

# Minutes of the Willimantic Taxing District Board of Directors Regular Meeting with possible telephonic participation



Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium, 2nd Floor  
Tuesday, July 26, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.

---

**1. Call to Order. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Lynne Ide, President of the Willimantic Taxing District, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Lynne Ide, Nectalis Martinez, Thomas DeVivo, James Flores and Lorraine McDevitt (via telephone), Dennis O'Brien (arrived at 7:03 P.M) and Charles Krich

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado was also in attendance.

**2. Public Comment.**

James Flores spoke about his views regarding "Black Lives Matter" and "All Lives Matter."

Henry Crane, Willimantic, shared a childhood story of a black classmate and teacher. He stated he was glad the world is changing and is more acceptable.

**3. Councilmember Comment.**

James Flores addressed the Police Officers at the meeting and the department as a whole. He expressed his love for the Police and spoke about the media trying to divide and conquer.

**4. Approval of Minutes.**

**a. Regular Meeting of June 28, 2016.**

DeVivo MOVED, Martinez seconded, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2016. All were in favor except O'Brien who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

**5. Report from the Police Chief. Discuss and possibly take action.**

**a. PD Operating Statistics.**

**b. PD Budget Update for current fiscal year, including resolution of problems with MUNIS.**

**c. Vehicles in possession of the PD.**

Lt. Rosado reviewed the Operating Statistics report and noted the stats are comparable to last month with a few exceptions. He explained the exceptions and the major crime incidents. Lt. Rosado also reported the one-week youth

leadership program graduated 21 youths and was very successful. In addition, he reminded everyone about the retirement party for Chief Maruzo-Bolduc on September 24, 2016.

Lt. Rosado reported on the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year budget notes. He explained the Finance Director has corrected almost all the issues with the budget items and noted they are now being allocated to the correct accounts. He stated he would provide an end of year budget summary to the Council when it becomes available.

Lt. Rosado also provided a vehicle list as requested. He noted the highlighted vehicles are the result of those vehicles obtained through asset foreclosure and explained what that entailed. He also explained who were issued vehicles and how they are monitored.

Lt. Rosado and Captain Reed answered questions from the Willimantic Taxing District Council.

**6. Report from the Fire Chief. Discuss and possibly take action.**

**a. FD Operating Statistics.**

**b. FD Budget Update for current fiscal year and past fiscal year.**

**c. Update from FD committee creating specifications for the new fire truck.**

Fire Chief Scrivener reported on the Operating Statistics. He reviewed the staffing status and noted the next Recruit Class begins on August 29<sup>th</sup>. He also reported on the response times and incidents in June as well as the vehicle status and projects. In addition, Chief Scrivener reported on the progress of the new fire truck and the firehouse software the department is using.

Fire Chief Scrivener provided a year to date budget update and noted the department seems to be in good shape. He stated he was working closely with the Finance Director to be sure everything was being allocated correctly.

Fire Chief Scrivener showed a picture of the new rescue boat and answered questions from the Willimantic Taxing District Council.

**7. Report from the Town Manager. Discuss and possibly take action.**

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado spoke about the Town's vehicle policy. She noted the Town was currently reviewing the safety policies and stated recommendations will be made for any updating. She also noted the vehicle policy not only includes the Town of Windham vehicles but also the Water and Sewer Department vehicles as well as the Police and Fire Department vehicles.

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado also stated the audit has been completed and is showing a small surplus. She noted a final report will be provided at the next meeting.

In addition, Executive Administrator Neida Rosado reported, after meeting with Town Manager Beets and Personnel Director Paul Hongo it was suggested a hiring freeze be recommended until January 1<sup>st</sup> to allow time to see where the Town is with regards to the budget. She also spoke about the money received by the State this year to offset the mill rate for motor vehicles.

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado answered questions from the Willimantic Taxing District Council.

**MOTION:** DeVivo MOVED, Flores seconded, to add to the agenda Item 7a, discussion and possible action concerning a hiring freeze for the Willimantic Taxing District. All were in favor except O'Brien who opposed. MOTION PASSED.

7      **a.      Discussion and possible action concerning a hiring freeze for the Willimantic Taxing District.**

Krich MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to put into place a hiring freeze for the Willimantic Taxing District until further action by the Board of Directors of the Willimantic Taxing District. Krich was in favor and all others opposed. MOTION FAILED.

8.      **Future Agenda Items.**

None

9.      **Public Comment.**

Bernie D'Auteuil, 168 Walnut Street, Willimantic, spoke about the poor acoustics in the room and shared his thoughts regarding a possible conflict of interest with two high positions in the Town.

Lynne Ide stated for the record "the Town Manager is on vacation."

James Flores clarified his statements regarding the media being corrupt and his respect for the working people. He also asked the Council, when evaluating the Town Manager, to vote based on their experiences with him rather than on what the media says.

Marc Scrivener spoke about the Willimantic Athletic Club Boom Box mile race. He noted there were 123 runners and a donation of a little over \$1,000 was given to the United Christ Iglesia Bautista de Willimantic for their youth group.

Neida Rosado spoke about her position as Executive Administrator and clarified her understanding of ethics and conflicts of interest.

Charles Krich thanked the Town Manager, Executive Administrator and anyone else involved for bringing the idea of a hiring freeze to the Council's attention. He spoke about the financial difficulties facing the Town and suggested the Council act in a way that the voters want.

10.     **Adjournment**

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adjourn the Willimantic Taxing District Regular Meeting at 8:43 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Submitted by:**

**Barbara J. McKinney**  
**Clerk of the Council**