

TOWN OF WILTON

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REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING-March 5, 2020

Supervisor Johnson called the Regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Johnson led the board and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed all board members present except Councilwoman Kolligian who was excused.

John Lant-Supervisor

John McEachron-Deputy Supervisor

Duane Bogardus-Councilman

Ray O'Conor-Councilman

Also present was Director of Planning and Engineering, Ryan Riper, P. E., Comptroller, Maria Moran, CPA and Mark Schachner, Town Counsel.

Public Comment Session

Roger Flynn, 15 Kendrick Hill Road said he is the President of the Board of Directors of the Wilton Food Pantry and would like to invite everyone to attend their 9th Annual Empty Bowls Event in support of the Wilton Food Pantry. It will be held on Sunday, March 29, 2020 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 at the Saratoga/Wilton Elks Lodge on Route 9. The cost for the event is \$20 if you buy the tickets in advance, online at our website wiltonfoodpantry.org. You will pick out a handcrafted bowl created by the ceramic art students at Skidmore College. They are beautiful bowls. The bowls will be filled with soup or chili and you will also get bread and water. It is a simple meal to reflect those in our town whom may not necessarily have a meal every day. That is why we are here. John Kribs and the Trophy Husbands will be playing, there will be a silent auction with a lot of businesses in the area donating gift certificates. It's a lot of fun and it's a great event. Come out and help us out and have some fun.

Richard Lemanski, 9 Rolling Hills Drive said he wanted to compliment the Highway Department. He said he's lived in the Lake Elizabeth area for 17 years and it is a tough job. Everyone wants their street and

driveway cleared out first. They do a very accommodating job. He said he would like some information about the brush cleanup. **Supervisor Lant** said the town is working on it and it will be done. **Mr. Lemanski** asked when it will take place and how to prepare for it to help the crews out. **Supervisor Lant** said the debris needs to be at the curb. The crews cannot go on your property. We are waiting for the weather to change. The crews are out now but there is still a lot of debris frozen in the ground. We will have more on the website about it.

Nancy Gatland, 28 Timbira Drive said Gavin Park is the absolute gem of Wilton. The wonderful spray park that was put in is absolutely loved by her grandchildren. She said her daughter in law said it is one of the nicest ones she has ever been to. Now that we have this wonderful spray park, is there any way we could possibly put in a pool. It would be so nice for the older kids, the campers and the adults. It would be a great addition to Gavin Park.

Approve Pending Minutes

On a motion introduced by Councilman Bogardus, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #89

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2020 meeting, as typed.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Eagle Scout Projects

Supervisor Lant said Trevor Borden built an ATV shed at Scout Camp and Jacob Symanski built a retired flag boxes for their Eagle Scout projects. Their projects tells a lot about the young men's character and what type of people they will be. Their parents deserve a lot of credit for raising two fine young men.

Ryan Riper, Director of Planning and Engineering said he has been working with Trevor Borden for some time. This project goes back to the Larry Gordon days. Larry started this project. The Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park owns an ATV. They tow the grooming equipment for the trails at Camp Saratoga. The ATV was sitting outside year-round. They needed an enclosed space and Trevor needed a project. Larry Gordon set him up with an ATV garage. The project grew. It was a large project for an Eagle Scout. He did a great job and it was a lengthy project. There have been a lot of volunteers.

Trevor Boden said he the pictures (indicating) show the shed which is about 20' X 16'. He thanked everyone who helped him, especially Mr. Riper and Mr. Harrington. They were extremely important and without them, it never would've happened. If you would like to check out the building it is at the Wilton Wildlife Preserve near the fire ring. It was an outstanding project and he said he had a great time with it. It was challenging but well worth it.

Jacob Symanski said he built three retired flag boxes for his Eagle Scout project. One large on for the Saratoga Wilton Elks Lodge and two smaller ones to be donated. One is being donated to Camp Wakpominee and the other to Wilton Town Hall.

Brookside Museum

Jim Richmond, of Brookside Museum, which is a Saratoga County Roundtable. It is located in Ballston Spa but is a countywide museum found in 1966-1967. It housed in the Brookside Museum on Front Street in Ballston since 1971. It has over 300,000 items in its collection. We do education programs for the entire county. Anne Clothier is our part time education director who goes into the school systems as well as programs at the museum. We reach between 3,000 and 4,000 students in the county. We are trying to expand the program. We have a research library manned by an association with Heritage Hunters. We also have adult programs. Mr. Richmond said he was one of the people responsible for forming the Saratoga County History Roundtable two years ago. We work closely with the museum and are also a county wide organization. We are trying to develop this into a monthly adult education program with workshops and lectures. We need to get the younger people to get involved.

Mr. Richmond said Brookside Museum was in a situation where they were running out of money. They have struggled for several years. Their income has been depleted over the years. It reached the point of being in danger of closing. In October, there was little hope the museum would stay open after the first of the year. A much larger group got together in November to raise \$100,000 in order to maintain the museum and keep it open for 2020. We reached \$90,000 of that goal with about half of that coming from two local towns, Milton and Ballston. The rest, primarily coming from individual donations and businesses. We are not able to remain open in 2020 but could use some help in closing the gap. He said they like to celebrate achieving their goal and that is one of the reasons he is here. As individuals and the municipality, anyone who could help us reach that goal. The hard part is making sure the museum is sustainable, long term. We are restructuring the museum in different ways. There are six new board members on the board of directors. The committee system is being restructured so we can involve people who are not on the board of directors in order to engage volunteers to get the work done. We have a staff of one full time and one part time education director and some very part time office staff, we can't do everything we would like to do without the volunteer support. We are looking to expand our education program. We have limited involvement with Dorothy Nolan and Ballard Elementary Schools but would like to bring some of our programs into the Wilton area. We would like Brookside Museum to be a funnel for information between state and county organizations and the historical societies in the individual towns. The societies all somewhat struggle. They need new volunteers and new people interested in the history. One of the reasons is the county has fundamentally changed. Mr. Richmond said he grew up in the county and it was relatively small in terms of population. The Town of Wilton has five times as many people as they had in 1970. Most people in the town are not natives and it is the same in the other towns and most of it is because of the Northway. We need to develop an understanding of our history and our culture in our towns to the people who do not have a generational connection. Brookside Museum is working on that with individual historical societies. We hope to engage some people who don't know the history of Wilton, Milton or Clifton Park. We are also looking ahead to remain viable in the future in 2021 and beyond. We are trying to work ahead of the games in terms of planning our budget and finances for 2021. In order to do the programs we would like, we need to take the museum from a budget level of \$175,000 to \$250,000 in order to sustain the programs and reach into the various communities with the county wide efforts. One of the things we learned was how little people outside of Ballston Spa knew about us. We need this a county wide operation. Next year will be the 230th anniversary of Saratoga County. We would like to work with the towns to do individual exhibits in the Museum. He said he is going to work with Karen James, Town of Wilton Historian, and put up a display of artifact from Wilton. It will show the history of the town and well as the county.

Mr. Richmond said there is a preliminary \$250,000 budget for 2021. We are looking at the various sources of our income such as fundraisers, grants, educational programs and the municipal giving. We are asking

various town boards as you work on your 2021 budget to look at being able to help us. We have set a tentative goal of raising 20% of our 2021 budget through municipalities. That amount is more than twice what we received, outside of special gifts we received from Ballston and Milton, for the campaign. We don't deserve that funding if we don't give back to the individual towns. We are trying to strengthen that relationship with Saratoga County Historical Society and all of the towns. Any way the town can help us we would appreciate it.

Supervisor Johnson asked if Saratoga County donated any funds. **Mr. Richmond** said they have not received any money from the County, as of yet. In December, there was a motion passed by the county to support county wide collections, up to \$25,000. It did not mention Brookside Museum specifically but said he thought it was the intention of most of the supervisors. We are working with Lauren Roberts, Saratoga County Historian, to put together a proposal on behalf of Brookside Museum to help us tap into those funds. In 2012, support from Saratoga County for the budget, would last. There were issues with the county nursing home and a few other things. Since 2012 to present, Saratoga County did support Brookside Museum by providing funds for building maintenance which included painting. We have not received an annual stipend from the county. **Supervisor Lant** asked if they are talking to the supervisors. **Mr. Richmond** said there are four members talking to the different towns in the county. We have received support from three of the 21 towns in the past few years. We are trying to broaden that and see if the towns are willing to support Brookside Museum. He said he was told the Town of Wilton has a budget line for the Heritage Society. We would ask that the board consider the Brookside Museum. **Deputy Supervisor McEachron** said if each town contributed it wouldn't be that much money. **Mr. Richmond** said each town has a different population and assessed value so the rate of contribution would be variable.

Camp Saratoga Delean Pond Fishing Program

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #90

Camp Saratoga Delean Pond, Scout Pond, Fishing Program

The Town of Wilton Town Board, owners of property known as Camp Saratoga will stock Scout Pond for resident fishing.

1. The stocking program is for the **Town of Wilton's handicapped residents and youths under age 16 only.**
2. April 1st to October 15th, will be reserved for fishing by Town of Wilton resident **youths age 16 or under and handicapped individuals** and may be assisted by an immediate adult family member.
3. Fishing limit is 2 per day.

4. **No** live bait is permitted (worms and lures permitted).

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Committee Reports

Councilman O’Conor said he and Kirlin Woodcock, Highway Superintendent, discussed animal remains on the roadways. We have a large deer population. Highway Superintendent Woodcock recommended an ecologically sound way to dispose of the deer remains picked up on town roads. It is a business in Argyle called Tamarack Compost. They take the remains and compost them. The organization has a permit from DEC and is done according to DEC regulations. The agreement and a copy of their permit was given to Town Counsel for review. **Attorney Schachner** said there are a couple of items that he would recommend changing. It can be resolved pretty easily.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #91

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the agreement with Tamarack Compost subject to it being in form approved by Town Counsel.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Councilman O’Conor said he received a call in late January from the LA Group. They had been working with Ryan Riper and Larry Gordon with updates to the Town’s Open Space Plan. He said he had a meeting and a long discussion. They gave me a copy of their current draft of the document. He said he met with Ryan Riper earlier this week to discuss it. There is no decision to be made at this point. The LA Group should be wrapping up the latest changes to the Open Space Plan. It will be presented to the Town Board and the Director of Planning and Engineering for any other amendments and changes as well as Margo Olson at WWPP.

Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk, said there are flyers in the back of the room. The Wishing Well Restaurant and WWPP are hosting a Dine Out For A Cause. It is a fundraising effort for the Larry Gordon, Camp Saratoga Visitor Center. 50% of your dinner bill will go towards the program. It will held on Thursday, March 19, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to closing.

Deputy Supervisor McEachron said the Parks and Recreation Administrator, Mark Marino would like to update the rentals of the pavilions. It used to be rented for \$200 per day and the small pavilion was \$100 per day. He is proposing to divide the use of both pavilions into two four hour blocks, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00

p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. It will allow opportunities for lunch and dinner times and four hours to enjoy their activity.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution.

RESOLUTION #92

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the amended pavilion rental times and fees for Gavin Park.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O’Conor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Deputy Supervisor McEachron said they met with Saratoga Wilton Youth Baseball. Gavin Park will be getting some updates on the fields. There are a couple of fields that are not compliant. The two fields will be brought up to compliance and sodded. The pitcher’s mound will also be corrected. We are also working on new parking solutions.

The salt spreader was recently replaced at the park.

Councilman Bogardus said the court rehabilitation project is moving forward with Phase I being complete. Phase II, the administrative side, has begun and the project is well under budget. Gutters will be installed and there will be new signage on the building.

Comptroller’s Report

1.) 2019 Budget Transfers

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #93

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the 2019 budget transfers, 1-4, requested for and listed in the Comptroller’s 3/5/2020 Report (attached) to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

2.) 2020 Budget Transfers

On a motion introduced by Councilman Bogardus, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #94

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the 2020 budget transfers requested for and listed in the Comptroller's 3/5/2020 Report (attached) to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

3.) Wilton Emergency Squad-Penfle Service Award Program

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #95

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the audit and review of the 2019 PENFLEX Service Award Program points listing of all volunteer ambulance workers at the Wilton Emergency Squad.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

4.) Personnel

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #96

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, accept the resignation of David Locke as, Highway Department, as of March 13, 2020.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

On a motion introduced by **Councilman O'Connor** and seconded by **Deputy Supervisor McEachron**, all board members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

Supervisor, Arthur Johnson

Councilman, Steve Streicher

Deputy Supervisor, John Lant

Councilman, John McEachron

Councilman Duane Bogardus