

# WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

### WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Tuesday, December 4, 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, Mark Doyle, and Jerry Iazzetta

N. Joseph Underwood, Kevin Donohue, Arnaldo Rivera and Christel Donahue were absent.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

#### 2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Eldridge led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

James Flores, Willimantic, asked if there was an interpreter at the meeting and believes the Council should provide one. He then shared his comments in Spanish.

Ed Pelletier, 46 Quercus Avenue, Willimantic, introduced himself to the Council and noted he was on the agenda to be appointed as a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. He briefly described his qualifications for the position.

Lori Jeffers, Willimantic, spoke about the recent vote regarding the Magnet School and expressed her disapproval of the way the meeting and ballot counting was done.

#### 4. **Town Council Comment**

Mayor Eldridge explained why Mr. Underwood and Mr. Donohue were not at the meeting.

Tom DeVivo, Willimantic, shared his concerns regarding the Board of Finance and the Natchaug School Roof project.

#### 5. **Adoption of Minutes**

- a. **Discussion and possible action to adopt the minutes for the November 20, 2012, Town Council Meeting.**

DeVivo MOVED, Doyle seconded, to adopt the minutes for the November 20, 2012 Town Council Meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

- a. Jeff Smith resigned as a regular member of the Board of Finance.

**7. Appointments. Discussion and possible action to appoint:**

**a. Edward Pelletier as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

DeVivo MOVED, Doyle seconded, to appoint Edward Pelletier as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission immediately following his resignation from the Windham Water Commission. All were in favor except Charles Krich who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

**b. Scott Lambeck as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

DeVivo MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to appoint Scott Lambeck as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**8. Presentations & Special Reports**

- a. None

**9. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Eldridge reported Santa on the ladder truck was a great event and he thanked the Willimantic Fire Department for all their help in making it a success. He also reported on the Windham Center Tree Lighting, the Silverback open house and the Willimantic Police stuff a cruiser event. He noted he was unable to attend the stuff a cruiser event due to a filming being done in the Town Hall Auditorium.

**10. Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager Beets reported the Town was working with the Access Agency and CLICK on a grant to renovate space at the Access Agency for a new senior center. He noted this may be an agenda item on the January 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Mr. Beets also reported on the three new black and white police squad cars,

Mr. Beets also reported on the after action evaluation regarding our response time during Storm Sandy. He noted there were some problems with connectivity issues and radios which made it difficult to file certain reports. He stated a possible recommendation in the next budget for improvements to equipment at the EOC was likely.

In addition, Mr. Beets reported he and the Mayor had met with Sean Johnston, former legislator from Putnam, who will be the new liaison for CL&P working with the Town.

**11. Discussion and Review of Communications**

None

**12. Resolutions and Ordinances**

a. None

**13. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions**

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

Doyle reported the Committee had met and discussed the naming of the Magnet School and the request for a plaque by the DAR in Windham Center. He noted both issues were slated for a Public Hearing tomorrow at 7:00 P.M.

Doyle also reported the Committee had discussed the review of having the Finance Department audited by Blum Shapiro. Mr. Doyle noted Blum Shapiro was at the meeting to answer any questions of the Committee. Mr. Doyle also stated the Committee discussed having both the Board of Education and the Towns finance operations reviewed by Blum Shapiro.

In addition, Doyle noted the Committee briefly reviewed the audit with Town Manager Beets and was given an update on the senior center.

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

Iazzetta reported there had been no meeting since the last Council meeting. He did however note that at the last special meeting of the Committee they had discussed the HVAC equipment replacement at the safety complex and are recommending the bid be accepted by Oceanside Plumbing and Heating.

Iazzetta also reported a special meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup> will be held concerning the dispatch center. He noted the Committee had received the draft proposal from the Town Attorney regarding the dispatch center and it will be discussed at the special meeting.

**MOTION:** DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to add under Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions, Item 13c., an update on the Magnet School. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**c. Update on the Magnet School**

Devivo reported a Town Meeting was held on the Magnet School and the Committee then went to the Board of Education laying out the plans for the FF&E. Mr. DeVivo reported the Board of Education signed off on the document and it was then sent to the State Bureau of School Facilities. He thanked the Council.

**14. Old Business**

- a. None

**15. New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action to approve the bid of Oceanside Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$161,000 to replace the HVAC equipment at the Public Safety Complex, as recommended by the Public Safety, Public Works, Culture, and Recreation Subcommittee.**

Iazzetta MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to approve the bid of Oceanside Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$161,000 to replace the HVAC equipment at the Public Safety Complex, as recommended by the Public Safety, Public Works, Culture, and Recreation Subcommittee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Discussion and possible action to create, or begin creating, a legislative agenda for the Town of Windham for 2013.**

A short discussion followed between the Town Council and State Representative Susan Johnson regarding a legislative agenda. The consensus of the Council is to schedule a special meeting of the Council and to invite Senator Don Williams and State Representatives Susan Johnson and Linda Orange, at which time they will work together to create a legislative agenda.

**16. Future Agenda Items**

None

**17. Adjournment**

Iazzetta MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Town Council Meeting at 7:54 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Submitted By:**

**Barbara J. McKinney**

Clerk of the Town Council