

MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF WINDHAM BOARD OF COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY, RECREATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
Wednesday August 22 2012 at 7:00 PM
Windham Town Hall Main Meeting Room
979 Main Street
Willimantic

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Jerry Iazzetta called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
Committee members present: Arnaldo Rivera, Charles Krich.

Town Staff Present: Town Engineer Joe Gardner

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens and Delegations.

Ray Pittman Spoke about vicious dogs attacking his dogs. He and a group have recommendations to add to ordinance. He stated, if there is no room at the pound some needs to be made.

Heidi Balderelli, of Pampered Pet said she takes overflow from pound. Pound is not full. She helps adopt out dogs. If tax payers cannot afford to feed dogs then volunteers will.

George Hurry Assistant Animal Control Officer for Town and member of 4 Paws said they have been trying to push responsibility on Owners of vicious dogs to take dogs themselves to be put down. They evaluate dogs before accepting at pound. They train and adopt out. New Owner gets six weeks free training. There is a problem with pit bulls.

Owners hid in apartments. Then throw out when owner of building finds out. Dogs have no social skills. Most biting is fear biting.

Ed Algarn, works at Pampered Pet. He helps socialize dogs. They find homes for dogs, no burden on town. Does not believe in putting down.

Susan Kitty, adopted big dog from pound. Great pet.

JoAnn Allard, victim of dog attack. Owners are irresponsible. Questioned why dogs were not taken. They later killed a cat. Disappointed in Towns lack of action.

Linda Guckin of Caring Hearts for Pit Bulls, said kill shelters make it easier for people to get rid of dogs. Need to do education. Willing to volunteer.

Lucilla Roos, adopted three dogs. Pit bulls raised as guard dogs.

Annie Clark spoke against putting dogs down

Gail Gilbert, does not want kill shelter. If dog vicious it should be put down.

Tiffany Paquette, volunteer at Windham 4 paws read petition

Robert Stefanik of Lebanon spoke against putting dogs down.

Andy Kisch, adopted a vicious dog from pampered pet. Pit bull now a great pet.

Donna Reynolds of Lebanon spoke against putting dogs down.

Owen Freeman, volunteer, yet to meet a vicious pit bull. You need to have regulations applicable to all dogs.

Amie Herald, president of Ct Votes for Animals, spoke against putting dogs down.

Denise Mitchell adopted dog from Windham 4 Paws, said people are willing to volunteer and train dogs.

4. Town Council Subcommittee Member Comments.

Jerry Iazzetta discussed using volunteers at pound. Heidi Balderellie said Windham 4 Paws has insurance to cover volunteers.

Charles Krich said Town has a policy, he was asked to place issue on agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on April 25, 2012.

A motion was made by Charles Krich to approve minutes as submitted with corrections to typo's. The motion was seconded by Jerry Iazzetta and passed with Arnaldo Rivera abstaining.

6. Discussion and Possible action Regarding Fire Marshal Vehicle.

Jerry Iazzetta asked Fire Marshal Mike Licata to explain.

Mike explained in 2006 he was given a used police cruiser to use. In March had 150,000 on it. Now deemed unsafe by Public Works. He is now using deputy fire marshal vehicle. He asked Town Manager if he could look for new vehicle. Was told yes but under \$10,000. He is using his personal vehicle to pull light tower. The Emergency Management trailer needs a bigger vehicle, would like bigger truck so Public Works would not need to tow. He went to Gates GMC and got a price for a truck. Public Works checked it out. Many defects. Town Manager told him to look for vehicle less then 50,000 miles, newer then 2007. He went back to Gates they could not find truck. He asked for new truck like Coventry Fire Marshal has, it is a 2012, cost \$25,000. He went to Columbia Ford. An F250 to pull trailer would cost \$37,700. Using State Bid it would cost \$25,300. Then add cap and lights. Cost rises to \$28,500. He said Town Manager unsure if there was money in budget. Mike suggested a three year lease. He was asked by Town Manager, how much he brought in, in fees last year. It was \$12,000.

Jerry Iazzetta asked if he took vehicle home, Mike said yes.

Jerry asked if he used for personal business. Mike said no.

Jerry Iazzetta read email from the Town Manager.

He said deputy fire marshal vehicle has 116,000 miles on it.

Charles Krich wants Town Manager to tell them when a new vehicle would be available.

He asked if Town Manager and Town Controller could attend next meeting.

7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Town's Policy Towards Euthanasia of Animals in Lieu of Continued Efforts for Adoption.

Jerry Iazzetta said Charles Krich asked to be on agenda. Mr. Krich said he heard Town was moving away from a no kill shelter. He thought we were out of the killing business. He questioned financial issue, that Town cannot afford dog food. Felt killing was barbaric. He made a motion to recommend to the full Council that that the Town's policy is to not set a time limit that an animal can be kept at the animal shelter. Arnaldo Rivera seconded. He said it's not about a vicious dog issue. We need to come together for solutions, develop a network to feed and train dogs. We need to look at how much time an animal was worked with. Need to show proof before an animal is put down.

Jerry Iazzetta read an email from the Town Manager.
Charles Krich said this was done without council knowledge. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Awarding Paving at Lauter and Recreation Parks to Hain Materials.

A memo from the Town Engineer was reviewed. In accordance with the Town's local bidder preference ordinance, Hain Materials had requested that the work be awarded to them at the low bidders price as they are a town based business. A motion was made by Arnaldo Rivera to recommend to the full Council award the paving of the parks to Hain materials at the low bidders prices. The motion was seconded by Charles Krich and passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Dispatch Center.

Jerry Iazzetta read an email from the Town Manager. The Town Engineer is to draft a letter to the switchboard association regarding delay and asking that they attend next meeting. Charles Krich suggested an Authority similar to the WPCA.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Arnaldo Rivera to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. The motion was seconded by Charles Krich and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Joseph Gardner
Town Engineer

