

# **TOWN OF WILTON**

**22 TRAVER ROAD**

**WILTON, NEW YORK**

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Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

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## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING-December 2, 2021**

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

### **Roll Call**

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed the following board members present.

John Lant-Supervisor

John McEachron-Deputy Supervisor

Duane Bogardus-Councilman

Erinn Kolligian-Councilwoman via ZOOM

Ray O'Connor-Councilman

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

### **Public Comment Session**

There was none.

### **Approve Pending Minutes**

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

#### **RESOLUTION #210**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2021 meeting, as typed.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor the motion passed 5-0.

### **Lincoln Mountain Snow Mobile Club**

Morgan Hamilton of Lincoln Mountain Snow Mobile Club said he was able to obtain the latest certificate of insurance with the Town of Wilton listed as an additionally insured. It was also sent to the Town Clerk this evening. As for the language, he said he reached out to the New York State Snow Mobile Association, also our insurer, and is having a little bit of difficulty. They insure hundreds of snow mobile clubs and to change the language for every single town is multiple hundreds of clubs. He said he is checking to see if there is any way to have an addendum put on the form. There is quite a bit of push back because they have never had a request like this before. We are still working on the trail to find other ways to get across and not driving on Ernst Road. The part of Mr. Bollman's property that was originally going to be used to cut off part of Ernst Road has been sold to a new owner. We talked to the new owner and they are going to build so we would like to avoid building a trail and coming back to ask for a different trail location. We are now looking at a crossing at Stanley Paving and crossing a large parcel, which we have permission to use. There is one other landowner we have to talk to. This way we can bypass the bridge at the Little Snook Kill and go right up the power lines. The only road running would be on Woodard Road. As far as contacting landowners, until we verify the trail. We can't but we will reach out to anyone who is adjacent to the proposed snow mobile trail. If there is any push back or concerns, we can discuss restricting times. Supervisor Lant said he did some research at the county. There are 23 clubs in the county. Mr. Hamilton said some of the clubs are consolidating. He said he thought Ernst and Woodard Roads were designated as snowmobile trails. Councilman Bogardus asked if there was a current insurance policy. Mr. Hamilton said he does. Mr. Schachner, Town Counsel, said the policy at the last meeting was not current and there was language that was limiting. The town was going to check with their insurance provider. There is still an issue of where the trail will be. Mr. Hamilton said they are sure of the road portion of the trail. The Ernst Road portion will most likely only be a crossing and that does not require permission. Mr. Schachner said it sounds like they are addressing all of the concerns mentioned last month. It also sounds like they are not quite finished addressing the issues but are working on them. Mr. Hamilton said it could be one way today and a landowner opens his property up and it could change next week. It is not uncommon for it to be fluid like that. We are discussing potentially riding on Ernst Road, crossing Parkhurst Road and riding on Woodard Road. The best case scenario would be only riding on Woodard Road with crossings on Ernst Road and Parkhurst Road. Councilman O'Connor said the town is limited to allowing snowmobiles in the town's right of way, along those roads. The rest of the trail system is on private property and that is up to the private property owner. Highway Superintendent Elect Mike Monroe said he was okay with that.

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

### **RESOLUTION #211**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request from Lincoln Mountain Snow Mobile Club for road riding along Ernst Road, Parkhurst Road and Woodard Road to access designated trails.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**WWPP Grant Agreement**

Councilman O’Conor said there was discussion at last month’s meeting regarding reestablishing the amount of funding going to the Wilton Wildlife Park and Preserve back to \$90,000. It had been reduced in the prior year’s budget. We discussed having an agreement between the Town and WWPP if the allocation was going to be increased to \$90,000 and how those funds would be utilized. A copy of the agreement was distributed to board members. It is suitable to the WWPP Board of Directors and they formally approved the agreement. It is up to the town if we want to increase the \$40,000 increase in funding, principally for the Environmental Education Program which benefit our residents, area schools and the community.

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

**RESOLUTION #212**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the \$90,000 grant agreement between the Town of Wilton and the Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park for the year 2022.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Eagle Scout Proclamation**

Supervisor Lant commended Charm Feng Ang for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. The Town Clerk read the Proclamation.

WHEREAS, **Charm Feng Ang** is a member of the Boy Scout Troop 4024 of Wilton and recently achieved the rare distinction of the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, an Eagle Scout award honors the Scout, his family, his Troop and his Troop Leaders; and

WHEREAS, a Boy Scout is required to complete an Eagle Leadership Service

project as part of qualifying for the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, **Charm Feng Ang** planned, raised money and led a project to create an interactive game space in the playground of Dorothy Nolan Elementary school in the town of Wilton. The games were designed to promote learning, critical thinking and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, **Charm Feng Ang** set his goal and completed his plan by having the games, solar system and large U.S. map painted in bright colors on the asphalt and walls behind the school for recess activities; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the creative recess activities **Charm Feng Ang** improved the front entrance of the school by adding mulch and painting poles as pencils to welcome students, and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to recognize the unusual dedication and diligence exhibited by **Charm Feng Ang** in attaining the rank of Eagle Scout; therefore, be it

PROCLAIMED, that the Wilton Town Board commends **Charm Feng Ang** for his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America; and be it further

PROCLAIMED, that the Town Clerk forward a duly inscrolled copy of this Proclamation of Commendation to **Charm Feng Ang**.

### **Personnel Policy Updates**

Sue Baldwin, Town Clerk said the board received copies of the Personnel Policy updates from Nancy Riely. Supervisor Lant asked if anyone had any question. There were none.

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

**RESOLUTION #213**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the personnel policy updates.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Association of Towns Virtual Voting Delegate and Alternate**

**Supervisor Lant** said the Association of Towns is being held in February in New York City. We will need a voting delegate and an alternate.

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

**RESOLUTION #214**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to appoint Councilman Bogardus as voting delegate and Mr. Riper as alternate voting delegate for the Association of Towns Conference held February 20-23, 2022.

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

**Road Dedication-Stone Ridge Road**

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

**RESOLUTION #215**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the road dedication for Stone Ridge Road.

**Station 0+00 to 19.61**

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put

to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0

### **Unsafe Buildings**

Mark Mykins, Senior Building Inspector and Code Enforcement, said the board received copies of the complaints. The owner of 23 Vincek Lane did file for a demolition permit but Mr. Mykins said he would still like to schedule the public hearing in case the homeowner does not move forward with the demolition. There are electrical issues, the front porch is falling off, there is no back door and the property is vacant. It was deemed uninhabitable two months ago. Water and electricity have been terminated. The second property is 61 Jones Road. The house is full of human feces and urine bottles. There are cat feces through out the home and the front foundation is collapsing. There is also somewhat of a hoarding situation.

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

#### **RESOLUTION #216**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public health hearing for January 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to deem 23 Vincek Lane unsafe and authorize removal of all structures and site cleanup pursuant to Town Law §130 and the Wilton Town Code.

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

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

#### **RESOLUTION #217**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public health hearing for January 6, 2022 at 7:01 p.m. to deem 61 Jones Road unsafe and authorize removal of all structures and site cleanup pursuant to Town Law §130 and the Wilton Town Code.

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

**Committee Reports**

Councilman Bogardus said the Veteran's Memorial on the corner of Ballard Road and Traver Road was dedicated on Veteran's Day. Honoring our Veterans so important and he said he received a lot of positive feedback. Councilman Bogardus noted the new pedestrian bridge was installed at Scout Camp. Scott Harrington and Ryan Riper assisted with the installation and they did a phenomenal job.

Supervisor Lant asked Mr. Schachner about the Cannabis Opt-Out Law the town board passed few months ago and would like clarification on the growing and manufacturing aspect of it. Mr. Schachner said the Opting Out Local Law does not include the agricultural or growing. It does include operation of a dispensary and retail sales. Councilman O'Connor asked if the board wanted to amend the local law to include the agricultural portion, would it be possible? Mr. Schachner said the state statute states municipalities are allowed to regulate various aspects of siting and operation, up to a point. Then there is preemption, we can't prohibit certain things that are allowed. A more detailed response could be available in a day or two. It would typically be part of the zoning code. Mr. Schachner said there is no time limit on this amendment, unlike the Opt-Out. The town has done what you wanted to do before the December 31, 2021 deadline and did the most you could have done in a very timely manner. What the board is asking for now is to be able to regulate growing operations. It is limited but it is not subject to the December 31, 2021 deadline.

**Comptroller's Report****1.) 2021 Budget Transfers**

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

**RESOLUTION #218**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the 2021 budget transfers requested and listed in the Comptroller's 12/02/2021 Report to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**2.) Personnel****1.**

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

**RESOLUTION #219**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for overnight travel for Susan Baldwin for the NYSTCA regional conference in Syracuse, New York, December 5, 2021. Hotel and travel are paid for by NYSTCA.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

2.

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

**RESOLUTION #220**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the Highway Superintendent’s request to fill the vacant MEO position, effective January 4, 2022 at \$23.16 per hour with full benefits contingent upon applicant passing all screening requirements.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

3.

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

**RESOLUTION #221**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for overnight travel for the following for the Association of Towns, February 20-23, 2022 in New York City:

Duane Bogardus  
Ryan Riper  
Susan Baldwin  
Erinn Kolligian  
Amy DiLeone  
Planning Personnel-TBD  
Zoning Personnel-TBD

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Adjournment**

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor and seconded by Councilman Bogardus, all board members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

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Supervisor, John Lant

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Deputy Supervisor, John McEachron, Sr.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman, Duane Bogardus

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilwoman, Erinn Kolligian

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Councilman Ray O’Conor