

WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Tuesday, June 19, 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, N. Joseph Underwood, Kevin Donohue, Mark Doyle, Christel Donahue and Jerry Iazzetta

Lorraine McDevitt and Arnaldo Rivera 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

Andrew Martin, Willimantic, spoke in support of putting a CL& P payment center in Town, opening the Willimantic Public Library on Saturday's, having speed limits posted and installing speed bumps in certain areas of Town and having vehicle checks by Police.

Mary Gallucci, North Street, Willimantic, acknowledged the support of the Education budget and shared her concerns regarding the removal of the cost in the budget surrounding the reading program curriculum.

4. Town Council Comment

Tom DeVivo provided the Council with a Structural Engineering and Roof Evaluation Report from Gale Associates Inc. Mr. DeVivo gave a brief summary of the report and noted paragraph 5 of the report. He believes the Town has three choices regarding the Natchaug School; abandon the school, tear down the building or repair the roof. He feels repairing the roof would be the most prudent long term investment and he would also like the Public Works Subcommittee to review the issue.

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. Discussion and possible action to adopt the minutes for the June 5, 2012 Town Council Public Hearing.

Underwood MOVED, Fantoli seconded, to adopt the minutes for the June 5, 2012 Town Council Public Hearing. All were in favor except K. Donohue who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

b. Discussion and possible action to adopt the minutes for the June 5, 2012 Town Council Meeting.

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to adopt the minutes for the June 5, 2012 Town Council Meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Old Business

a. Discussion and possible action approving the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Annual Renewal Package for the Town of Windham and its Board of Education (BOE), dated July 1, 2012, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Health Care Insurance Committee and approved by the BOE.

Iazzetta MOVED, DeVivo seconded, that the Board of Education and Town Council approve a self-insurance program for their enrolled employees consistent with the "Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Annual Renewal Package," dated July 1, 2012, that is made an official part of this Council's minutes and is hereby made a part of my motion.

This self-insurance program includes the following components:

- All enrolled employees of the town, including the Board of Education, Town General Government, Willimantic Service District, Wastewater Pollution Control Authority, and Water Works
- uses the same plan design as is currently used for those enrolled employees;
- has an individual medical stop loss level of \$175,000;
- has an aggregate medical and pharmacy stop loss level of 115%;
- has a Network Access Fee capped at \$214,449;
- has a Retention Fee of \$394,705;
- has Stop Loss Fees of no more than \$670,104;
- provides a Commission of \$90,000; and
- has a target effective date of July 1, 2012.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Discussion and possible action to award the Safety Complex floor and brick wall repairs to Pelletier Builders in the amount of \$46,566.00.

Iazzetta MOVED, Krich seconded, to award the Safety Complex floor and brick wall repairs to Pelletier Builders in the amount of \$46,566.00. All were in favor except DeVivo who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

c. Discussion and possible action to award the boiler replacement at the Safety Complex to Oceanside Plumbing and Heating for a new high efficiency boiler in the amount of \$63,000.00.

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to award the boiler replacement at the Safety Complex to Oceanside Plumbing and Heating for a new high efficiency boiler in the amount of \$63,000.00. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

d. Discussion and possible action to award the resurfacing of the High and Middle School tracks to Dalton Track and Tennis in the amount of \$71,174.00.

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to award the resurfacing of the High and Middle School tracks to Dalton Track and Tennis in the amount of \$71,174.00. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

e. Discussion and possible action to award the Window Replacement at the Safety Complex to New England Glass in the amount of \$40,825.00.

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to award the Window Replacement at the Safety Complex to New England Glass in the amount of \$40,825.00. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Resolutions and Ordinances

a. Discussion and possible action approving a Resolution creating a Health Care Fund.

DeVivo read the first page of the Resolution.

DeVivo MOVED, K. Donohue seconded, to table Item #7a. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution regarding a grant award totaling \$3,000 to the Willimantic Public Library.

Fantoli read the Resolution and moved for its adoption.

Fantoli MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to approve Resolution #2575 regarding a grant award totaling \$3,000 to the Willimantic Public Library. All were in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT:

That Neal J. Beets, Town Manager, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an LSTA “Every Child Ready to Read” Grant.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to put Item #7a back on the table. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. a. **Discussion and possible action approving a Resolution creating a Health Care Fund.**

DeVivo read the second page of the Resolution.

DeVivo MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to approve Resolution #2576 creating a Health Care Fund. All were in favor.

A Resolution of the Windham Town Council Creating a Dedicated Health Care Self-Insurance Fund

Whereas, approximately 700 employees work at the Board of Education, the Town General Government, the Willimantic Service District, the Water Commission, and the Wastewater Pollution Control Authority; and

Whereas, the cost of health care insurance for these employees is approaching \$11 million dollars each year; and

Whereas the Town of Windham is continually considering its insurance options to meet the reasonable needs of employees at a price the Town’s taxpayers can afford; and

Whereas, at their meeting on April 17, 2012, the Windham Town Council approved a motion directing the Mayor to create an Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Insurance; and

Whereas, pursuant to the recommendation of said Ad Hoc Committee, the Town Council and Board of Education have decided to self-insure their health care plans for their employees;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Windham Town Council as follows:

1. The Town hereby establishes a separate and exclusive fund to be used to pay, in whole or in part, such obligations as the Town incurs, from time-to-time, in respect of officer or employee

health and medical benefits, including dental benefits (hereinafter, the Health Care Self-Insurance Fund);

2. The Town shall invest and reinvest the money in the Health Care Self-Insurance Fund in accordance with the limitations imposed by statute, the Town Charter, and law applicable to reserve accounts for employees and past employees;

3. The Health Care Self-Insurance Fund shall consist of income from sources including, but not limited to, the following: (a) such amounts as may be budgeted each fiscal year for such employee benefits; (b) such amounts as may be transferred to or from budget accounts for health plans; (c) the employee contributions made to the Town for health, pharmacy, and dental care; (d) investment returns accrued with respect to retained reserves, retrospective and experience-rated premium refunds, (e) such funds as may be transferred to or appropriated for said purposes, and (f) such other recoveries as may from time to time be received in connection with such benefits;

4. Expenses for the Health Care Self-Insurance Fund shall be paid under the Town's customary and usual procedures. Expenses are authorized to maintain and administer the Health Care Self-Insurance Fund directly, and include, but are not limited to, paying benefits; making reimbursements; paying health-related insurance premiums such as aggregate and individual stop-loss reinsurance; paying contract fees for servicing and administering the Town's health and dental plans; paying actuary, consulting, and legal fees connected with the Town's health and dental plans; and paying for wellness programs and other health care cost control programs.

5. The Town Treasurer may delegate to the Town Controller the accounting for the said Health Care Self-Insurance Fund, to be done in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and the procedures authorized under the Town Charter.

6. The Town Controller, the Board of Education's Finance Director, and the Town's Health Care Broker/Agent of Record for health insurance shall coordinate implementation of this Resolution. This shall include, but not be limited to, calculating each year the projected costs of health insurance for Town and Board employees, and monitoring monthly the health care insurance expenditures and obligations of the Town and BOE. The Town Controller, the BOE's Finance Director, and the Town's Health Care Broker/Agent of Record shall also work with the Town Council, Board of Education, Board of Finance, and Town Meeting to establish and maintain sufficient reserves in the Health Care Fund; this includes, but is not limited to, calculating an actuarially appropriate reserve level, funding that reserve, crediting excess revenue and requiring additional funds when necessary and appropriate. Any disputes or disagreements between the Town's Controller and the BOE's Finance Director, or their respective governing bodies, shall be resolved by the Board of Finance.

7. Said Health Care Self-Insurance Fund shall be merged with the separate Town fund already created for dental care benefits.

8. The Town Controller and the BOE Finance Director shall present an annual report on the Health Care Self-Insurance Fund to the Town Council, Board of Education, and the Board of Finance.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Adjournment

K. Donohue MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Special Town Council Meeting at 7:40 pm. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council