

TOWN OF WILTON
November 18, 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 November 4, 2025, Select Board Meeting

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

Vote 5-0

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

Nathan Hiltz spoke about possible themes for upcoming Blueberry Festivals. Mr. Hiltz shared, “A select board agenda back in February included a discussion about the Blueberry Festival theme. Since that qualifies as Selectboard business it should be fair game to bring it up here. Some people may remember how the announcement of the theme had been handled in years past which was like this: as soon as one festival concluded, the theme for the following year was shared publicly. This gave time to hear feedback before starting any work on it. In some cases, the name ended up being tweaked over the winter. November seems like a good time to talk about next year’s theme. I will start off by mentioning an established precedence which is to use the celebration as a major anniversary as a theme for the festival. Here are some examples of what I mean. The Blueberry Festival did not happen in 2020, but the theme that had been announced for it had been the 200th anniversary of Maine gaining statehood. Going back to 2003, that year’s theme was the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Town of Wilton. The practice even pre-dates the Blueberry Festival. In 1953 Wilton made a big event for its 150th anniversary as a town. Now we will shift gears to look ahead. I encourage viewers to pause this video for a moment and note the next 2 years that feature a major anniversary. August 2026 will mark the 250th year since the founding of our country. I am confident that using 1776 as the festival theme would not produce even a whisper of negative feedback from anyone. The values our country are built on are a unifying force. We all understand how those values have this country comfortably positioned as the world power during the latter half of the 20th century. Looking beyond next year, the following anniversary might seem far off, but it is worth mentioning anyway. 2053 will mark the 30th year of a journey that began back in 2023 and its second anniversary was just last week. It will be the 30th anniversary of the appointment of the Town Manager.”

Stewart Allen spoke about the ATV park and ride and some concerns he has. He asked about the sign that was there and he wanted to know where it was. It was his sign, and he would like it back. John M. (public works) will be asked about the sign. Mr. Allen also wanted to know why the 4-wheeler club is not more involved in the ATV parking lot. He mentioned that the Town sold

that property to the 4-wheeler club for \$1 years ago and voted on it at a town meeting. He thinks it is great that the Park and Ride is there. He asked if the new sign would say Wilton ATV club? He stated that, as far as he knows, this Wilton ATV club is based out of its own group beside Powersports and is not recognized as a regular ATV club by the state. Mr. Allen is also hearing that the ATV club/ Powersports is taking over part of the railroad bed and that is never going to happen. The 4-wheeler club should be included on the sign. The 4-wheeler club wants to be involved in the work and the process. Maria asked if a connection could be made between the two clubs. Mr. Allen mentioned that the 4-wheeler club had reached out to the ATV club and had not heard from them.

David: The ATV Park and Ride that has been fixed up down there is part of Town Rec and it was a town grant that paid for it. There have been no records found of the town selling the land for \$1 to the 4-wheeler club to his knowledge. Nothing has been decided on the new sign yet.

Maria: The new club that appears to have been established is not associated with the town specifically.

Keith Amato asked if the ATV park and ride is owned by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. David stated it is Town Property.

Item #4- Appointment of Interim Town Clerk

Motion by Tiffany/ Second by Phil to appoint Cindy Dunham as interim Town Clerk.

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Motion by Tiffany/ Second by Phil to appoint Cindy Dunham as interim Registrar of Voters.

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Item #5- Review and approval of FY23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

The police department has applied and was awarded the FY23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for four magnifiers to be mounted on patrol rifles. The four magnifiers are \$2,731.99 and the award was \$2,445. The balance will be paid out of the police department's operating account.

Nancy asked why they needed it. David replied to be sure of the target before pulling the trigger, know your target. Tiffany said it is a piece of safety equipment.

Motion by Keith/ Second by Tiffany- To review and approve the FY23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

Vote 5-0 unanimous

Item #6- Review and Approval of Blueberry Festival Committee Applications: James Butler, Jana Hornsby, Heidi Luce, and Michael Luce.

Motion by Keith/ Second by Tiffany- To approve Blueberry Festival Committee Applications.

David mentioned some concerns with staggered term limit for these committee members, a staggered sequence so we are not cycling out a committee every year. There are six people on the

committee (the 4 applicants, Phil, and the events coordinator). Tiffany asked if there was a recommendation to make it a 2 year or 3-year appointment, stagger these. Keith mentioned that they should approve the applications now then come up with a plan for staggered committee membership. Keith suggested it could be like other committees where it is 3 years and staggered. David suggested that the town manager could get back to them for a recommendation of how to establish a staggered committee membership. Maria will do that, and she does think that having members on the committee for more than 12 months is going to benefit the committee and the festival. Maria mentioned that hopefully more people would get involved with the committee.

Vote 4-1 (Nancy opposed)

Item #7- Upcoming Meetings: Selectboard Meeting- Tentatively scheduled for December 2, 2025- 6:00 PM

David mentioned if possible, having only one meeting in December. He suggested that the one meeting would take place on December 16, 2025 @ 6:00 PM. If an emergency were to come up, they could hold a meeting earlier than December 16th. The next meeting will be December 16, 2025 @ 6:00.

Item #8- Other

Mill Street MOU

David gave a little background on this. There is a section of road going into Life Made (the old Foster's). There have been some past contentions about maintaining, it is a Town road. The problem that becomes in wintertime is for the town to plow it; it does not necessarily meet the needs of the mill. So, the MOU is allowing them to plow that section of Town road and the Town will still maintain the summer maintenance of it. The MOU is about having written clarity of the wintertime maintenance.

Keith: How is this different than Magrath Road? The Magrath Road came to the board in 2023. It was determined the Magrath Road is a town road and it was not subject to lack of winter maintenance, so the town was required to provide winter maintenance until the town stopped winter maintenance, and it had to be done before Oct. 30th of any given year.

David: This is the mill's request to do winter maintenance because the town may only plow it twice during a storm, but the mill would plow it in between the town's plowing. It eliminates a liability issue. They may plow it ten times during a storm where we might only plow it twice.

Keith: We are still required to plow it because we have not removed it by winter maintenance according to what happened in our previous discussions.

Tiffany: We are giving them permission to plow and sand a town road, and this just formalizes that we have given them permission.

Keith: Magrath Road, they offered to continue plowing it and the town would not let them, the town insisted they send a truck down. The town had to send a small truck down separately to plow that section.

David: No, they wanted it opened just beyond the two new houses that are in there. The town would if they needed to, but they really wanted the town to take over the maintenance of both winter and summer to a higher level than just basically an abandoned road.

Maria and David met with mill manager, Jason Holmes, about the MOU and if they create any damage to the road while they are plowing, they will fix it.

Keith: It is a great idea, but he just does not think the town is following the procedures correctly.

Maria: What procedure were we missing? It has gone to legal quite a few times. It has gone back and forth.

Keith did send Maria an email tonight that has several pages in there that talks about the different stuff that the town went through at the time of Magrath Road and others, but this is a town road, we are not discontinuing winter maintenance because we haven't done it legally which has to be done before October 30th, but we are saying we are not going to do the winter maintenance that we are required to do?

Phil: Are we saying we are not going to do the winter maintenance or that they are allowed to do it?

Maria: They are allowed to do it. Life Made may perform winter maintenance.

Phil: If there is a storm and they are closed for a while and they choose not to do it, the town can still plow/sand.

David: Yes. The issue is because of the amount of truck traffic they have coming and going and just a little bit of incline.

Nancy: There is a house there, a family lives there so if Life Made does close and does not plow it, the Town will still maintain it.

Keith: I am not hearing that the town will continue winter maintenance, we are just going to let them do it. If we plow all the roads three times, then we should plow that road three times regardless of if they have done it or not.

Nancy: With the addendum that if they did not do it, we would do it. Who would decide that?

David: We would have to. The highway foreman would decide that as the Town goes by and sees it has not been plowed, the town will do it.

Keith Amato: It is on a route, and he would imagine it would get plowed if it had not already been plowed.

David: All those in favor- 4-1 (Keith opposed)

Item #9- Manager's Report

- a. As the board is already aware, we wanted to acknowledge that Tonnie has given her resignation, her last day is this Friday. I just wanted to thank Tonnie for the great job she did while working for the Town – you learned fast, asked great questions, and hopefully have a better appreciation for local government.
We are advertising for the Town Clerk position. If you or anyone is interested, please reach out to the Town Office or visit the town website for more information!

- b. This is informational only. John has been working on the hauling of waste /bulky waste materials and recycling RFP for the transfer station. We will advertise the RFP, and bids will be due back by the beginning of January. We expect to bring the bid submissions to the Selectboard at the second meeting in January.
- c. The town office is collecting nonperishable items through the month of November. All items will be donated to the Wilton Food Pantry. Please reach out if you have any questions or can help. Just a reminder, that the Wilton Food Pantry is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Item #10- Adjourn

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

Vote: 5-0 unanimous, 6:24 PM