

TOWN OF WILTON

22 TRAVER ROAD

WILTON, NEW YORK

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REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING-December 7, 2023

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

Duane Bogardus-Councilman

Erinn Kolligian-Councilwoman

Ray O’Conor-Councilman

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

John McEachron-Deputy Supervisor was excused.

Public Comment Session

There was none.

Cannabis Showcase

Jodi Cracco said she and her husband own Dairy Haus and Doggy Playcare on Route 9. She thanked the board for allowing her to speak. She said her daughter Brittany approached her in the summer of 2022 and asked her if she wanted to open a cannabis dispensary. Her first thought was her daughter was out of her mind. Not long after her friend and realtor called her to tell her her daughter was able to get medical marijuana without a medical card, in the Wilton Mall. She said she did some research because it bothered her and the young lady had been very sick. After doing research she found out that they have CBD which is manipulated to manufacture into different types of THC, some of which will get you thirty-

three times higher than regulated or natural marijuana. This was also bothersome because she said she knew what this young woman was going through. She kept asking Ms. Cracco if she was going to open a dispensary. Ms. Cracco said not yet, as they were going through so many hurdles. Ms. Cracco said if this young woman can walk into Wilton Mall and buy synthetic marijuana, she doesn't even know what she was getting and need to do a little more research. Ms. Cracco said she saw an opportunity to change the paradigm. She said she went to legal manufacturing facilities and met with chemists and was shocked by the science and regulations that these products must go through to become safe. She said when she was a kid, you went with a friend to a field. What this product has to go through today is mind boggling. In doing the research, states with regulated cannabis programs have more than 20% less deaths as a result of drug overdoses. Recently regulators from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Connecticut visited several of the unregulated dispensaries in New York State. The purchase products which they then tested. The results showed that 100% of the products did not meet New York State testing standards. She said she was appalled. She said she was happily surprised at the restrictive rules New York State had created that qualifies cannabis safe to sell. She said she was also happy to learn every product is tracked from seed to sale and even waste is recorded to the state. To ensure she was going to open this dispensary responsibly, she said hired a consultant who has twenty one years of experience in regulating cannabis. She is participating in the drafting of legislation in three states, California, Rhode Island and Nevada. She has focused her career on compliance and spent more than five years working with a top level executive in pharma who developed protocols around quality assurance. Ms. Cracco said she knows Wilton has opted out and understands the concerns and she had them too prior to her research. She said she hopes the board will consider ensuring the safe and responsible dispensation of cannabis in Wilton. She thanked the board for their time. She said she talked about a showcase when their card licenses, by New York State, were withheld because of an injunction and that injunction has been lifted. Right now, we are looking to open a dispensary and we would consider a showcase. Time is of the essence.

Approve Pending Minutes

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

RESOLUTION #240

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2023 meeting, as typed.

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

Champlain Hudson Power Express

Councilwoman Kolligian said Counsel has the documents and will hopefully be able to review them for the January meeting. She asked if the board approved of the location at Gavin Park. Mr. Riper said CHPE included monetary amounts for the town in the agreement. Scout Road will be \$6,720; Gavin Park will be \$7,424 and there is a \$10,000 escrow check. Supervisor Lant asked how much the project will cost. Mr. Riper said around three billion dollars. Councilwoman Kolligian said the monetary amounts are based on impacts. CHPE reviewed Saratoga County and took the median range for property values. They are

offering \$44,000 per acre for permanent easements and \$8,800 per acre for temporary easements. Supervisor Lant said the most important part is taking care of the residents. Councilwoman Kolligian said the escrow amount will go to the town and \$60,000 will go into a separate escrow account which will take care of the cuts in the road. If everything is completed to the satisfaction of the Highway Superintendent, the \$60,000 will be returned to CHPE. If there are any issues, the town can draw off that account. That would include any impediment anywhere else in the town. That escrow account has a shelf life of six months. Mr. Ripper said it is sooner than that and we have to make sure all the work has been completed by the end of the project.

61 Jones Road-Demolition

Councilman Bogardus said the house at 61 Jones Road was condemned around two years ago. The house was purchased with the intent to be remodeled but the house was not in any condition to be remodeled. The house needs to be torn down. Mark Mykins, Code Enforcement Officer said we had a public hearing. Supervisor Lant asked if the gas had been shut off. Mr. Mykins said it has not. There were two partners involved. One was a silent partner and the financier. Jim Colbert, the other partner, had everything dumped on him and the bank account was emptied. Mr. Colbert has been in touch with the building department over the past few weeks. Mr. Mykins said he has received a quote for tearing down the house but hopefully, they will move forward with the demolition. Mr. Colbert was given two weeks to begin demolition. Councilman Bogardus said he would like the town to continue moving forward with this process. If Mr. Colbert cannot complete the demolition, the town can have it torn down. The cost will be relayed to the county tax bill so it will not cost the town money. Councilwoman Kolligian said she there has been an excavator on the site for a long time. Councilman Bogardus said we are going to move forward and put the demolition out to bid. If the owner can secure a contractor and do the demolition, we can stop the process at any time. Supervisor Lant asked if the town can move forward and if the board has to set a public hearing. Mark Schachner, Town Counsel, said he wasn't sure if the public hearing was closed. The clerk noted the public hearing was closed. Mr. Schachner said if it was closed, another public hearing would not be required.

Road Dedication-Grand Highlands Subdivision

Councilwoman Kolligian asked if the Highway Superintendent has approved the road. Mr. Monroe said it was built to the new road specifications and he approved it. Mr. Schachner said the real property documentation has some inconsistencies. If the board accepts the road dedication it should be conditioned upon the form being subject to Counsel approval.

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

RESOLUTION #241

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the road dedication for Grand Highlands Subdivision with form subject to Counsel review and approval;

Cannon Royal Drive-Station 0+28.89 to 9+39.97

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

DOT Response to Speed Limit Request

The Town Clerk read the NYSDOT response letter into the record.

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your July 27, 2023, request for a traffic study regarding the speed limit on Parkhurst Road between Corinth Mountain Road and Gailor Road in the Town of Wilton.

This office conducted speed limit investigation of several roads, including the requested section of Parkhurst Road, on May 13, 2022. At that time, we determined that the existing 45 MPH speed limit was appropriate for the conditions experienced. Our policy is to conduct a speed limit study on a town highway or county route if no speed limit investigations had been conducted in the past three years. We are not aware of any significant changes in either the roadway characteristics or roadside development to warrant the initiation of another speed limit investigation of Parkhurst Road at this time. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Reed Sholtes of this office. Sincerely, Michael W. Fenley, P.E., Regional Traffic Engineer

Supervisor Lant said in the future the town should compile a list of new developments when submitting speed limit reduction requests.

Appointment-Wilton Planning Board

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

RESOLUTION #242

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following appointments to the Wilton Planning Board;

Thomas Murphy-01/01/2024-12/31/2030

James DeLoria-10/05/2023-12/31/2025 to fill David Catalfamo's vacant term

Dean Kolligian-Alt. 01/01/2024-12/31/2024

Shawn Lescault-Alt.01/01/2024-12/31/2024

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. Councilwoman Kolligian recused herself. The motion passed 3-0.

Reappointments ZBA

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #243

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals;

Christopher Ramsdill-01/01/2024-12/31/2030
Christopher Iwinski Alt-01/01/2024-12/31/2024
Andrew Bobbit-Alt. 01/01/2024-12/31/2024

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

Reappointments EAB

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

RESOLUTION #244

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following appointments to the Ethics Advisory Board;

Charles Garrison-01/01/2024-12/31/2025
Ryan Gettings 01/01/2024-12/31/2025
Bradley Wanner 01/01/2024-12/31/2025

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

Association of Towns 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 Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #245

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 18-21, 2024.

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

Gavin Park Security Cameras Contract Award

Maria Moran, Comptroller said the current camera situation at Gavin Park is lacking, they are old and some don't work. They are unreliable. In the past we have had incidents which could have benefited from the use of surveillance but we didn't have anything to look at because the cameras weren't working. We used a state contract but because we didn't have the specific model we were looking for, we had to canvas the entire set of vendors who provide security cameras. While a lot of emails went out for quotes, we received four responses. Part of our requirements for the request for quotes is that we have a four hour mean guaranteed for our response time. We didn't want to be down without surveillance capability. We also wanted an end to end service, which is the same company sets up the wiring, installation and monitors the functionality of the cameras. This is so when we have a problem we don't have to investigate to find out where the problem lies. We had one company out of three that was able to provide us with everything we wanted and that is Spectrum. They have provided us with a quote and we lease the equipment. If something does happen to the cameras and they need to be replaced, it is the provider's responsibility. Spectrum has been notified, pending board approval, they will be the winner of the award. The other three companies have also been notified. The next step would be Spectrum coming in a doing a site visit and get detailed information as to the placement of the cameras. We are requesting five indoor cameras and nine outdoor cameras. We have notified the school and they have cameras on their property. Councilman Bogardus asked, if at the end of thirty six months and we choose to go with a different vendor, does Spectrum remove their cameras and is there an opportunity to purchase the cameras. Ms. Moran said Spectrum would take the cameras out and the new vendor can let us know if they can work with the existing wiring. Changes in technology make us light years beyond what we have now. It is conceivable the wiring that would be implemented now could be out of date at the end of the contract. Deputy Supervisor McEachron has had experience with wiring and recommended CAT 8 opposed to CAT 5, which is currently there. The CAT 8 is more efficient in communicating from camera to switch. Spectrum recommended fiber because it is outdoors. Any of the town board members are welcome to attend the site visit with Spectrum.

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #246

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve Spectrum Contract for Security Cameras at Gavin Park in the amount of \$1,400 month for 3 years.

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

to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Committee Reports

Councilman O'Connor said the Graphite Range Community Forest is now open and thanked Saratoga Plan and the volunteer committee did an exceptional job of designing the trails. There are between five and six miles of trails for both hiking and mountain biking. The Christopher Dailey Foundation made a contribution and there is a bridge which crosses a stream and connects the southern and northern ends of the property. It is named for the Dailey's son Christopher and it's named Chris' Crossing. Councilman O'Connor commended Saratoga Plan, Mike Monroe, Highway Superintendent and Highway staff who created the trailhead parking lot, Ryan Riper, Jason Kemper, Supervisor Lant for ushering the project to the Board of Supervisors. This is Saratoga County's first community forest project and if it were not for the support of Supervisor Lant and the entire Board of Supervisors it would not have happened.

Supervisor Lant stated there was a COVID-19 vaccine clinic held at Gavin Park.

Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk said the board received a thank you letter from the Provost Family

November 18, 2023

To The Wilton Town Board, A heartfelt thank you to the Board for your September 7, 2023 board vote to waive the fee for the 6th Annual San Provost Memorial Walk for Awareness and Recovery held at Gavin Park on October 7, 2023. The big pavilion shielded us from the rain that morning! By waiving the rental fee, you've directed more funds into the community for addiction recovery programs and services. Thank you again for your consideration. Sincerely, Maureen and Ken Provost

Supervisor Lant said he attended the walk and there was a great turnout.

Supervisor Lant noted the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting was held on Friday, December 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Gavin Park and was well attended.

Comptroller's Report

1.) 2023 Budget Transfers

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

RESOLUTION #247

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the 2023 budget transfers requested and listed in the Comptroller's 12/07/2023 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 4-0.

2.) 2024 Budget Transfers

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #248

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the 2024 budget amendments requested and listed in the Comptroller's 12/07/2023 Report 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.) Fundbalance

Ms. Moran stated as of December 31, 2023 our general fund will have some surplus fund balance and we would like to allocate it in the categories shown. This requires board approval and is also changeable at any time with board approval. Councilman O'Connor asked if there is an amount, in addition to this, which is unassigned. Ms. Moran said yes and the town has a Fundbalance policy which is encouraged by the Office of the State Comptroller. In the policy we have a threshold which unassigned Fundbalance cannot be less than 25% or not more than 50% of our ensuing year's budget. To stay within that guideline and to have unassigned Fundbalance kept at a minimum, these are the assignments we are creating. Councilman O'Connor asked how much is left. Ms. Moran said the estimate is about \$3 million.

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

RESOLUTION #249

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the assigned fundbalance in the general fund as follows;

General Government	\$2.3 million
Transportation	\$4.5 million
Public Safety	\$1.0 million
Culture and Recreation	\$2.1 million

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, 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 #250

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the hiring of Andrew Rougie as a part-time maintenance worker at a pay rate of \$22.00 per hour with no benefits, pending successful passing of all pre-employment screening.

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

5.

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #244

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the request from Scott Harrington, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor to sell four generators through Auctions International

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

Adjournment

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian and seconded by Councilman O’Conor, all board members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

_____ Supervisor, John Lant

_____ Councilman, Duane Bogardus

_____ Councilwoman, Erinn Kolligian

_____ Councilman Ray O’Conor