

WINDHAM FIRST TAXING DISTRICT

Monday February 3, 2014

Monthly Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:**

President Diane Rayhall called the monthly meeting of the Windham First Taxing District to order at 1905 hours.

The following members were present: Diane Rayhall, Ted Colwell, Elaine Rogers, George Gillette, Jan Mott, Peter Bruscato, Dawn Niles and AnnMarie White.

**Approval of Minutes January 6, 2014:**

Joe DeMarchi made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 6, 2014 for approval. George Gillette noted typo errors and moved to correct. Elaine Rogers the motion, all in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Jan Mott gave the treasurer's report and read the following information:

Account Balances:

Checking Account Balance:	\$102,967.36
Savings Account Balance:	\$123,675.10
Grant Match Reserve:	\$ 63,912.00
Grant Improvement Reserve:	<u>\$120,193.40</u>
Total:	\$410,747.86

Bills to Pay:

Chronicle	\$179.84
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Elaine Rogers moved to accept treasurer's report, Ted Colwell seconded, all in favor.

**Guilford Smith Memorial Library**

Joe DeMarchi asked if they received another bid. Ted Colwell said they did and it was comparable to the first bid. Joe asked he could question bids, and Diane said he could at the Special Meeting.

**Windham Free Library**

Barbara McClintock said they received a letter from the Historical Association in regards to replacing the roof on the Doctor Hunt house, and they said a certificate was not required because of putting new material on the roof, it was considered 'maintainence'. She preferred to go with the lowest bid from McClintock that ranged between \$8,000 and \$9,000. There's a 10 year warranty and McClintock is a part of the National Cedar Bureau so they are most familiar with this type of roofing material. Joe DeMarchi made a motion to put on March special meeting at 6:00 on March 3, to provide roofing for the Windham Free Library, seconded by Ted Colwell, all in favor.

**Windham Youth Organization**

Greg Job stated that they will be starting sign-up's on February 15 through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Their fundraiser at Applebee's will be held May 31, 2014 from 8-10 in the morning and tickets are \$5 each. He was not making any change in his budget from last year.

### **Elaine Rogers Update on 3 Windhams**

Their last meeting was postponed and cancelled.

### **South Windham Fire Department**

Helene Chapman read the January report. The President could not attend, so not budget was provided to the Board.

### **Windham Center Fire Department**

Randy Clark read the January report. Joshua Niles submitted their 2014-2015 budget. Joe DeMarchi said since they were spending money on the cameras, he'd like to see a \$0 increase. Diane asked if the money for the RFP was still there. Joshua said it was, and that John McGrath reviewed and will be sending out. After some discussion on increase, Joshua will revise the budget for the next meeting.

### **North Windham Fire Department**

No report given.

Diane noted that there will be two meeting in March to discuss the budgets.

### **Discussion and Possible Action for a Resident State Trooper**

Joe DeMarchi thought this issue should be left alone at this time and Elaine agreed. George Gillette wanted to clarify that the dispatch problem was not with the Willimantic switchboard but with the Tolland dispatch center. Peter asked if the Taxing District holds any liability in any pending lawsuits. Diane said 'No', but will double check with our attorney.

Dawn Niles believes the Board needs to hear from the community and open this topic up to the public. As a resident, Lloyd Niles thinks a resident trooper is needed or a contract with the Willimantic police. John Postemski was concerned with double taxation. He wants to see the actual cost of the police. Detective Ricardo from the Willimantic Police Department stated that their department provided 24/7 services. Joe DeMarchi asked how long it would take for them to respond. He said within minutes, if four officers on shift, they could all go. Alan Pitcher said one officer won't solve anything, he believes in arming yourself. Town Council member Tom DeVivo noted that when Willimantic police provide mutual aid, we are getting them at no cost. Tony Fantoli said the same goes when Windham departments provide mutual aid to Willimantic, it too is at no cost to them. John Postemski asked if Windham could try out the Willimantic police service. Diane wasn't sure about union guidelines, but will check. Most residents want to know the cost. George Gillette suggested making a committee to do a study, all in favor.

### **Old Business**

Chief Lloyd Niles stated Congressman Joe Courtney was here about a proposed bill stating that volunteer fire department with 1-50 members must provide health insurance, the bill was overturned.

Diane asked those organizations bringing their budgets to the next meeting to get as close to \$0 increase as they could.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Public Comment**

Lloyd Niles stated he was the new President of the Willimantic switchboard and if there are any complaints they should come to him. Tom DeVivo thanked the North Windham Fire Department in helping them with the Barrows school. Diane recognized Anita Sebestyen from the Board of Finance. Dawn Niles stated that the Heart Safe Committee was not meeting, so she put in a

request to the Mayor for her to be put back on the Committee. There will be free CPR courses provided in March.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by George Gillette to adjourn at 2032 hrs, seconded Elaine Rogers, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

AnnMarie White  
Clerk