

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

**Wednesday April 23, 2014 at 7:00 PM
Windham Town Hall, Court Room
979 Main Street
Willimantic**

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Charles Krich called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Town Staff Present: Town Engineer Joe Gardner

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Krich led all in the pledge of allegiance

3. Citizens and Delegations.

Bill Powers expressed concern with signage at the Windham Center Elementary School.

Amy Vas Nunes expressed her concerns regarding the need for a dog park.

Mayor Eldridge stated signage at the Windham Center Elementary School was adequate.

In regards to the dog park there had been no secret meetings.

Jean DeSmet stated a dog park should be in city. She questioned how decision regarding not to privatize animal control was made.

4. Town Council Committee Member Comments.

James Flores stated a motion he had attempted to make was not included in minutes from last month.

Mike Lessard complimented Town staff on career day held at Town Hall and High School. He noted a dog park was part of Noznick Property plan.

Charles Krich thanked Lorraine McDevitt and Mike Lessard for putting career day together.

5. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on March 26, 2014.

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to approve the minutes as submitted.

The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard. The motion passed with Krich, McDevitt, Lessard voting in favor, Patros abstaining, and Flores against.

6. Presentation by Jean DeSmet Regarding Energy Commission

Jean DeSmet asked that the amount of money in the Capital Improvement Plan be increased by \$75,000 to pay for a study of town buildings.

It was explained that the Capital Improvement Plan had been approved by Council and Finance Board for the upcoming fiscal year.

7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Energy Commission

No action was taken.

8. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Dispatch

Lorraine McDevitt reported an agreement was moving along. The Dispatch Associations attorney would work out details with the Town Attorney. She is confident an agreement will be reached.

James Flores asked how many at Dispatch were bilingual. Lorraine reported one dispatcher plus one police officer.

Mr. Flores stated he would not support a contract until more bilingual staff were hired.

9. Update on Bike Path

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reported that the DOT was now requiring an archaeological assessment and reconnaissance survey for the project.

A motion was made by Charlotte Patros seconded by Lorraine McDevitt that the Town Manager write a letter to the Commissioner of the DOT questioning this new requirement at this late date, and to copy the Governor, state senator, and state representative.

The motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Signage by Schools

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reviewed a lengthy report on signs at Windham's schools and in nearby towns. He reported that the schools were signed appropriately. He recommended that the Council request the Town Manager request the Department of Transportation perform a traffic study of Routes 14 and 203 near the Windham Center and North Windham Elementary schools.

A motion was made by Mike Lessard to have the Town Manager request the traffic study and to request the state police perform additional speed enforcement in the vicinity of the two schools.

The motion was seconded by Lorraine McDevitt and passed unanimously.

11. Citizens and Delegations

Bill Powers restated his concerns.

James Flores stated he was not supporting the school department's budget.

Lorraine McDevitt thanked all the Department Heads for attending the career days.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Charlotte Patros to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Joseph Gardner
Town Engineer