

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF WINDHAM BOARD OF COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY, RECREATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
Wednesday April 6, 2011 at 7:00 PM
Windham Town Hall Auditorium
979 Main Street
Willimantic

1. Call to Order.

Chairman Jerry Iazzetta called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Committee members present: Teresa Santucci, Jerry Iazzetta, Lorraine McDevitt,(arrived at about 8:30 pm) Arnaldo Rivera, Charles Krich

Town Staff Present: Town Engineer, Joe Gardner, Charles Olbrias Recreation Department, Scott Clairmont Assistant Public Works Superintendent

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Citizens and Delegations.

Joe Underwood, spoke in favor of the skateboard park. He was on Board of Selectmen when work started about three years ago. He felt park was good for the community.

Nathan Kham, skateboarder spoke in favor of the park.

Peter Leeds stated a skateboard park was the number one priority from the town's recreation master plan.

Jasmine Buroughs, skateboarder, felt park would be a great place.

Avery Hall, skateboarder from Scotland spoke in favor of park, would get them off streets.

Teri Santucci, commended all young people for coming and speaking up. She also asked that pages be double sided in the future.

Mike Dana, skateboarder from Chaplin spoke in favor of park.

David Walencewicz member of Skateboard Park committee commended Scot Clairmont, Charlie Olbrias, and Tara Risley.

4. Approval of Minutes from the February 23, 2011 Meeting.

Teri Santucci corrected spelling of her name, asked that ALL be removed from item five line 13. A motion was made by Arnaldo Rivera seconded by Teri Santucci to accept minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously with Chales Krich abstaining.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Proposal from Columbia Windham Soccer Alliance regarding Shetucket Plains Park Soccer Field Maintenance.

Peter Leeds from the Soccer Alliance presented proposals under which soccer field would not be used for a year and Alliance would pay for a company to renovate field. He called field diamond in rough. Field was over used. He also spoke in favor of a playscape which is in CIP plan for next year.

Scott Clairmont in favor of proposal. Noted they cannot keep people off field. They can put up signs. He noted field was down to bare dirt, no irrigation system.

Charlie Olbrias agreed with Scott stressed need for signs to keep people off.

Jerry Iazzetta suggested snow fencing.

Scott agreed to look at

A motion was made by Teri Santucci to forward the proposal to the council with a positive recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Skateboard Park

David Walencewicz and Dennis Cronin explained project. Would be located in a 10,000 square foot area at Lauter Park. There had been a lot of input from skateboarders on project.

There would be a consent form filed with town to use park. As this is a specialty type project there were recommending an RFP be issued for a design build project. Firms would submit a design and cost. Scott Clairmont said committee had worked hard and long on project, he asked if bid could have alternate with contractor doing excavation instead of public works.

Jerry Iazzetta questioned hold harmless clause on consent form, how control usage, parking and bikes using park.

Charlie Olbrias said form was similar to what other town do. Scott Clairmont explained plenty of area to park.

David Walencewicz said skateboarders were self policing. At other parks he had been to skateboarders and bikers respected each other.

Teri Santucci asked for skateboard committee to find out if towns insurance would go up.

Dennis Cronin said he would find out.

Charlie Krich said consent form unrealistic, park would need incredible signage

Teri Santucci asked if any thought to fund raising for maintenance.

David Walencewicz said yes, they could add benches or other items.

Dennis Cronin said they needed something tangible to ask for funds. After built they could approach ECSU Foundation as an example.

Charlie Krich asked them to redouble their efforts

Charlie Krich concerned with liability, felt signs meant nothing, park would be unsupervised, he felt it needed supervision. Town would be subject to an attractive nuisance lawsuit.

Dennis Cronin explained they had looked at rules and regulations by CCM and other towns.

Scott Clairmont asked them not to get sidetracked , want to move forward with RFP, they can bring suggested rules and regulations to next meeting. They had been reviewed by town attorney.

Jerry Iazzetta suggested they make copies of bigger plan when presenting to council.

A motion was made by Teri Santucci to recommend the project be put out to bid with the design build process. The motion was seconded by Arnaldo Rivera and passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Kramer Recreation Usage

Jerry Iazzetta noted that the other subcommittee was studying total usage of Kramer and Town Hall.

A motion was made by Teri Santucci to grant the Silverback Wrestling Club the exclusive use of the cafeteria for the time being.

She noted they must keep area clean and maintained.

The motion was seconded by Arnaldo Rivera.

Charlie Krich was worried about “exclusive” use, they could be preferred tenant, need to work out details

Teri Santucci agreed to take out the word exclusive.

The motion passed unanimously

8. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Energy Efficiency Projects of Town Buildings.

Teri Santucci asked if previous Board of Selectmen had voted on a Performance based Contract. Both Arnaldo Rivera and Jerry Iazzetta said they did not remember that occurring.

A copy of a Webinar attended by the Controller Tom Pesce was passed out. He could attend next meeting to explain his opinion.

Lorraine McDevitt arrived.

Representative Susan Johnson explained performance based contracts.

Lorraine McDevitt asked how much credit was available from state.

Susan Johnson explained funds available through utilities. She noted that Finance board member Jeff Smith had functioned as escrow agent for Mansfield when they did energy upgrades.

Teri Santucci felt staff to thin and an outside firm should be hired.

Charlie Krich pointed out an outside firm might know of more grants then town staff
Item will be on next months agenda

9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Replacement Solid Waste Ordinance.

Matt Vertefeulle and Scott Clairmont explained new ordinance. It was to replace section 11 in Code of Ordinances. It had been updated to address problems with new tipper barrels. If barrels were being overfilled the town or Willimantic Waste would have to manually empty. There would be a fine plus waste disposal charge to the property owner. Teri Santucci suggested adding fines to fee ordinance.

Lorraine McDevitt questioned what happened with over flowing barrels.

Charlie Krich asked that ordinance make clear that landlord was responsible.

A fine tuned ordinance will be brought back to committee. Scott Clairmont will email to members in a few days.

10. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bids for Sidewalks on Summit Street.

A motion was made by Charlie Krich to award the project to New England Concrete in the amount of \$367,152.80. The motion was seconded by Arnaldo Rivera and passed unanimously.

11. Citizens and Delegations.

None

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Lorraine McDevitt to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. The motion was seconded by Arnaldo Rivera and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Joseph Gardner
Town Engineer