

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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

Email to: lynne.vanderslice@wiltonct.org



Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectman

David K. Clune
Second Selectman

Lori A. Bufano
Selectman

Michael P. Kaelin
Selectman

Deborah McFadden
Selectman

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY DECEMBER 8, 2017
TOWN HALL – MEETING ROOM B**

- PRESENT:** First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice, Michael Kaelin, Lori Bufano, and David Clune
- ABSENT:** Deborah McFadden (Excused)
- GUESTS:** Peter Gaboriault & Donna Merrill (Land Trust), Peter Gelderman (Berchem & Moses), Matt Motley (Millstone Farms), Michael Conklin (Director, Environmental via phone)
- OTHERS:** Members of the Press and Members of the Public

A. Call to Order

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

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Millstone Farm – Amendment to Conservation Restriction Agreement

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the request for an amendment to Conservation Restriction Agreement with Millstone Farm. She provided a status report on the discussion with the owner's legal counsel and information from her attendance at the Conservation Commission meetings. The most significant difference between the two parties is Millstone's request to move the Town right-of-way for pedestrian and equestrian trails. The selectmen discussed the proposed requests, Town requests, which were denied including removal of noncompliant structures, keeping the right-of-way intact and a guarantee that farming would continue. The benefits and losses of the proposed amendment both for Millstone and the Town were reviewed.

Peter Gaboriault of the Land Trust spoke in favor of approving the Amendment to the Conservation Restriction Agreement

Matt Motley, Property Manager of Millstone Farms spoke in favor of approving the Amendment to the Conservation Restriction Agreement and answered questions.

Donna Merrill of the Land Trust spoke in favor of approving the Amendment to the Conservation Restriction Agreement.

Mike Conklin provided an overview of his and the Conservation Commission's concerns with the proposed amendment. He spoke to the perceived value of the current location of the trails right-of-way.

Peter Gelderman of Berchem & Moses on behalf of Town Counsel answered questions regarding the Amendment to the Conservation Restriction Agreement.

C. Public Comment

Karen Silverberg of Pipers Mill Road asked questions and provided comment on the Amendment to Conservation Restriction including concerns regarding what appeared to be planned commercial activity at the property. It was explained that such was a zoning violation and Millstone indicated they no longer intended to have activities, which would violate zoning regulations.

D. Consideration of and Vote on Amendment to Conservation Restriction

The Board of Selectmen decided not to hold a vote and required information in the form of a site visit to Millstone Farm along with Conservation Commission to be held over the weekend of December 16th and 17th. Ms. Vanderslice noted correspondence had been received from Millstone Farm indicating they would pull out of the amendment negotiation if the BoS did not vote at this meeting. The Selectmen chose to proceed with the site visit in hopes the property owners would change their mind.

E. Adjournment

Having no further business, Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Ms. Bufano to adjourn meeting at 10:20 PM. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kaelin and unanimously carried.

Next Regular Meeting – December 18, 2017



Jacqueline Rochester
Recording Secretary
(Taken from Video)