

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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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 MEETING
Monday August 2, 2021
Held Electronically

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

GUESTS: Atty Nicholas Bamonte, Esq.-Berchem Moses, Michael Wrinn-Director, Planning & Land Use Management, Erik Haakonsen-BoE, Anne Kelly-Lenz-CFO

A. Call to Order

Ms. Vanderslice called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

B. Public Comment

None.

C. Consent Agenda

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

- Minutes
 - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Executive Session – July 20, 2021
 - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – July 20, 2021

D. Discussion and/or Action

1. Recreational Cannabis – Atty Nick Bamonte

Ms. Vanderslice introduced Mr. Bamonte who reviewed the recently enacted Public Act 21-1, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult Use of Cannabis. He shared that the Board of Selectmen does not have the authority to put cannabis related questions on the November ballot. The only questions that can be put on the November ballot would be those as a result of a conforming petition. He went on to review the perspective effect on municipalities. Mr. Bamonte further detailed and summarized a municipality's authority under the law. He noted several surrounding communities, in an effort to give themselves more time, were using zoning regulations to temporarily prohibit the sale of cannabis. Mr. Bamonte responded to questions from the BoS.

2. Possible Transfers of 647-651 Danbury Road

Ms. Vanderslice reminded the members that 647-651 Danbury Road was owned by the state and leased to Hoffman Landscaping. The Board had previously expressed support

for the sale of the property to Hoffman Landscaping. Mr. Bamonte shared that a Special Legislative Act was passed, which requires the Town to act as an intermediary for the sale. Mr. Bamonte further reviewed the transfer with the BoS. He noted an 8-24 referral to the Planning & Zoning Commission and a public hearing were required. The members agreed Mr. Bamonte should move forward to facilitate the transaction.

3. P&Z Commission Request for Contract with BJB Planning for Master Planning
Michael Wrinn (Director Planning & Land Use Management) reviewed the selection process for the vendor to assist the P&Z Commission with master planning. After further review and discussion motion moved by Ms. Bufano, seconded by Ms. McFadden and carried 5-0 to authorize Michael Wrinn to move forward and work with town counsel to develop a contract with BJB Planning.
4. Town Property at 872 Danbury Road and 31 New Street
Ms. Vanderslice and Mr. Wrinn reviewed town-property located at 872 Danbury Road and 31 New Street. Ms. Vanderslice shared the two properties, totaling almost 4 acres, currently house one-single family each. One house is rented. The other, which was recently vacated, requires \$40,000-\$50,000 of repairs. Mr. Wrinn suggested that this is an opportunity to investigate the properties for low density, affordable housing units. Discussion amongst the BoS and Mr. Wrinn. After discussion, motion made by Mr. Tartell seconded by Ms. McFadden to move forward with an RFP/RFQ for an Architect/Engineer to investigate possibilities.
5. BoE Equipment Lease – Erik Haakonsen of BoE
Erik Haakonsen submitted a request from the Wilton Public Schools for the Town to enter into a 5-year lease financing agreement for various equipment totaling \$335,000. Ms. Vanderslice noted the Board of Selectmen does not use short-term lease financing for Town equipment purchases for a number of reasons, including that short-term lease financing is significantly more expensive than bond financing. The Town recently issued 10-year bonds with an interest rate of .82%. None of the equipment presented qualify for bond financing. She suggested the BoS, BoE and BoF discuss the matter.

E. Selectmen's Reports

1. First Selectman

- Ms. Vanderslice shared the recently released recommendation from the CT Dept of Public Health that all individual wear masks while indoors regardless of vaccination status.
- Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corps (WVAC) provided a schedule of COVID specific expenses. She asked Anne Kelly-Lenz to work with them to develop a proposal for a grant funded by American Rescue Plan funds.
- WHS track to be completed by the end of the week.
- Ms. Vanderslice noted Dr. Kevin Smith announced that this fall WPS will be in-person for the full 5 days.

2. Selectmen

Mr. Cole

Mr. Cole noted there was a large crowd at the Wilton Chamber of Commerce Sidewalk Street Fair.

Mr. Tartell

None.

Ms. McFadden
None.

Ms. Bufano
None.

F. Public Comment
None.

G. Adjournment
Having no further business, Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:39pm. Motion moved by Ms. McFadden, seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0.

Jacqueline Rochester
Recording Secretary
Taken from Video