

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

**Wednesday June 25, 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 7:05 p.m.

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

Town Staff Present: Town Engineer Joe Gardner, Assistant Public Works Superintendent Scott Clairmont. Tara Risley Recreation Director

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Citizens and Delegations.**

Bill Powers made comment about all committee minutes now available. Claimed minutes were inaccurate in regards to his comments. He updated committee regarding names of ponds by his property and at Beaver Brook State Park.

Henry Crane stated not in favor of a tent city.

Tom Ford stated funding for prefabricated homes for homeless available through Microsoft. He stated tent city is not a solution.

**4. Town Council Committee Member Comments.**

None

**5. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on May 28, 2014.**

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

The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to move item 13 to next on the agenda as Item 6A. The motion was seconded by Mike Lessard and passed unanimously.

**6A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Dispatch**

Lorraine McDevitt reported that the Dispatch Association's and Town attorney's had met and were making a list of responsibilities. She anticipated an agreement by end of July.

**6B. Presentation by Bob Horrocks, WVNA President, Regarding Lighting on the Footbridge**

Mr. Horrocks explained his association was holding a fund raiser in August to raise funds to install new lighting on the footbridge. Town Engineer Joe Gardner suggested

lighting be installed along walkway from Pleasant Street and across entire bridge. He suggested LoCIP funds be sought .

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt seconded by Mike Lessard to add item 6C discussion and possible action regarding seeking LoCIP funds for new lights on the footbridge. The motion passed unanimously.

**6C. Discussion and Possible Action to Seek LoCIP funds for New Lights on the Footbridge.**

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt seconded by Mike Lessard to recommend to the Council that the Town seek LoCIP funds for new lights on the footbridge. The Town Engineer will develop a cost estimate for next month's meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Presentation by Scott Clairmont Regarding Maintenance Needs for Municipal Parks**

Scott recommended the development of the Noznick property. This would provide additional fields so that field use could be rotated and fields rested. Town could hire a contractor at a cost of \$5,000 per field to perform additional maintenance. However fields are over used and money would be wasted. He explored artificial turf which would cost in range of \$520,000 to \$700,000 per field.

James Flores suggested renting fields in other towns.

**8. Presentation by Peter Leeds Regarding Fields**

Mr. Leeds expressed his concerns including bare spots, bleachers too close to fields, need to water Shetucket Plains Park. He recommended accessing additional school fields.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Presentation by Scott Clairmont**

Scott reviewed maintenance, moving goal posts etc. Tara Risley reported fields are used continuously until snow falls and then as soon as it melts.

James Flores asked how long would it take to develop Noznick property. Scott responded at least two years.

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to have the chair contact the Capital Improvement Committee as to status of Noznick property in their recommendations. The motion was seconded by James Flores and passed unanimously.

**10. Presentation by Leigh Duffy, Windham No Freeze Shelter Director**

Ms. Duffy explained the Ten Year Plan to end Homelessness in Windham. Not all homeless will go to a shelter. They could stay open year round at an additional cost of \$40,000. She believed funds would be better spent finding permanent housing.

They have a Windham Housing Intervention Fund to assist people, however fund is currently depleted. A motion was made by Mike Lessard to recommend to the Council that \$5,000 be provided to fund the Windham Housing Intervention Fund. The motion was seconded by Lorraine McDevitt. James Flores suggested a friendly amendment increasing the amount to \$10,000. The amendment was accepted by Mr. Lessard, and Ms. McDermott. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt seconded by Mike Lessard to have the Town Manager write a letter to HUD and the Federal state representatives and senators requesting that funding for the homeless be increased. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Krich asked if Ms. Duffy could report back in two or three months on progress and if she could look into funding from Microsoft.

**11. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Tent City for the Homeless in Windham**

No discussion took place

**12. Discussion and Possible Action to Award a Contract for Paving of Roads**

Town Engineer Joe Gardner reviewed bids. A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt seconded by Mike Lessard to recommend to the Council, award of the project to Hain Materials in the amount of \$767,505.00. The motion passed unanimously.

**13. Discussion and possible Action Regarding Dispatch**

Discussed under item 6A

**14. Citizens and Delegations**

Avery Lynnheart stated she supported the Windham Community Care Team.  
Charles Krich thanked her for bringing situation to their attention.  
Curtis Ehler complimented committee on being proactive.

**15. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mike Lessard to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. The motion was seconded by Lorraine McDevitt and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted  
Joseph Gardner  
Town Engineer