

WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE COUNCIL MEETING WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Tuesday, June 4, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.



1. Call to Order

Mayor Eldridge called the Town of Windham Regular Town Council Special Teleconference meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Tony Fantoli, Tom DeVivo, Lorraine McDevitt, N. Joseph Underwood, Kevin Donohue, Arnaldo Rivera and Mark Doyle.

Charles Krich, Christel Donahue and Dawn Niles were excused.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Eldridge led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor explained he was asked to address the Solarize CT meeting taking place in the Auditorium. Mayor Eldridge turned over the meeting to Councilman President Underwood.

3. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment

Pam Viens, spoke about the proposed Housing Code Enforcement Ordinance. She expressed her confusion about the document and believes this has already done. She suggested the Public Hearing be scheduled for July or August to give people time.

Bonnie Calkins, Hebron resident and Windham Property Owner, questioned why the Town was favoring large landlords over someone who owns little property. She stated landlords who owned large properties were given tax rebates and were excluded from certain fees. She feels this is very discriminatory.

Don Tedford, 39 Village Hill Road, Lebanon, stated he owns property in six Towns and Windham was the only Town that charged fees with the exception of Griswold who charges a fire inspection fee. He feels landlords pay a big portion of the taxes that help support the Town and he feels this is an extra burden on the landlords.

4. Town Council Comment

Tom DeVivo requested that someone add to the agenda a report on the Magnet School.



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

5. Adoption of Minutes

- a. Discuss and possibly move to adopt the minutes for the May 21, 2013, Town Council Meeting.**

Rivera MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adopt the minutes for the May 21, 2013, Town Council Meeting. All were in favor except DeVivo who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

6. Resignations. Receive the resignation of:

- a.** None.

Councilman President Underwood turned the meeting back over to Mayor Eldridge.

7. Appointments. Discuss and possibly move to appoint or reappoint the following persons:

- a. Peter Zvingilas, Jr., as the new Building Official for the Town of Windham.**
DeVivo MOVED, Doyle seconded, to appoint Peter Zvingilas, Jr., as the new Building Official for the Town of Windham. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Tracy Lambert, as the BOE member serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group.**

Doyle MOVED, Underwood seconded, to appoint Tracy Lambert, as the BOE member serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Mark Doyle, as the Town Councilmember serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group.**

Rivera MOVED, Underwood seconded, to appoint Mark Doyle, as the Town Councilmember serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group. All were in favor except Doyle who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

- d. _____, as the BOF member serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group.**

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to appoint Lynne Ide as the BOF member serving on the new Capital Improvement Plan Action Group. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Presentations & Special Reports

- a.** None.

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Eldridge reported on the Victorian Home Tour and thanked everyone who was involved in that event including Anita Sebestyen, Bill Sayers, Mrs. Shooks and James Finger who were at Town Hall giving tours. He noted it was a very successful event

Mayor Eldridge also reported on the Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. He thanked Neal Beets, Tony Fantoli, Mark Doyle and Anita Sebestyen for attending and noted the change in the parade route and the closing of the street made the event very enjoyable.

10. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Beets provided Council with a copy of the adopted FY2014 State Budget Impact on Windham and he explained how the changes in revenue would affect Windham.

11. Discussion and Review of Communications

None

12. Resolutions and Ordinances

a. Discuss and possibly move to approve a Resolution regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act.

DeVivo read the Resolution and moved for its adoption.

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to approve Resolution #2601 regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act. All were in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

**AGENCIES SUBMITTING TO
THE TOWN OF WINDHAM
FOR THE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT
FISCAL YEAR 2013--2014**

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>PROGRAM TITLE</u>	<u>NAA FUNDING REQUESTED</u>	<u>PROGRAM DURATION</u>
Access Community Action Agency, Inc.	Meeting Basic Human Needs	\$ 20,000	7/1/13 – 6/30/14
Community Economic Development Fund Foundation, Inc.	Small Business Counseling & Skills Training Institute; Community Development	\$150,000	7/1/13 – 6/30/14
United Connecticut Action For Neighborhoods, Inc.	CLiCK (Commercially Licensed Co-operative Kitchen)	\$150,000	1/1/14 – 12/31/14
United Services, Inc.	Windham Regional Center – Energy Conservation	\$150,000	09/1/13-10/31/14
Windham Regional Community Council Inc.	Energy Conservation- Convert to gas system	\$150,000	pending contract award

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions

a. Administration, Finance, Health, and Human Services Committee

K. Donohue reported the Committee had met and reviewed the School Readiness Grant. He noted he has spoken to the Human Resource Director regarding the job description and hiring for the position and was informed the process is moving forward.

K Donohue also reported the Committee had discussed the changes to the Housing Code Ordinance and noted a Public Hearing will be schedule.

In addition, K. Donohue gave a brief update on the status of the consolidated finance. He mentioned Dawn Niles stated Senate Bill 6629 is going to actually mandate what the Town is doing. Mr. Donohue stated the process is moving along nicely and Town Manager Beets has provided documentation that is helping tremendously with the process as is meeting with Blum Shapiro weekly. He noted the next step will be finalizing a job description for the Finance Director and acquiring the MUNIS software. He also noted he will be in contact with Dr. Adamowski to insure the language in the new Senate Bill will be addressed.

K. Donohue answered questions from the Council.

b. Public Safety, Public Works, Culture, and Recreation Committee

No Report.

c. Magnet School Update

DeVivo reported the Committee had hired Kastle Boos to do the architect and design work for the Natchaug School Roof project. He did note there may be an issue at the State level with getting an appointment for a PCT (planned completion test) which may take up to 45 days. DeVivo stated however he was confident things would proceed on time.

DeVivo also reported on the status of the Magnet School and handed out a picture of the wind turbine that had been installed. He noted the school was near completion with the painting done and the floors almost done. He also noted Northeast Utilities had awarded them a \$165,000 grant however he reported 95% may go to the Bureau of School Facilities. Additionally, DeVivo noted the Committee was working toward an Art Grant to compliment the Town and stated he was working with Dr. Adamowski on the project. DeVivo anticipates the school will be turned over to the School District on approximately August 20th. DeVivo also noted a comment regarding funding for a garage to house plow trucks and such and he believes the Town should strongly consider how the Towns Public Works and School Departments work together to better serve the residents of the Town.

14. Old Business

a. None.

15. New Business

- a. **Discuss and possibly move to set a public hearing on Tuesday, June 18, at 6:30 PM, in the Town Meeting Room, regarding a proposed ordinance amending the Blight and Housing Codes, as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health, and Human Services Committee.**

DeVivo MOVED, Rivera seconded, move to set a public hearing on Tuesday, July 16, at 6:30 PM, in the Town Meeting Room, regarding a proposed ordinance amending the Blight and Housing Codes, as recommended by the Administration, Finance, Health, and Human Services Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to take Items 15b thru 15e as one item. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Discuss and possibly move to approve a contract with Hain Materials to pave the front section of the Windham Center Cemetery interior roads and driveways for \$30,242.53, based on last year's bid unit prices, to be paid from the Cemetery Trust Fund.**
- c. **Discuss and possibly move to approve a competitively-bid contract with New England Concrete to replace deteriorated sidewalks on West Main Street from Bridge Street to Friendly's for \$474,003.03, to be paid from voter-approved road bond funds.**
- d. **Discuss and possibly move to approve a competitively-bid contract with Freitas Construction to replace deteriorated sidewalks on Meadow, Walnut, and Windham Streets, from Valley Street to Main Street, for \$177,657, to be paid from voter-approved road bond funds.**
- e. **Discuss and possibly move to approve a competitively-bid contract with Dynamic Engineering to replace Town Hall windows for \$56,800, to be paid with state LoCIP funds.**

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to approve Items 15b thru 15e. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. Future Agenda Items

None

17. Adjournment

K. Donohue MOVED, Underwood seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Regular Town Council Special Teleconference meeting to order at 7:45 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council