

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

Telephone (203) 563-0100
Fax (203) 563-0299

Email to: lynne.vanderslice@wiltonct.org



Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectwoman

Lori A. Bufano
Second Selectwoman

Joshua S. Cole
Selectman

Deborah A. McFadden
Selectwoman

Ross H. Tartell
Selectman

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday November 16, 2021
Held Electronically

PRESENT: First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice, Lori Bufano, Joshua Cole, Deborah McFadden, Ross Tartell

GUESTS: Police Chief John Lynch, Fire Chief James Blanchfield, Deputy Fire Chief John Plofkin, Police Captain/Executive Officer Tom Conlan, Police Captain Rob Cipolla, CFO Anne Kelly-Lenz

A. Call to Order

Ms. Vanderslice called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

B. Public Comment

None.

C. Executive Session to Discuss Board and Commission Candidates

Motion moved by Mr. Tartell to move into Executive Session to discuss Board and Commission Candidates. Motion seconded by Ms. Bufano and carried 5-0.

Out of Executive Session and Back in Regular Session at 7:25 pm.

D. Consent Agenda

Motion made by Ms. McFadden seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as follows approving the Regular Meeting minutes of November 1, 2021 and 2 gifts as noted:

- Minutes
 - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – November 1, 2021
- Gifts
 - Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program – Wilton Food Pantry - \$72.00
 - Visiting Nurse Association of Ridgefield – Senior Center Gift Fund - \$200.00

E. Discussion and/or Action

1. Police Department Staffing – John Lynch
Item Tabled.

2. Recommendation for Emergency Communication System – Captain Tom Conlan
Ms. Vanderslice explained the cost for this Emergency Communication System would be funded with American Rescue Plan grant monies. The Town may also receive a \$983,000 federal grant for the system, currently included in the draft federal budget. She explained the departments had identified two options for a new system, replacement of the current 400 MHz system with another 400 MHz system or move to the State's 700-800 MHz system. The goal of the agenda item was to receive direction from the Board as to which option to pursue. Ms. Vanderslice introduced Captain Conlan who reviewed the options/solutions (see attached presentation) and estimated costs with input from Fire Chief Blanchfield and Police Chief Lynch. After discussion and review Ms. Vanderslice requested a motion to advise Captain Conlan to proceed with investigating further information on the Option 3 (the state option). Motion moved by Ms. McFadden to instruct Captain Conlan to further explore Option 3 and to deliver what work is necessary for the board to pursue that option to discover what the actual costs are. Motion seconded by Ms. Bufano and carried 5-0.
3. 2022 Holiday Schedule
Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the 2022 Holiday schedule, noting the schedule had input from department heads and union leadership. After review and discussion motion to approve the 2022 Holiday Schedule moved by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0

F. Selectmen's Reports

1. First Selectwoman

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the following subjects below with the board:

- Congratulated long serving members of Emergency Services on their retirement - Firefighter John Krozer and Detective Robert Kluk.
- Addressed resident inquiries regarding a possible New Canaan Police Headquarters of 27,000 sq. ft. at a cost of up to \$29 million versus the Wilton Headquarters proposal of 18,000 sq. Ft at less than \$16 million. Ms. Vanderslice expressed confidence in the Wilton proposal despite it being 33% less in size.
- Thanked Lori Bufano and Deborah McFadden for their long service to the town and as members of the Board of Selectmen
- Noted Special Meeting on 11/17/2021 at 7:00pm.

2. Selectmen

Mr. Cole

Mr. Cole thanked Ms. Bufano and Ms. McFadden for their service to the town and as members on the board. He noted it was a pleasure serving and working with them.

Mr. Tartell

Mr. Tartell thanked Ms. Bufano and Ms. McFadden for their service to the town as members on the board. He noted that they will be missed.

Ms. Bufano

Ms. Bufano thanked fellow board members, noted it has been a pleasure to serve the town and thanked town employees for their dedication.

Ms. McFadden

Ms. McFadden thanked current and past board members. She acknowledged town employees and all who work for the betterment of the Town of Wilton.

G. Public Comment

None.

H. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion to adjourn meeting at 8:50pm. Motion moved by Ms. Bufano, seconded by Ms. McFadden and carried 5-0.

Jacqueline Rochester

Recording Secretary

Taken from Video

Wilton Emergency Services Communications Replacement Project



THE TOWN OF
WILTON
CONNECTICUT

Wilton Police Department
Wilton Fire Department
Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corp
Wilton Dept. of Public Works
Wilton Parks and Recreation



What will be covered in this presentation.



Current Equipment and Deficiencies.



How did we evaluate needs & goals?



Possible Solutions



Projected Costs – Initial and Long-term



Recommended Solution



Current Equipment and Deficiencies

- Police/Fire/DPW – Infrastructure and associated equipment from 2002 and was designed to last 15-20 years.
 - Current infrastructure is no longer supported by manufacturer. Parts to keep current system operational are no longer available.
 - Current System does not provide adequate coverage in higher density buildings on the southern end of RT7.
- Limited Interoperability
 - No ability to add additional radio channels. Current system only has 3 available repeatable channels. No other UHF channels/frequencies available to add.
 - Limited interoperability with neighboring jurisdictions
 - Poor coverage in higher density buildings along RT 7 corridor, which is a safety concern for both Fire and Police agencies.
- Reliability
 - System failures – Current system has frequent issues due to its age. Sites frequently go down and need to be repaired by radio vendor. Radio vendor has a limited stock of older used parts from other municipalities replaced systems.
 - Limited parts availability



Types of Radio Infrastructure Equipment



Communications
Tower



Radio Room



Tower Site

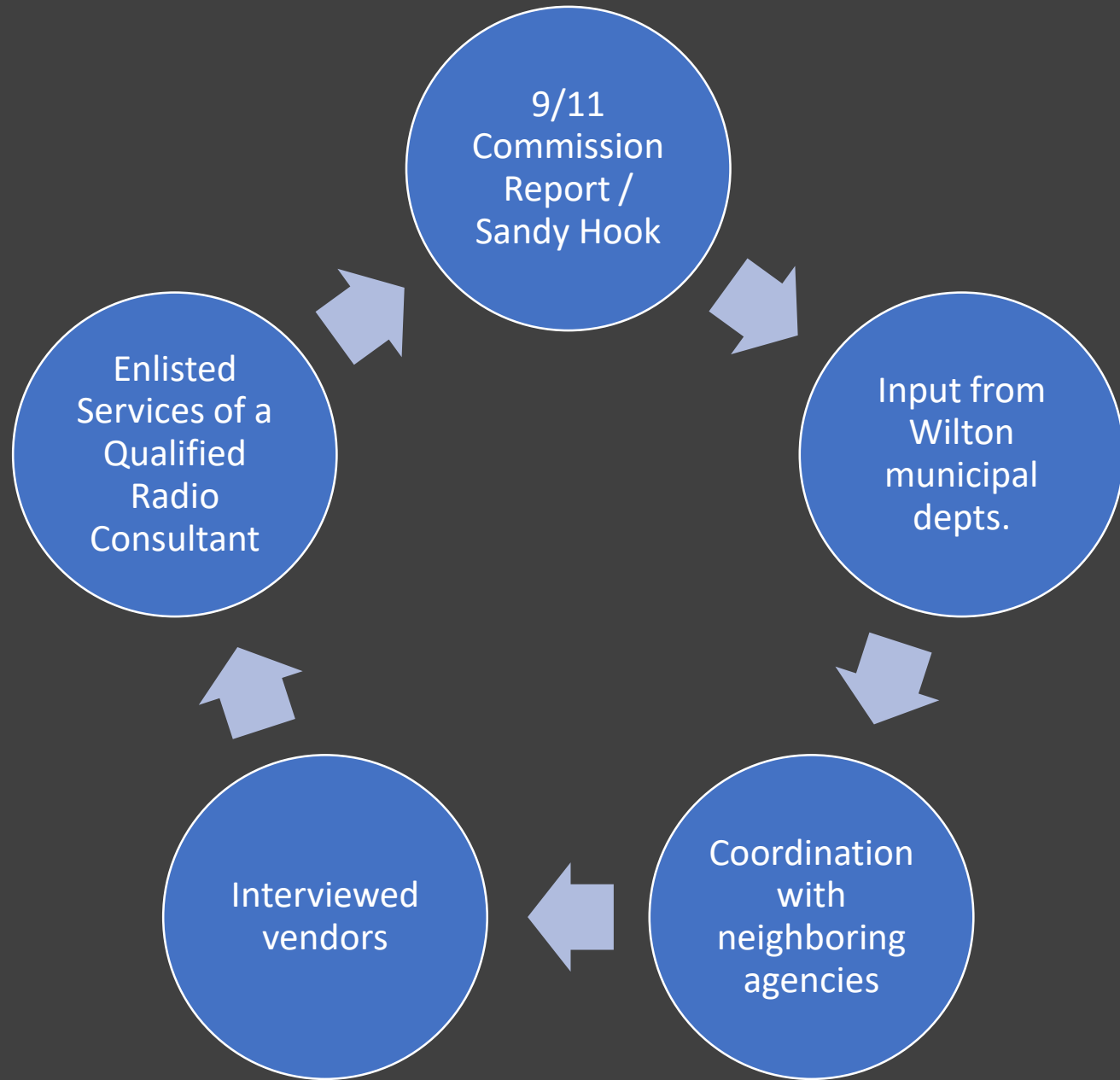
Portable Radio Equipment



“Mission Critical”
Public Safety Units



Business Class Units
Public Works Units





Possible Solutions

- Town departments looked at three possible solutions to replace and enhance the current communications system.
 1. Replace the current 4 site 400 MHz UHF system.
 2. Replace and enhance the existing 400 MHz UHF system by adding an additional site at the proposed Verizon Bus Barn tower.
 3. Replace current system with 700-800 MHz Connecticut Land Mobile Radio Network (CLMRN).



Possible Solutions

Option 1 - Replace the current 4 site 400 MHz UHF system.

Pros	Cons
Least costly option	Coverage is not as good as options 2 or 3. The current system has insufficient coverage in the higher density commercial buildings along RT 7.
The Town owns system and responsible for it own communications infrastructure.	Poor interoperability with neighboring Towns.
Town decides level of maintenance coverage, ie. Break and Fix verse Lifecycle support.	No room for future growth. Can not add additional radio channels.
	4 Sites that need to be maintained by the Town.
	Not monitored by Connecticut Telecommunications Systems Unit.
	Not P25 compliant.
	Does not meet street level Delivered Audio Quality of 3.4.

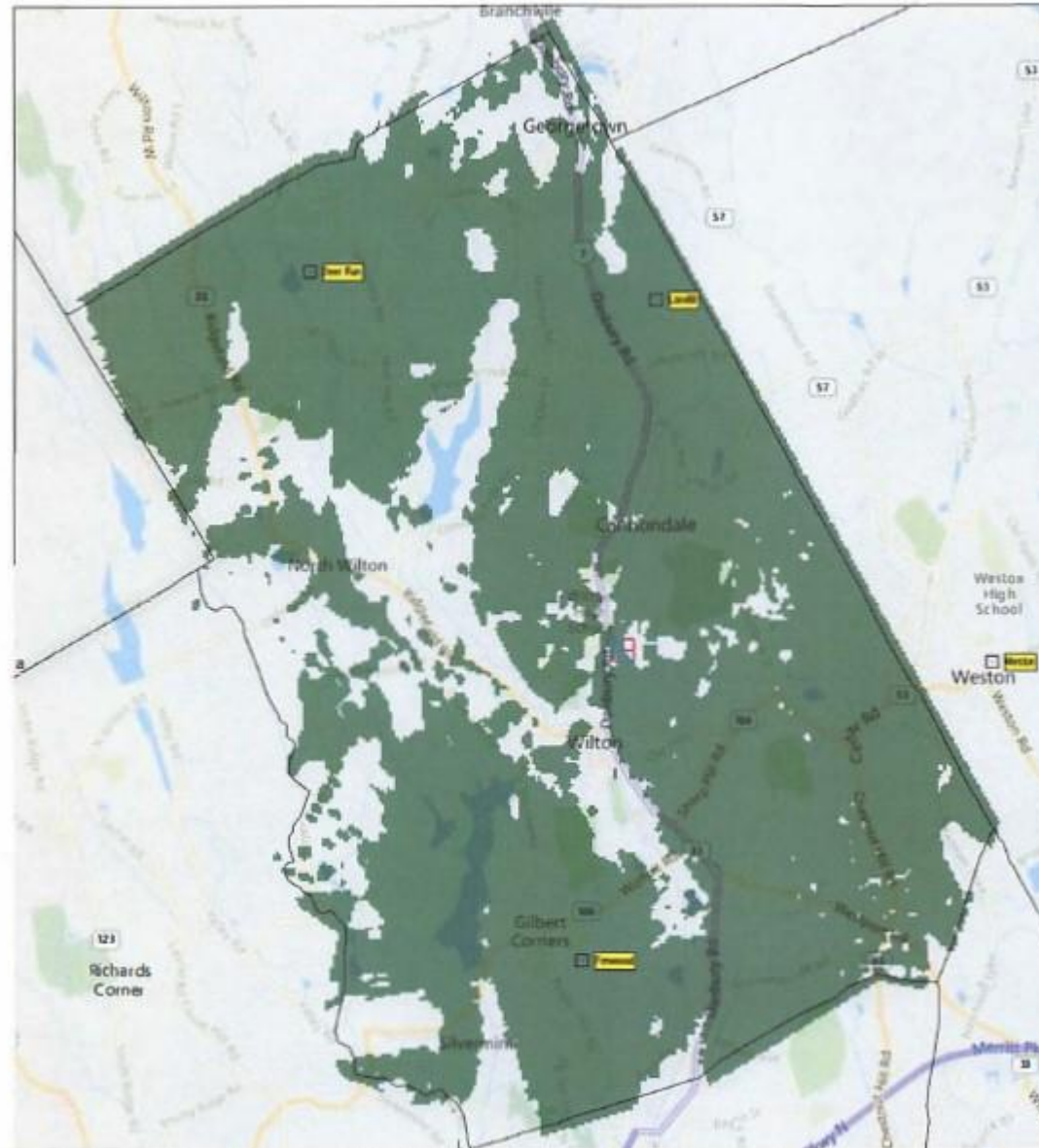


Option 1 Coverage Map

Wilton – Analog Talk-In Map (Present System)

UHF Portable on Belt – Medium density building

Sites as indicated



Maps are to be used for reference and budgeting purposes only. Performance is not guaranteed.





Possible Solutions

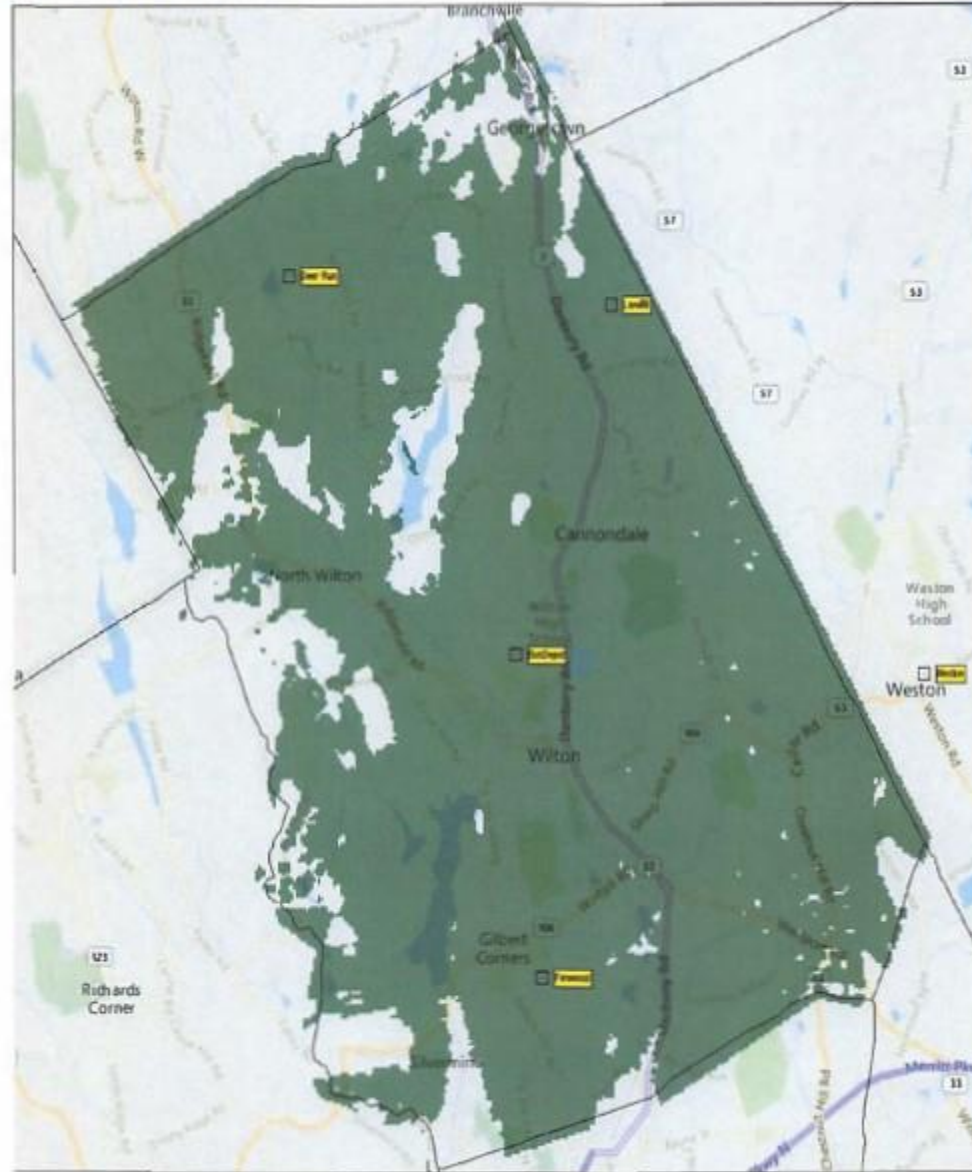
Option 2 - Replace and enhance the existing 400 MHz UHF system by adding an additional site at the proposed Verizon Bus Barn tower site.

Pros	Cons
Gives enhanced coverage in the larger commercial buildings along RT 7.	Increased cost.
	Poor interoperability with neighboring Towns.
The Town owns system and responsible for it own communications infrastructure.	No room for future growth. Can not add additional radio channels.
Town decides level of maintenance coverage, ie. Break and Fix verse Lifecycle support.	5 Sites that need to be maintained by the Town.
Meets street level Delivered Audio Quality of 3.4.	Not monitored by Connecticut Telecommunications Systems Unit.
	Not P25 compliant.



Option 2 Coverage Map

Wilton – Analog Talk-In Map
UHF Portable on Belt – Medium Density Building
Sites as indicated (Add Bus Depot)



Maps are to be used for reference and budgeting purposes only. Performance is not guaranteed.



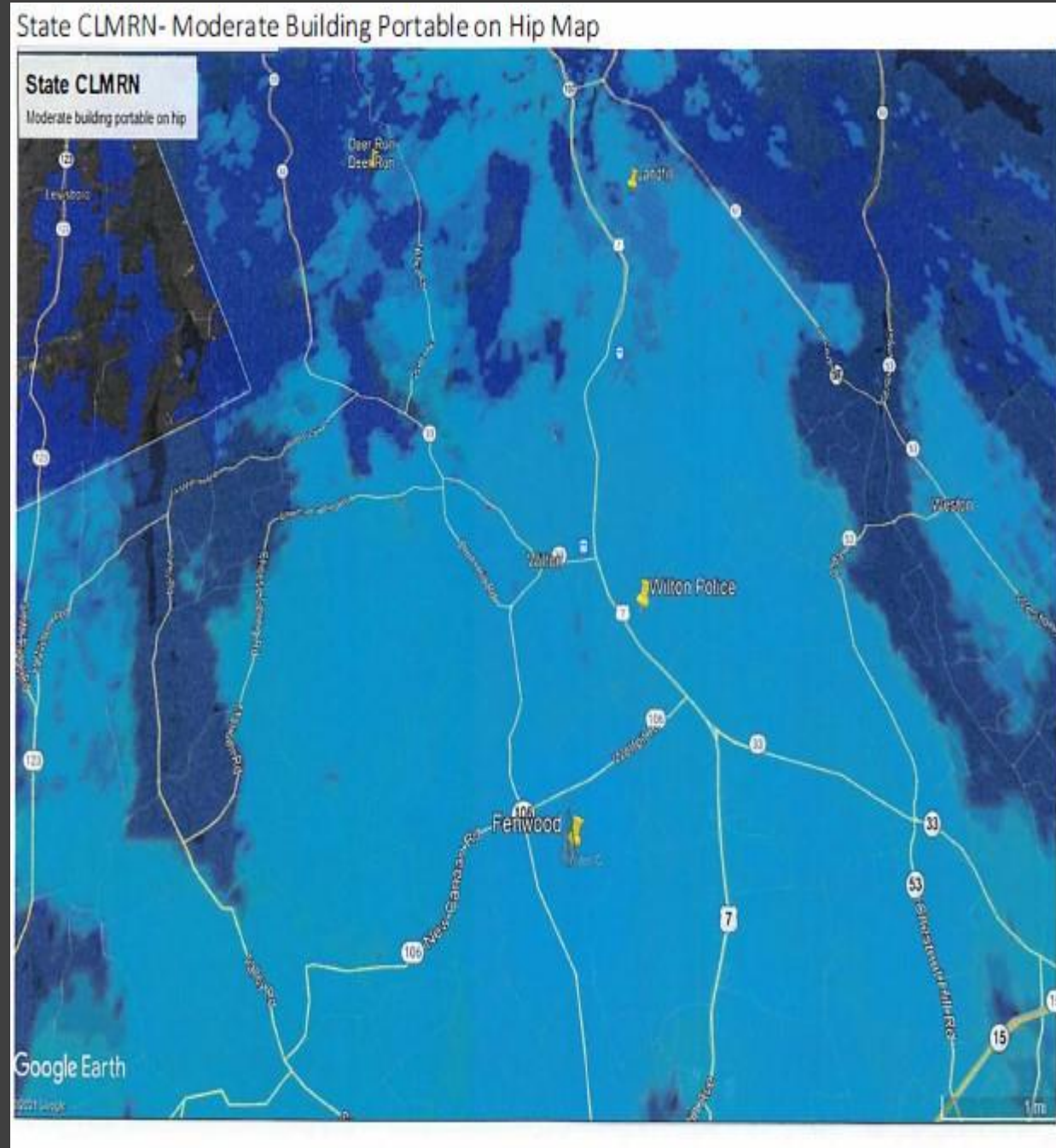
Possible Solutions

Option 3 - Replace current system with Connecticut Land Mobile Radio Network (CLMRN).

Pros	Cons
Gives enhanced coverage in the larger commercial building along RT 7. Higher frequency allows for better building penetration.	Increased cost.
Enhanced coverage area in both Wilton and in neighboring municipalities.	Loss of local decision making. State bids and selects infrastructure equipment and mandates lifecycle support.
Allows for significantly better mutual aid communications with other state municipalities.	Town joins partnership with the State and must purchase approved equipment.
Trunked System - Allows for future communications system growth. Ability to add additional talk groups.	
APCO P25 compliant.	
State monitors radio health 24/7.	
Meets street level Delivered Audio Quality of 3.4.	
Includes site upgrades to both Deer Run and Transfer station sites.	
Only 2 Wilton sites to maintain.	



Option 3 Coverage Map





Estimated System Costs for 3 options

Description	Option 1 Replace Current System (4 sites)	Option 2 Replace Current System with added site (5 Sites)	Option 3 State CLMRN (3 Sites)
Infrastructure	\$1,428,710 - \$1,728,739	\$1,675,169 - \$2,024,534	\$2,388,371 - \$2,746,626
Portable Radio Units	\$1,171,093 - \$1,417,023	\$1,171,093 - \$1,417,023	\$1,206,720 - \$1,387,728
Site Improvements	\$20,000 for Deer Run	\$20,000 for Deer Run	\$80,000 - \$90,000 for Deer Run and Transfer Station
TOTAL COSTS	\$2,619,803 - \$3,165,762	\$2,866,262 - 3,461,557	\$3,675,091 - \$4,224,354
Possible Federal Grant*	\$983,000	\$983,000	\$983,000
Possible Adjusted Total	\$1,636,803 - \$2,182,762	\$1,883,262 - \$2,478,557	\$2,692,091 - \$3,241,354

**Draft Federal Appropriations Bill awards a COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grant to the Town of Wilton through the Congressionally Directed Spending Request Program.*



Recurring System Maintenance Costs

Solution	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Option 1 Replace Current System	Included	\$122,945.00	\$125,742.00	\$128,623.00	\$131,588.00	\$508,898.00
Option 2 Enhanced System	Included	\$122,945.00	\$125,742.00	\$128,623.00	\$131,588.00	\$508,898.00
Option 3 CLMRN	Included	\$106,513.00	\$108,857.00	\$111,272.00	\$113,757.00	\$440,399.00

- Under current Radio System, Town pays \$67,000 for break and fix coverage. This does not cover hardware or software system updates.
- Under the proposed Lifecycle coverage above, the town will receive hardware and software updates every 2 years, which will keep the infrastructure equipment current moving forward.
- Town can lock in up front maintenance costs as above for the next 5 years, or pay year to year at an unfixed price.



Recommendation to move forward with the CLMRN

- Wide coverage area both in Wilton and with mutual aid partners.
- Far better mutual aid and fire ground capabilities for the Wilton Fire Department.
- Allows interoperability between units in the field with other agencies.
- Considerable upgrade to DPW and Parks and Grounds communication capabilities.
- Allows for future system enhancements, with the ability to have multitude of talk groups.
- The system is APCO P25 compliant. Enhanced interoperability and redundancy.
- State assisted supervision and maintenance of communications system with 24/7 monitoring by CTS.
- Required lifecycle infrastructure support with upgrades every 2 years. Will never have to do extensive system overhaul again. Portable radios have 5 year warranty (not covered).
- Includes site upgrades at Deer Run and Transfer Station Sites. This includes a new generator at the Deer Run site as well as building upgrades at both.
- Centralized State management of portable radio units.
- Meets street level Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ) of 3.4.
- Less Wilton maintained sites. Was 4 and now 2.

Motorola Solutions Inc. (MSI:NYSE)

What do we know about Motorola?

- Publicly traded company of over 17,000 employees across 60 countries
- Founded 1973 - Headquarters - Chicago
- Wilton Public Safety over 30 years
- Manufacturer of infrastructure for several statewide systems



MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

- \$687 Million in Research & Development (2019)
- \$3.3 Billion in Acquisitions since 2016
- Over 100,000 customers in over 100 countries