

# **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-JUNE 6, 2013**

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

### **Roll Call**

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed all board members present except Councilman Pulsifer who was excused.

Arthur Johnson-Supervisor

John Lant-Councilman

Deputy Supervisor Rice

Steve Streicher-Councilman

Also present were Town Comptroller Jeffrey Reale, Town Attorney Richard DeVall and Director of Planning and Engineering, Ryan Riper.

### **Public Comment Session**

**Supervisor Johnson** asked if anyone signed up for public comment.

**Dan Tagliento** of 29 Jones Road said he would like to more information about a professional assessor that was hired by the Town. There were some notable reductions in assessments. Some type of background information would be helpful in finding out how this came to be. One of the reductions was a sizable amount, probably half of the assessment of the private business. The other question is about the Traffic Committee. We are developing and there are a number of intersections that need evaluation. Route 50 is backed up from Gick Road to the mall. It is time for New York State and the Town of Wilton because it is the entrance to our town and is a shared responsibility. The other intersection is Smith Bridge Road and Route 9. Thought should be given to the intersections before they become a problem.

### **Approve Pending Minutes**

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

**RESOLUTION # 114**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2013 meeting.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

**Friends of Wilton Recreation Naming Policy for Parks, Facilities  
And Programs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**Joseph Bartol**

**Richard Marks**

**Stuart LaDue**

**Supervisor Johnson** stated that the Friends of Wilton recently became a legal not for profit entity that has a great interest in Wilton Recreation.

**Joe Bartol** said the Friends of Wilton Recreation, Inc. has been formed to seek private funding to assist the Wilton recreation facilities and programs to benefit activities for all ages in our community. The Friends of Wilton Recreation, Inc. aims to support the recreation programs by securing monies and resources, developing community relationships and serving as an advocate for development outside the department's budget. The Friends of Wilton Recreation, Inc. is a separate, legal, not-for-profit entity organized for the purpose of encouraging voluntary private gifts, trusts and bequests for the benefit of Wilton Parks and Recreation. The new naming policy has a few items that have to be approved in order for the entity to solicit funds for the naming of a pavilion or a bench. The cost of naming is still being discussed. **Supervisor Johnson** said the Town Board there are a few components to the agreement that will have to be identified. A fee schedule along with a time schedule must be completed prior to approval. The Town appreciates the group stepping forward and offers support for whatever is needed to fulfill their goals. **Mr. Bartol** noted that there is an email, [friendsofwiltonrec@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwiltonrec@gmail.com) and the website is currently being constructed.

**Sustainable Forestry**

**Walter Chandler**

**Walter Chandler** said he is a Councilman in Greenfield and is a Certified New York State logger and currently hold a position on the New York State Logger's Board. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program is a comprehensive system of principles, objectives and performance measures developed by professional foresters, conservationists, scientists and other stake holders. It combines the perpetual growing and harvesting of trees with the long term protection of wildlife, plants, soil and water quality. SFI is working with other towns to initiate the program to help the communities. It is hard for towns to

come up with permits and regulations when they are not specialists in the industry. An independent, internationally recognized forestry certification program was created and is run by volunteers. There are a lot regulations, resources and education. Wood fiber users and producers that agree and abide by the ASFI principles are certified by independent third parties, as meeting or exceeding performance standards. Loggers are audited and regulated. If the jobs are not being done correctly, they are shut down. It has help towns and the industry by esthetics, good forestry and water quality. If at any time there is a problem with the contractor, there is a hotline and someone will come out and inspect the job immediately. There are first aid programs, logger training, silviculture courses, tree felling, best management practices (BMP), crossing streams and water quality. The program would like to be recognized as helping the community and push more loggers, contractors and landowners into this program. It is a win-win for the industry and the community. If the town could amend their forestry permit to adopt the program, the contractor could begin work immediately. The program is brings a lot of regulations. As far as a forestry plan, the foresters are already working with the loggers. There are procurement foresters for the mills are out on the jobs. If the logger is doing something wrong, the mill will not buy your wood. The program give the town the authority to shut a project down and it helps the logger start working immediately. There are market fluctuations with different types of wood.

**Attorney DeVall** asked Mr. Chandler what he would like the Town Board to do. **Mr. Chandler** said he likes the permits that have a lot of regulations for people that are not in the SFI or certified loggers. He said he would like to see an amendment to adopt the program to allow foresters, loggers and landowners to automatically go to work but follow the SFI guidelines. **Attorney DeVall** said the requested amendment would state if the contractor was a certified, trained logger from the program that would be deemed the equivalent of permit compliance. **Mr. Chandler** said that was correct and the program offers much more. **Attorney DeVall** asked if there is model legislation from another municipality where the legislation was passed. **Mr. Chandler** said the resource center has all of the information. **Councilman Lant** noted that the area on Daniels Road to Braim Road has been logged and it's a shame for what was done. If there was a program like this maybe it could have been avoided. **Deputy Supervisor Rice** said there are loggers that wanted to be responsible and they were tired of "preaching to the choir". This is how this brainchild came about. The program is worth taking a look at.

**Speed Limit Reduction Requests**

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

**RESOLUTION # 115**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the referral of a speed limit reduction request, on north section of Northern Pines Road between Ballard Road and Route 9, to Saratoga County.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

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

**RESOLUTION # 116**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the referral of a speed limit reduction request, on Ballard Road between Northern Pines Road and North Road in the school zone, to Saratoga County.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

**Independent Auditors Report 2012 Presentation**

**Supervisor Johnson** stated that the Independent Auditors Report was recently completed. Initially there were no audit findings and is considered a "clean audit". The town is doing well with a \$7.7 million dollars in revenue in 2011 to \$8.4 million in 2012. Sales tax is the primary revenue source with a record year in 2012. Mortgage tax has increased as home sales are on the upswing. Expenses are down. In 2011 the town spent \$7.5 million and in 2012, \$7.3 million. Transportation expenses were higher with the purchase of highway equipment but the numbers stay consistent. In 2013, the town finished paying all debts and is completely debt free. Overall, the town is doing very well. With increased revenue and conservative spending, the fund balance has grown to \$6.6 million.

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

**RESOLUTION # 117**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the Independent Auditor's Report for 2012.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

**Town Court Audit**

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

**RESOLUTION #118**

WHEREAS, the Town of Wilton owns and operates a Justice Court System within the municipality, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York Unified Court System, under Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act, requires village justices to annually perform an audit of their records and dockets, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wilton has had allowed for an audit to be performed of the Town Court for the time period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 and has received and filed the audit report.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Wilton Board has received and accepted the Audit Report for the Town Justice Court and this audit will be filed in the Town Clerk's office, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of the Audit Report along with this resolution will be sent to New York State Office of Court Administration as required by the Unified Court System's Action Plan for the Justice Courts.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

**Committee Reports**

**Deputy Supervisor Rice** stated the Fire Observer's Cabin was dedicated to D.A. Collins on Saturday, June 1, 2013. D.A. Collins was a great advocate for the property and invested in scouting. Dave Collins was present on his behalf.

**Supervisor Johnson** noted the Wilton Emergency Squad was awarded the Regional EMS Agency of the Year Award. They will now be further evaluated by New York State for a possible award.

On Father's Day, June 16, 2013, the Wilton Heritage Society will have their annual Strawberry Social from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, June 8 is the Saratoga Wilton Elks Club Flag Day Parade at Noon starting on North Broadway in Saratoga Springs.

**Comptroller's Report:**

**1.) April 2013 Cash Disbursements**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$417,739</b>
<b><u>Highway Fund</u></b>	<b><u>\$126,791</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$544,530</b>

**2.) 2013 Budget Transfers and Amendments**

(See attached) Budget Transfers-None

**3.) Personnel**

a.) On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #119**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for Kathy Austin and Nicole Monroe to attend the NYS Assessors Association Conference in Cornell, NY, June 14-19, 2013.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Rice, duly put to vote, all in favor.

**Other Business:**

**Supervisor Johnson** stated that the Town Board meeting for July will be held on Wednesday, July 3, 2013 due to the holiday.

**Executive Session**

**Supervisor Johnson** said there will be an Executive Session for appointments.

Deputy Supervisor Rice made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. Councilman Lant seconded the motion. All board members were in favor.

Deputy Supervisor Rice made a motion to reconvene at 8:01 p.m. Councilman Streicher seconded the motion. All board members were in favor.

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

**RESOLUTION # 120**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the appointment of Kathy Austin, as Sole Assessor, for a 6 year term to begin on October 1, 2013.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

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

**RESOLUTION # 121**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the appointment of Mathew Lindley, as Chairman of the Ethics Advisory Board, for a 6 year term to begin on October 1, 2013.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Rice, duly put to a vote, all in favor except for

Councilman Lant, who was opposed. The motion carried 3 to 1.

**Adjournment**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Rice, and seconded by Councilman Streicher with all board members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

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Supervisor, Arthur Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman, John Lant

Absent \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman, Robert Pulsifer

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Deputy Supervisor Rice

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Councilman, Steve Streicher