

February 8, 2022, Regular Monthly Meeting of the Wilmington town board. 7pm - 8:25pm

This was an open meeting, however call-in was available for people to listen from home.



Present Supervisor; Roy Holzer

Board Member-Deputy Supervisor- Darin Forbes

Board Member-Tim Follos

Board Member- Paula McGreevy

Board Member- Tina Terry-Preston

TownClerk/TaxCollector-Dawn Stevens

Listening via phone-Ed Orsi; Beth Kress; Celia Stephenson

Attending the meeting- Charlie Terry; Michelle Preston; Louis Adragna; MJ Lawrence; Jim Mckenna; Nicole Forbes; Steve Forbes; Lenard Forbes; David Lowry; Doug Nemec; Ben Hobday; Astrid Livesey; Aurora Gallagher; Roy Bombard and others whose names were not readable.

Meeting called to order, Pledge said by all.

10-2022 Resolution: Approval of the minutes from January 11,2022 and January 26,2022.

Moved by: Paula Forbes Seconded by: Darin Forbes All in favor

Roost Presentation: *The discussion included talk of the Facebook Survey; it seems a lot of people were not aware of this survey. Many suggested another one should be done. It was suggested that Roost was only interested in their own profits and really did not look out for the best interest of the local people. To this comment MJ Lawrence responded; Roost is made up by people who care! They are here to serve the community; they work hard and are passionate about their jobs. They are from here and love the area. That is why the task force was started. It was agreed that there is a lot of work to be done to get people involved and get the correct information to the people. The last contract with Ironman was for Five years, it has not yet been decided how long the next contract will be for, or if there will even be another contract.*

11-2022 Resolution: authorizing the issuance of a permit to Ironman of Lake Placid for the use of Town Roadways for the 2022 Ironman Triathlon race on July 24, 2022.

**Moved by: Roy Holzer Seconded by: Darin Forbes Tim Follos-No Tina Terry-Preston-Yes
Paula McGreevy-Yes**

12-2022Resolution: Agreeing to contract for visitor's bureau. Copy on file at the town hall.

Moved by: Darin Forbes Seconded by: Tina Terry-Preston All in favor

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A discussion on the disrepair of the Highway Garage roof. The board will be taking bids to have this repaired. The board is having an engineer draw up the specks for the bids.

The Lake Everest water Quality report is available in the town hall and on the town website; Townofwilmington.org.

The conclusion of the report is as follows:

Elevated sodium and chloride levels warrant further monitoring of Lake Everest to better understand the influence of winter road maintenance practices, particularly road salt, on the lake. Continued monitoring of Lake Everest can help us better understand the interaction of nutrients moving through the West Branch AuSable River system and alert us to any changes in water chemistry that may need further investigation. It will also allow us to monitor any changes in water quality due to increased development or land use changes in the immediate watershed. Due to the high flushing rate of Lake Everest, a more frequent sampling interval would provide more information on the seasonal variation in sodium and chloride, as well as other water quality parameters.

13-2022 Resolution: to give the river association \$500 from supervisors' funds for the preservation of our river.

Moved by: Paula McGreevy

Seconded by: Tim Follos

All in favor

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14-2022 Resolution: To pay the bills and make the transfers.

Moved by: Paula McGreevy

Seconded by: Tina Terry-Preston

All in Favor

Highway Report: *The camera system is working well. It is saving on overtime and wear and tear on the trucks. It was suggested we extend the number of cameras and check into getting ones that can also read the temperature. The new truck should be here in two to three weeks.*

Codes: Doug Nemecek was asked to make Tim Follos a copy of R1 maps.

\$145.00 fees collected 49 open permits 3 site visits

Visitors' bureau report: *On March 26 and April 2 the Girl Scouts will be selling cookies at the Visitor Bureau Office; May 19th is the date for the Two-Fly this year, it will have Thursday Beach Night again, everyone is encouraged to attend, there will be a band and a locally owned food truck. The uphill bike race is on June 4th, Town Dinner will be in April at the Hungry Trout. Nominations are being taken for citizen of the year. Hometown Hero Banners are being organized. This is for Veterans of the Armed Forces; the cost is \$175.00 and can be ordered through the visitor's bureau.*

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15-2022 Resolution: *To show support for the Hometown Hero Project.*

Moved by: *Paula McGreevy*

Seconded by: *Tim Follos*

All in Favor

Supervisor's report

New website: I am happy to announce that our new town website is now live. Please go to the Wilmingtontownofwilmington.org to check it out. In the months ahead we will be adding much more information to the site; items like previous planning and town board minutes meeting minutes and all things Wilmington will complement the new site. Special thanks to Roost and Above Social for their assistance with our project.

EV charger station presentation from NYSEG; I recently had a presentation from NYSEG on EV chargers and their possible use in Wilmington. Currently NYSEG covers everything except the charging station. The charging station is still pretty pricey at around \$10,000. NYSERDA was offering grants last year to cover the station cost. Currently they are out of funds. As electric cars become more popular this may be something the town should pursue if we could get grant funds to cover the complete expense.

Homestead housing as you are aware the property, we are looking at for the homestead housing falls under APA authority. They have asked for more wetland information which we are working with our engineers to provide. The property owners have signed the APA forms to keep the process moving forward.

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Wilmington bicentennial committee our next meeting of the Wilmington bicentennial committing committee meeting will be March 9th at 12:30 PM at the Community Center. All are invited to attend.

Last year the town board earmarked funds out of occupancy tax receipts for bicentennial purposes period to that vein, I would like a resolution to purchase 1500 Wilmington bicentennial pins at \$1.37 each and fifty banners at \$50.00 each. I am working on getting sponsors for the banners as well.

16-2022 Resolution: to authorize the Supervisor to order bicentennial lapel pins

Further resolved to purchase fifty pendants to be placed on our town banner poles at \$50.00 each.

Moved by: *Paula McGreevy*

Seconded by: *Tim Follos*

All in Favor

Essex County American rescue funds in December the town voted to use much of the funds we received from Essex County for employee incentives as a result of moving the process further I need a resolution

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to enter into an agreement with Essex County to get those funds this incentive included 12 full-time Employees, the Town Clerk, at that time Nancy Randall, Judges and Assessors. The Supervisor and Board Members excluded themselves from this incentive.

15-2022 Resolution: to sign agreement with Essex County for American relief funds

Moved by: Tina Terry-Preston

Seconded by: Paula McGreevy

All in Favor

Regarding short-term rentals, councilmember Follis stated that had repeatedly raised the legal concept "Vested Property Right," with Supervisor Holzer and the rest of the due to his concerns that once individual short-term rentals receive operating permits this year, future town councils will lack legal capability to stop those particular STRs from operating in the future. In response to Tim Follis' concerns, Supervisor Roy Holzer consulted with Town Attorney Allison McGahay as well as with Essex County Attorney Danial Manning, both of whom informed Supervisor Holzer that future Wilmington town boards can rein-in, restrict, or prohibits STRs in Wilmington—even those that receive operating permits this year. Councilmember Follis informed Supervisor Holzer and the rest of the board that he was very glad to receive this information

Discussion took place to limit the size of business building size in town, nothing was decided. It will be revisited.

Discussion on increasing the fees on STRs, it was decided it was not going to change now.

Information given by a citizen on the amendment to the public health law.

Motion to close the meeting:

Moved by: Paula McGreevy

Seconded by: Tim Follis

All in Favor

Submitted by: Dawn Stevens TownClerk/TaxCollector