18,2025 Select Board Meeting

Motion by Phil /Second by Nancy-To Approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes from November 18, 2025.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

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

Nathan Hiltz spoke on how the Selectboard form of Government was invented. He also spoke on regulation of goods exchange between farmers and how the new world offered the promise of agricultural sovereignty. A plan that will promote development for Wilton is one that extends sovereignty to include all forms of agricultural activity, not just food. Economic opportunity will become available with greater equity.

Item #5- Andre Cormier-Mt.Blue TV Report

(See attached)

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Phil-To pay out the Franchise Fees received from BeeLine payable to Mt. Blue.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #6-Department Updates

A. Police Department-Ethan Kyes

There are 6 positions filled with anticipation of filling the seventh position in February. The last vacancy was a 20-month vacancy. This would be the hiring of Cody Henry back onto the staff.

In February, Brittany Villar and Cody Henry are slotted to attend the 49th Maine Criminal Justice Academy-Basic Law Enforcement Training Program.

Justin Middleton is a new hire. He recently completed his nine weeks of Field Training Program. He will be on an eight-week order from the Army National Guard.

This is for Officer Candidate School. During the eight-week period, the department will be down with three officers. There will be a struggle to fill shifts.

-We have two part time officers. Other agencies are struggling as much as we are. The cases have come back down to normal since summer. The Child Advocacy Center covers Franklin, Androscoggin and Oxford County. Franklin had 52 cases alone. Wilton had 8 cases alone with one resurfacing.

-The computer system is fully functioning. Record management system has been redone. Approximately 40% capacity is being used. One thing they are having trouble with is the crash reporting. Ethan is looking at alternative options and going to what the state police are using, which is called Mixers.

-In regard to the Jay-Wilton Police Collaborations meetings- they are at a point of shortly giving out dates for a presentation of what the committee research has come up with. The committee has done a lot of research.

-The Police Department has a tower that houses the Fire & Police Department radios on what was BeeLine Tower at 290 Temple Road. There is a 150-foot tower that Verizon owns and there's a smaller tower than a 75-foot tower that BeeLine owns. The land was sold. Our equipment is on American Tower. Ethan is having issues getting a hold of American Tower to make sure it is to have the equipment there. There are multiple emails out to American Tower and multiple voice messages have been left with no response. Well, there was one response asking about the other tower. The email specifically stated 290. Research has been done and a possible alternative solution could be to go to a different site so that there are more responsive representatives. One thing to note, when Beeline walked away from the facility, they left the ac on, they turned off the heat and the doors were unlocked. They said they were going to shut the CMP off. The power and the generator are not working. With no backup generator, there would be no radios.

-The 2018 Cruiser that has 156,000 miles on it-Ethan is looking at stripping all the gear out of that and trying to put a bid out for that to sell it and put the funds back into capital and get a state police cruiser. Jay Police Department just bought some cruisers with half the mileage for less money. Ethan feels he could get approximately \$3 to \$4,000.00 for this cruiser. The new cruiser, which is an unmarked cruiser, doesn't have a light bar, is completely up and running. It is good to go and it's working well. We came in at a little over \$64,000, for which Ethan thinks agencies are spending around \$72,000.00

Keith -How many cruisers and what are the years?

Ethan-there are 7 cruisers- 2 -2017/1-2018/1-2020/1-2022/1-2023/1-2025.

Motion by Phil/Second by Keith-To Allow the Police Chief to put out to bid the 2018 cruiser through Auction International.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #7-CMP Pole Location Permit-Form 4501-Village View

Motion by Keith/Second by Phil-To Approve CMP Pole permit for Village View.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item#8-RSU9 Board Member Appointment

There was a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of RSU 9 Board Member Griffin Mayhew.

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Phil-To Table this Appointment to the next Select Board Meeting. Keith asked why. Tiffany explained that it would be better to wait until after the services have passed.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #9-Recreation Committee Appointment

Motion by Keith/Second by Tiffany-To Appoint Tess Cote and Jessica Nadeau to the Recreation Committee.

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #10-Budget Process Schedule for 2026-2027

Maria explained that dates are subject to change. The Town Election and the Town Meeting are also not set. We try and follow suit with the State Election should there be a referendum. The Town Meeting would be the Monday following.

Item #11-Town Office Closure-December 26, 2025, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Motion by Keith/Second by Phil-To allow the closure of the Town Office December 26, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Employees would use their Personal Time and would include Town operations. (i.e. Town Office, Public Works, Water, Sewer and any other Administrative Staff.)

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous

Item #12-Upcoming Meetings:

Selectboard Meeting-January 6, 2026-6:00 PM

Item #13-Other

Nancy spoke on the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Santa. She wanted to thank Renee Woodard, her family, and all the kids that came to help. Nancy attended this and helped out. They did a great job and were very well organized. Thanks to Santa on doing a great job.

Item #4-Franklin County Commissioner Update-Tom Saviello

Tom Saviello spoke on his year of serving as county commissioner. It has been interesting and disappointing and rewarding in many ways. He had three goals. 1. Compliance in Law 2. Organizational structure and 3. Wanting individuals coming to work to feel welcome. As he got elected, he found out the environment needed some attention. He can successfully say the structure has been sorted out. There was a time where certain people thought the elected officials reported to the administrator. Tom stated , they do not. They are in the middle of a lawsuit because of misinterpretation of the law. That too has been sorted out. The biggest disappointment has been lack of compliance. Interpretations of law was spoken on. The budget has been the biggest frustration. Tom gave a lengthy discussion on the frustration of the budget. This can be seen on www.mtbluetv.org

Item #14- Manager's Report

-(See Attached Report)

-Maria thanked Renee and all the volunteers, her family, public works, who went and grabbed the tree, Maxine and Dennis Brown, who donated the tree, Adrenaline Electric who put the lights up and Baking up Maine for the cookies.

-Clarification was given that the Town Office is closed on December 24, 25, 26, 2025. Everything else is just December 25, 26, 2025. Transfer Station will be closed on Wednesday Dec 24 and will be back open on Saturday. This is per the CBAs.

-The wall at Bass Park was discussed. The Planning Board will be finalizing all the paperwork in January. Permits are being filed. At that point, Sevee & Maher should be discussing the funding and then go out to bid. It looks like there will be no swimming at Bass Park, because the front part is being worked on, where the parking is right up until Blueberry Festival. So, access will be limited or not existent?

Maria- A lot of internal conversations regarding this but could not verify at this time whether it will be the entire swim season. Maria did want to be clear that she believes we are going to have the support of the community and that we have at least a couple hundred thousand dollars that we can use towards this project that we need to use by the end of next year.

(Project Attached)

Item #15-Adjourn

Motion by Tiffany/Second by Nancy -To Adjourn

Vote: 5-0 Unanimous 7:10 P.M.

