

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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

Email to: lynne.vanderslice@wiltonct.org



Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectwoman

Joshua S. Cole
Second Selectman

Kimberley Healy
Selectwoman

Basam Nabulsi
Selectman

Ross H. Tartell
Selectman

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Tuesday May 16, 2023
Comstock Room 31

PRESENT: First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice (via Zoom), Joshua Cole, Kimberley Healy (joined at 6:37pm), Basam Nabulsi, Ross Tartell

GUESTS: Wilton Library Association – Robert Sanders and Caroline Mandler, Public Works Director/Town Engineer - Frank Smeriglio, Town Administrator - Matt Knickerbocker, CFO - Dawn Norton

A. Call to Order

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

Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to change the order of the agenda to hear Public Comment before going into Executive Session. Motion moved by Mr. Nabulsi seconded by Ms. Healy and carried 5-0. She also asked for a motion for addition to Executive Session to add Lease Negotiations with the State of CT. Motion moved by Mr. Tartell, seconded by Mr. Cole and carried 5-0.

B. Public Comment

- Frank Simone of Charter Oak Drive expressed opposition to any reduction to the Wilton Library Association requested FY2024 grant. He also expressed concern the Board of Selectmen might attempt to overturn the Annual Town Meeting vote for the turf project. Ms. Vanderslice responded the vote stood.
- Marilyn Van Raalte of Ridgefield Road expressed opposition to any reduction to the Wilton Library Association requested FY2024 grant.
- Kelly Morron of Ridgefield Road posed a question to the First Selectwoman in regard to the May 8, 2023 Good Morning Wilton article where it stated she commented that "cost was also likely the major factor in the Turf field referendum result". Ms. Vanderslice responded her opinion was based on her almost 15 years as an elected official during which most residents expressed their concern with their taxes being too high.

C. Executive Session

- Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for Discussion-Blight Foreclosure Lawsuit Settlement - Town of Wilton v. Mason, Aileen, et. al. Superior Court Docket No. FBT-CV19-6091745-S and Lease Negotiations with State of CT and invite Mr. Knickerbocker. Motion moved by Mr. Tartell seconded by Mr. Cole and carried 5-0.

Out of Executive Session and back in Regular Session at 8:01pm.

D. Consent Agenda

Motion moved by Ms. Healy, seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Minutes
 - Board of Selectmen Meeting – May 1, 2023, 2023
 - Board of Selectmen Special Meeting – May 8, 2023
- Refunds
 - As per Tax Collectors Memo dated May 12, 2023
- Gift
 - Lynne Vanderslice – Memorial Bench (Jane Lee) - \$2303.00
 - Mary “Meppy Cote – Memorial Bench - \$2303.00

E. Discussion and/or Action

1. Wilton Library Association – Discussion of Proposed \$35,000 Reduction of FY2024 Budget Request
Rob Sanders and Caroline Mandler noted the reduction would be a challenge to the library as they sought to return staffing to 2019 levels. Board agreed Mr. Knickerbocker would meet with the WLA to identify opportunities for cost savings through shared resources and report back to the board.
2. Discussion and Approval of Contract with CLA for Audit Services – Dawn Norton
Ms. Norton shared the Board of Finance received one response to their RFQ, current auditor CLA, and that the BOF voted at their May Meeting to appoint CLA to a 3-year contract. After review and discussion, motion made by Ms. Healy, seconded by Mr. Cole to allow the First Selectwoman to execute a contract with CLA for audit services. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Proposal to Charge Permit Fees for use of the Transfer Station – Matt Knickerbocker
Mr. Knickerbocker reminded the members that the recently adopted budget included a new permit fee for the use of the Transfer Station (see attached proposal). Mr. Knickerbocker noted the rising costs of operating the Transfer Station with additional input by Mr. Smeriglio and Ms. Vanderslice. After further review and discussion motion moved by Mr. Nabulsi, to approve the Permit Fees as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0.
4. Town Meeting Follow Up and Comments
Ms. Vanderslice thanked Town Clerk and their team and Registrars Karen Birck and Annalisa Stravato and their team for their hard work during the town meeting process. She also thanked Dave Waters for again serving as the Moderator. She thanked the BOS for their efforts and their professionalism during the budget and town meeting process. Discussion amongst the board members on how to interpret/understand the outcome of the referendum for the turf field and what next steps to consider regarding playing fields. The members discussed a short, draft online survey which included questions on why the survey taker voted yes or no on the town referendum. Sarah Gioffre to make changes to the survey as discussed and as provided by members via email.

5. Status Proposed State Early Voting Legislation – Possible Wilton Ordinance to Allow for an Extension of the Time Period Between the Annual Town Meeting and the Adjourned Vote
Ms. Vanderslice explained the CT House adopted early voting for various election types, but not for referendum voting. If adopted would mean no change in the rules for absentee voting for the Annual Town Meeting. As the short 3-day period for absentee voting is often a complaint of the public, Ms. Vanderslice noted the members have the ability to adopt an ordinance to extend the time period between the Annual Town Meeting and the adjourned vote. Following discussions, Ms. Vanderslice agreed to obtain information about how other towns handle the matter.
6. Blight Foreclosure Lawsuit Settlement – Town of Wilton v. Mason, Aileen, et.al. Superior Court Docket No. FBT-CV19-6091745-S
Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to allow the First Selectwoman to move forward with the settlement as discussed in Executive Session. Motion moved by Mr. Tartell, seconded by Ms. Healy and carried 5-0.

F. Selectmen's Report

1. First Selectwoman

Ms. Vanderslice congratulated Wilton Firefighters Local 2233 on their 50th anniversary.

Ms. Vanderslice congratulated officers recognized at the recent Police Awards ceremony. She noted Bill Whitman – Officer of the Year and Eric Patenaude – Community Policing Officer of the Year.

Ms. Vanderslice noted that on May 18, 2023 at 7:00pm the Housing Committee is holding a Panel Discussion on Housing – Past, Present & Future at the Wilton Library - Brubeck Room.

2. Selectmen/Selectwoman

Ms. Healy

Ms. Healy recognized the recently held Minks to Sinks Sale and the Garden Club's Plant Sale.

Mr. Cole

Mr. Cole noted the upcoming Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Day events.

Mr. Tartell

Mr. Tartell noted May is mental health awareness month.

Mr. Nabulsi

None.

G. Public Comment

- Frank Simone of Charter Oak Drive expressed opposition to the survey as discussed and questioned the cost. Ms. Vanderslice indicated there were no costs associated with survey.
- Kelly Morron of Ridgefield Road commented on the suggested survey and suggested equal emphasis on both sides of the vote. She also expressed her appreciation of the members of the board.
- Barbara Massy Bear of Indian Hill Road shared comments on the turf referendum.
- Sara Curtis of Cannon Road expressed appreciation for the board and expressed appreciation for the post-vote discussion just held at the meeting. She noted the potential value of the survey.

H. Adjournment

Having no further business, motion to adjourn moved by Mr. Tartell at 9:43pm, seconded by Mr. Cole and carried 5-0.

Jacqueline Rochester
Recording Secretary
Taken from Video

WILTON TRANSFER STATION				
PERMIT AND DISPOSAL FEES				
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023				
			Anticipated	
COLLECTORS	Current Prices	Proposed Prices	Quantities	Revenue
Seal Inspection Fee *	\$750/Truck	\$500.00/Truck	20	\$10,000.00
Refuse & Recycling Containers	\$50.00/Container	\$50.00/Container	156	\$7,800.00
Refuse Tipping Fee **	\$98.43/Ton	\$99.99/Ton	2,150	\$214,978.50
MSW Tipping Fee Transportation Surcharge **	\$ 4.50/Ton	\$ 4.50/Ton	2,150	\$9,675.00
MSW Tip Fee Fuel Surcharge **	\$ 2.00/Ton	\$ 2.00/Ton	2,150	\$4,300.00
Recycling Tipping Fee (April1 to June 30, 2023) ***	\$119.54/Ton	\$90.98/Ton	600	\$54,588.00
RESIDENTS				
Residential Vehicle Permits	\$0/First Vehicle	\$40/First Vehicle	900	\$36,000.00
	\$0/Second Vehicle	\$20/Second Vehicle	450	\$9,000.00
	\$0/Senior Discount	\$20/Senior Discount	450	\$9,000.00
Residential Tickets	\$4.50/ticket	\$4.50/ticket	12,000	\$54,000.00
Residential Tickets - Senior Citizens	\$3.50/ticket	\$3.50/ticket	6,750	\$23,625.00
Food Scrap Recycling Kits	\$20/Kit	\$20/Kit	25	\$500.00
OTHER REVENUE				
Ewaste Rebate				\$1,500.00
Scrap Metal Rebate				\$18,000.00
Penalty -Interest				\$3,000.00
Transfer Station Subsidy				\$308,828.00
		Anticipated Total Revenue =		\$764,794.50
STANDARD CHARGES USING TICKETS FOR RESIDENTS				
MSW per 32 Gallon Bag	1/ticket	\$4.50		
Bag Recyclable Fee	0	\$0.00		
Scrap Tires from Automobiles, Vans, and Pick-Up Trucks Only	1 ticket/tire	\$4.50		
Refrigerators, Air conditioner and other units containing freon	3 tickets/unit	\$13.50		
Bulky Waste & Demolition Material (C&D) - One (1) ITEM	4 tickets/1 ITEM	\$18.00		
Two (2) or More Bulky Waste/C&D ITEMS:				
1- Station Wagons, Sport Utilities, Sedans and Mini Vans - (assume 2 cy)	10 tickets/LOAD	\$45.00		
2-Pickup Trucks, Cargo Vans and Trailers - (assume 3 cy)	20 tickets/LOAD	\$95.00		
Note: * Wilton Seal Inspection fee less HRRR \$250 Registration Fee				
** Price set through HRRR				
*** Price set through HRRR Quarterly				