

Minutes of the Willimantic Taxing District Regular Meeting

Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium, 2nd Floor
Tuesday, October 27, 2015 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Tom DeVivo, President of the Willimantic Taxing District, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Thomas DeVivo, Charles Krich, Lorraine McDevitt, Joseph Underwood, Mark Doyle (arrived at 7:40 P.M.) and James Flores

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance

2. Pledge of Allegiance

District President Tom DeVivo led all in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

State Representative Susan Johnson thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the Town and presented him with a Citation from the State of Connecticut.

Mayor Eldridge thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the community and presented him with a Proclamation from the Town of Windham.

Dawn Niles thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the community and the Democratic Town Committee.

Dennis O'Brien thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the community and the many boards he served on. He also thanked him for his friendship and support through the years.

Henry Crane, Willimantic resident, thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the community and shared a story about Councilmember Underwood.

4. Councilmember Comment

James Flores invited everyone to attend the November 10th Town Council meeting when African American Affairs Commissioners will be giving a presentation on racial profiling.

Tom DeVivo thanked Councilmember Underwood for his service to the Town and noted the many committees he and Councilmember Underwood served on together.

MOTION: Krich MOVED, Flores seconded, to take a five minute recess @ 7:15 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: McDevitt MOVED, Krich seconded, to come out of recess at 7:25 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. September 15, 2015 Special Meeting

Flores MOVED, Krich seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2015 Special Meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting

Flores MOVED, Krich seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting. All were in favor except Underwood who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

6. Report from the Police Chief. Discuss and possibly take action.

a. Operating Statistics

Captain Reed briefly reviewed the operating statistics report. There was also discussion on how the numbers on the report were captured.

b. Budget Update

Captain Reed reported on the problems with the two sewage pumps, the problem with the water pump on one of the new cruisers and the approximate cost to repair both. He also answered questions from the Council.

Lt. Buckner reported on computer software money that is owed to Microsoft. He also answered questions regarding air rifles and a Humvee that were obtained by the Police Department.

7. Report from the Fire Chief. Discuss and possibly take action.

a. Operating Statistics

Captain Palmer reported both ambulances are fully operational and the Department has been focusing on public education. He noted all public education requirements have been fulfilled for town requests however there are still some out of Town requests being made. He also noted the fire safety trailer has had some repairs done and is now fully functional.

b. Budget Update

Captain Palmer reported the Fire Department is moving forward with the purchase of the new pumper truck in the next fiscal year. He stated a committee of firefighters will be formed and tasked with doing researching and writing a specification sheet which follows the Town bid process. He asked for the Council's support.

8. Public Comment

Henry Crane, Willimantic resident, spoke about the Council's job to oversee the military equipment obtained by the Police Department.

Lorraine McDevitt spoke about the Relay for Life event. She also thanked the Town of Windham employees for their participation and donations to the event.

James Flores read a portion of an article from the internet on Ferguson Missouri. He also spoke of militarization of police.

9. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Discussion and possible action to oversee equipment obtained by the Police Department
- b. Willimantic Police service in Mansfield

10. Adjournment

McDevitt MOVED, Krich seconded, to adjourn the Willimantic Taxing District Council regular meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Submitted By:
Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Council