

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, PUBLIC WORKS, ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND
RECREATION**

**Wednesday October 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM
Windham Town Hall, Bellingham Auditorium
979 Main Street
Willimantic**

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Charles Krich called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Committee members present: Lorraine McDevitt, Mike Lessard, James Flores

Town Staff Present: Town Engineer Joe Gardner

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens and Delegations.

Bill Powers reviewed chronology of signage around schools in Windham Center and North Windham

Diane Rayhall, President of the First Taxing District stated the board had voted to request no parking both sides of Route 14, and 25mph signs at the Windham Center Elementary School.

Dave Magnuson of the Vulturetown Arts group discussed a request for a permit to serve alcohol in the Town Hall at a function to be held on December 18, 2014.

Lloyd Niles stated Lebanon was returning to the Dispatch Association in July 2015.

4. Town Council Committee Member Comments.

James Flores addressed ownership of bus shelters. He wants to see documentation regarding ownership.

5. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on September 24, 2014.

A motion was made by Mike Lessard to approve the minutes as submitted.

The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by James Flores to add to the agenda item 13A. Discussion and possible action regarding bus shelters. The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mike Lessard to add to the agenda item 7A Discussion and possible action regarding sale of alcohol during Vulturetown event on December 18, 2014 in the Town Hall. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Dispatch

Lorraine McDevitt reported that the Association was working hard on an agreement and that a meeting of the attorneys, Town Manager and principals from the Dispatch and Council needs to be held. Chairman Krich stated his goal was to complete by end of year.

7. Report on Arts and Eats District with Victor Funderburk

Mr. Funderburk explained what his group was doing. They are working on a Place Making Grant. Gail Gelburd of ECSU explained they are working on a grant with the Whitewater Association. They need a letter of support from Town. Jim Turner, president of Whitewater Association explained project. Chairman Krich noted they are working on two separate grants.

A motion was made by James Flores, seconded by Mike Lessard to add item 7B to the agenda, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Grant Application for Our Town Project. The motion passed unanimously.

7A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Sale of Alcohol during Vulturetown Event on December 18, 2014 in the Town Hall

Dave Magnuson stated hours would be from 7:00 pm to 12:00 pm. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to recommend to the full council the sale of alcohol during the event to be held on December 18, 2014. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

7B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Grant Applications

A motion was made by Mike Lessard seconded by James Flores to recommend to the Council that a letter be sent to the National Endowment of Arts in support of the grant application. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Traffic , Routes 203 and 14 by the Windham Center and North Windham Elementary Schools

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to request that the DOT perform a School Zone Study and to post both sides of the Windham Center School "no parking". The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard and passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Rehabilitation of the Railroad Bridge on the Hop River Trail by Mackey's

Town Engineer explained that the DOT was planning on rehabilitating the bridge over the Willimantic River and constructing a pedestrian trail over it. All committee members were in support of the project. Members in the audience were supportive. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to have the Town Manager send the DOT a letter in support of the project. The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard and passed unanimously.

10. Update on Bike Path

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reported that a \$80,000 DEEP grant had been received and that the DOT had authorized placing project out to bid. Project would be constructed next year.

11. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Award of Insulating the Town Hall Auditorium and the Dugan Building

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reported on bids. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to recommend to the Council the award of the project to Quality Insulation of Eastern Connecticut in the amount of \$30,000. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Award of New Heating Systems for the Two Windham Textile and History Museum Buildings

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reported on bids. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt seconded by Mike Lessard to recommend to the council the award the installation of High Efficiency Boilers in both buildings at a cost of \$37,689.46. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Parking at 804 Main Street

A memo from Neida Rosado, Executive Administrator/Compliance Officer was reviewed. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to recommend to the Council that the three hour parking signs be removed, that parking be discontinued, and funds sought to construct a pocket park. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

13A Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bus Shelters

James Flores would like to have ownership determined and who is responsible for maintenance.

Dawn Niles states the Windham Public Works department installed the bus shelters, the town owns them and is responsible for maintenance.

14. Citizens and Delegations

Joe Marsalisi stated that 804 Main Street is used daily by local businesses for parking. Dawn Niles reported for Heartsafe Committee, AED installed at Barrows Academy and at Senior Center. She would like funds released by Town for a Spanish version of AED and CPR training. She noted parking was hard to find on Main Street.

Bill Powers stated the Council previously asked town Manager to request a School Zone Study at their May meeting.

Dawn Niles requested the committee research use of proposed Senior Center. Would it be used by other groups as a Community Center.

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 pm. The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Joseph Gardner

Town Engineer

