

WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Tuesday, December 18, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.



1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Eldridge called the Town of Windham Council meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Charles Krich, Tony Fantoli, Tom DeVivo, Lorraine McDevitt, N. Joseph Underwood, Kevin Donohue, Arnaldo Rivera and Jerry Iazzetta

Mark Doyle and Christel Donahue were absent.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

A moment of silence was observed for the Newtown tragedy.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Eldridge led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment**

James Flores stated we are all guilty for the tragedy in CT. He feels we should have stronger laws regarding gun registration. Mr. Flores would like Windham to open their records and track those who own guns and be a role model for the country.

4. **Town Council Comment**

Arnaldo Rivera agrees with Mr. Flores but believes the procedure for tracking guns is very complicated. He does however think we should voice our concern.

5. **Adoption of Minutes**

a. **Discussion and possible action to adopt the minutes for the December 4, 2012, Town Council Meeting.**

Iazzetta MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adopt the minutes for the December 4, 2012, Town Council Meeting. All were in favor except Underwood and Rivera who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

6. **Resignations. Receive the resignation of:**

a. Edward Pelletier resigned from the Water Commission.

7. **Appointments. Discussion and possible action to appoint or reappoint, as appropriate:**

- ##### a. The following members of the Planning and Zoning Commission:
- i. Paula Stahl as a regular member.
 - ii. Clare Lary as a regular member.

- iii. Edward Pelletier as a regular member.
 - b. The following members of the Windham Historic District Commission:
 - i. William McMunn as a regular member.
 - ii. Alice Burns-Decelles as a regular member.
 - iii. David Johnson as an alternate member.
 - c. The following members of the Willimantic Public Library Board of Directors:
 - i. Elsie Jenkins as a regular member.
 - ii. Olga Kurnyk-Ezis as a regular member.
 - d. Jamie H. Eves as a regular member of the Historic District Study Commission.
 - e. Stephen A. Varga as a regular member of the HeartSafe Committee.
 - f. Susan Johnson as a regular member of the Inland Wetland & Watercourse Commission.
- DeVivo MOVED, K. Donohue seconded, to take Items a through f as one Item. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Iazzetta MOVED, Underwood seconded, to appoint or reappoint the above members to each respected Board or Commission. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Presentations & Special Reports

- a. **Town Planner James Finger regarding the C-PACE Program (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy), and the Solarize CT Program. (For action items, see agenda items 12.a and 15.c. and 15.d, below.)**
Iazzetta MOVED, Krich seconded, to table Item 8 until later in the meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Eldridge reported on attending the tea at the Library and the winter carnival at Generations. He also reported on the vigil held at Jillson Square that was organized by Jenny Messier from Windham Hospital for the tragedy in Newton. Mayor Eldridge thanked Sr. Mark, Principal of St Mary-St Joseph School for speaking at the vigil.

10. Town Manager's Report

MOTION: Iazzetta MOVED, Underwood seconded, to take Item 8 off the table. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town Manager Beets gave a brief explanation on the C-PACE Program and the Solarize CT Program.

James Finger also answered questions from the Council regarding the two programs.

11. Discussion and Review of Communications

None

12. Resolutions and Ordinances

- a. **Discussion and possible action regarding a C-PACE Resolution.**
DeVivo read the resolution and moved for its adoption.
DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adopt Resolution #2588A regarding C-PACE. All were in favor.

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (“C-PACE”) AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

WHEREAS, Section 157 of Public Act No. 12-2 of the June 12, 2012 Special Session of the Connecticut General Assembly (the “Act”) established a program, known as the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program, to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (the “Authority”), a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State charged with implementing the C-PACE program on behalf of the State, to enter into a written agreement with participating municipalities pursuant to which the municipality may agree to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the Authority in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within the municipality and for costs reasonably incurred by the municipality in performing such duties; and

WHEREAS, the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (“C-PACE”) Agreement (the “C-PACE Agreement”) between the Town of Windham and the Authority, as attached hereto, constitutes the written agreement authorized by the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) that we, the Windham Town Council, constituting the legislative body of the Town of Windham, hereby approves the C-PACE Agreement, and

(b) that **Neal J. Beets, Windham Town Manager** is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the City/Town, to execute and deliver the C-PACE Agreement, substantially in the form attached to this Resolution, for the purposes provided therein, together with such other documents as he or she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to evidence, secure and otherwise complete the C-PACE Agreement.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions

a. Administration, Finance, Health, and Human Services Subcommittee

K. Donohue noted he was not at the last meeting however he reported the Committee had a Public Hearing which focused on the naming of the Magnet School. He also reported at their meeting they had discussed the budget and the evaluation of the finance department.

In addition, Mr. Fantoli added there was no update on the finance department and stated there was a short discussion regarding the DAR plaque.

b. Public Safety, Public Works, Culture, and Recreation Subcommittee

Iazzetta reported the Committee was having a Special Meeting tomorrow night. He noted there were several items on the agenda, one of which was the Dispatch Center.

c. Magnet School Building Committee

DeVivo reported the Magnet School was on schedule. He stated the Committee had one more meeting on December 28th with the State to finalize the appropriation for the FF&E. He also reported on the expansion on some of the solar panels.

Mr. DeVivo reviewed some issues they are facing including noise from the temporary heating system and complaints received regarding speeding on Tuckie Road.

Mr. DeVivo answered questions from the Council.

14. Old Business

- a.** None.

15. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action to approve naming the Magnet School as “The “Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy,” as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

K. Donohue MOVED, Fantoli seconded, to approve naming the Magnet School as “The “Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy,” as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

All were in favor except McDevitt, Underwood and Iazzetta who opposed and Eldridge who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

b. Discussion and possible action to approve a plaque at the Windham Green, as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

DeVivo MOVED, Rivera seconded, to approve a plaque at the Windham Green, as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health, and Human Services Subcommittee assuming it is placed on a modest surface or structure.

All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Discussion and possible action adopting a motion in support of the Solarize CT Program.

Iazzetta MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to support the Solarize CT Program.

All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. **Discussion and possible action to refer the C-PACE Program, Solarize CT Program, or both for a recommendation from one of the Town Council Subcommittees, the Economic Development Commission (EDC), the Energy Commission, or some combination of the above.**
No action was needed.

16. Future Agenda Items

- Update on the status of the Senior Center

17. Adjournment

Rivera MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Town Council Meeting at 8:07 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council