

**TOWN OF WINDHAM  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

**June 1, 2010**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Eldridge called the Town of Windham Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Kevin Donohue, Erika Haynes, David Howe Sr., Jerry Iazzetta, Mike Lessard, Lorraine McDevitt, Arnaldo Rivera, Teresa Santucci (7:06 p.m.), N. Joseph Underwood

Town Council members absent: Christel Donahue

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Eldridge lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Citizens and Delegations**

Harry Carboni, feels Main Street needs to be re-paved and needs more light, especially at the intersections of cross roads. He updated that the cemetery work is progressing well.

Chris Hennigan, on behalf of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition, is looking for a letter of support from the Town of Windham for a needle exchange. A letter is necessary for them to get funding, adding that there are only 5 other needle exchanges in the State.

Annie Clark, spoke on behalf of her father in support of a needle exchange who's goal was to make it safe. She feels you don't have to agree with people's poor choices, but let help keep them safe.

Jerry Iazzetta, concerned with the changes seen since the Thirsty Frog made their proposal to the Council regarding the Off-Track betting. Iazzetta feels it was deceitful.

Avery Dunager, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition.

Maria Yates, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition.

Veronica Hudd, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition.

Mike Westerfield, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition, adding that it lessens the spread of disease and rids the streets of used needles.

Mary Curland, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition, adding it is our responsibility to support the youth in the community.

Charlie Kratt, questions if any information has been released on how the lottery will work for students to go to the Magnet School. He also feels if we support a needle exchange it as if we are aiding and abetting addicts.

Heather Sheppard, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition. She noted that withholding a needle exchange doesn't reduce the number of users, it only increases the number of infection spread to others.

Leo Santucci, inved all to the Victorian Days coming up. He thanked Public Works for their hardwork on cleaning up the city prior to the event.

Estelle Lopez, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition. She feels the support and one on one the give helps those who are really in need.

Tim Zimmer, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition and urged the Town Council to sign a letter of support.

Josh King, stated that he was previously an intravenous user in another state which had a needle exchange. He feels having clean needles saved his life. He is now clean and working to complete his PhD. He supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition.

Sarah Winter, supports the work of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition. She feels we need to give them a chance to turn their life around and have a health life.

David Fenn, feels placement of the Magnet School on Tuckie Road without re-doing the road is detrimental. He feels lives will be lost and that it will be on the heads of the Town Council. He requests a re-vote on the magnet school.

Lori Jeffers, asked why there are two contracts from the Magnet School and they are not the same. Beets explained.

Peter Quercia, feels the Town Councils should sign the letter in support of the needle exchange. Quercia stated that what the Thirsty Frog did was sneaky and underhanded and they should be held accountable. He requested to be on the Communication Committee.

Bernard D'Auteille, would be willing to pay the \$5,000 for the referendum if the magnet school is placed on the referendum and a question asking if the residents are happy with the Board of Education, and if not, who she be removed.

#### **4. Adoption of Minutes**

- a. Discussion and possible action to adopt the May 18, 2010 Town Council meeting minutes. Underwood MOVED, Rivera seconded, to adopt the May 18, 2010 Town Council Public Hearing minutes. MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Iazzetta who abstained.

#### **5. Resignations**

Noted.

#### **6. Appointments**

Underwood MOVED, Donahue seconded, to approve all appointments. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- a. Discussion and possible action to appoint Sam Blackburn to the Ad-Hoc Open Government Communications Committee with term beginning June 1, 2010 and ending June 1, 2012.  
See motion above.
- b. Discussion and possible action to appoint Pamela Shorey to the Ad-Hoc Open Government Communications Committee with term beginning June 1, 2010 and ending June 1, 2012.  
See motion above.
- c. Discussion and possible action to appoint June Bisantz to the Ad-Hoc Open Government Communications Committee with term beginning June 1, 2010 and ending June 1, 2012.  
See motion above.

#### **7. Presentations & Special Reports**

- a. Jim Hooper, Windham Water Works budget presentation  
Jim Hooper, Superintendent of Windham Water Works reviewed his budget noting no increase in rates.
- b. Dave Garand, Water Pollution Control Authority budget presentation.  
Dave Garand, Superintendent of Water Pollution Control Authority reviewed his budget and the expansion progress, noting they are 60% complete with the upgrade.

#### **8. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Eldridge reported on the following noteworthy items: 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eastconn; Douglas Manor parade for citizens; Victorian Days; Chief Ronald Palmer Sr. retirement party this Saturday at the Elks Club; CT Police Chiefs Association picnic in Farmington, noting Lisa is President.

#### **9. Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager, Neal Beets reported that the Memorial Day parade and events went very well. Iazzetta questioned if we have closed on the property on Tuckie Road. Neal responded not yet. Beets noted that the State will be using Federal Stimulus Funds to repave Main Street but not until next year. This year CL&P will remove their underground transformer

prior to them paving. Beets has contacted CL&P regarding streetlights at intersection, but they are unsure if the current poles can hold the lights.

**10. Discussion and Review of Communications**

Noted.

**11. Resolutions and Ordinances**

- a. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act applicants for 2010.  
Underwood MOVED, Haynes seconded to waive the reading of the Resolution. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Howe MOVED, to adopt resolution # 2501.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

**AGENCIES SUBMITTING TO  
THE TOWN OF WINDHAM  
FOR THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT  
FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011**

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>PROGRAM TITLE</u>	<u>NAA FUNDING REQUESTED</u>	<u>PROGRAM DURATION</u>
ACCESS Agency, Inc.	Family Asset Development	\$ 20,000	7/1/10 – 6/30/11
Community Economic Development Fund Foundation, Inc.	Small Business Counseling & Training Institute; Community Development	\$ 150,000	7/1/10 – 6/30/11
United Services, Inc.	Domestic Violence, Education, Community Outreach	\$ 40,000	10/1/10 – 9/30/11
Windham Area Interfaith Ministry	Sealing Elevator Shaft	\$ 3,500	7/1/10 – 6/30/11
Windham Hospital Foundation, Inc.	Building improvements & Technology upgrades	\$ 100,000	1/1/10 – 12/31/10

McDevitt seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution regarding Department Head and Professional Employees salaries and benefits.  
Lessard MOVED, to adopt resolution # 2502.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

The non-union Town of Windham Department Heads and Professional Employees will receive in FY 2010-2011 the same salary increases and benefit levels as department heads and professional employees who are governed by a collective bargaining agreement.

For FY 2010-2011, this results in each employee making a benefit contribution of 12% and receive a salary increases of 1.3% July 1, 2010 and 1.3% effective January 1, 2011.

This resolution is effective July 1, 2010 and supercedes all prior resolutions on this subject.

Underwood seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution to extend the Ad-Hoc Skateboard Park Building Committee until June 2011.

McDevitt MOVED, to adopt resolution # 2503. (ATTACHMENT A)

Santucci seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution to move to a Town Meeting on June 17, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. to authorize bonding for various town road and sidewalks improvement pending approval from the Board of Finance.

Haynes MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to waive the reading of the resolution. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Haynes, MOVED, to adopt resolution # 2504.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

That the Ad-Hoc Skateboard Park Building Committee that was established on September 1, 2009 by Resolution # 2450 be extended until June 2011.

Howe seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution changing the Successor Trustees of the Town of Windham Employee Retirement Plan.

Iazzetta MOVED, to adopt resolution # 2505

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

The Town Council, acting on behalf of the Town of Windham, under a certain trust instrument titled "Town of Windham Employee Retirement Plan Trust Agreement", hereby appoints Neal J. Beets, Town Manager, Patricia P. Spruance, Town Clerk, and Thomas Pesce, Town Controller, to be successor Trustees of the Town of Windham Employee Retirement Plan. They replace former trustees John Lescoe, Ann Bushey , and Robert Buden. Said appointment shall take effect pursuant to Section 6.03 of the said trust.

Rivera seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **12. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions**

- a. Administration & Finance, Health and Human Services Sub Committee

Chairman Donohue noted a meeting this week with a packed agenda.

- b. Public Safety, Recreation and Public Works Sub Committee

Chairman Iazzetta noted there was no quorum at the last meeting and the next meeting will have a packet agenda.

## **13. Old Business**

None.

#### 14. New Business

Underwood MOVED, Haynes seconded, to add the request of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition request for a letter of support to the agenda as letter j. MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Iazzetta who was opposed.

- a. Discussion and consider approving a motion to postpone the comprehensive assessment revaluation to fiscal year 2010-2011.  
McDevitt MOVED, Haynes seconded, to postpone the comprehensive assessment revaluation to the Grand List of 2011. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- b. Discussion and consider approving the TM's plan to issue a Town Newsletter.  
Haynes MOVED, Donohue seconded, to approve the TM's plan to issue a Town Newsletter and include advertising. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- c. Discussion and possible action to set a public hearing for July 20, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to hear public comments on the proposed Town of Windham Cemetery Rules and Fees.  
Iazzetta MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to set a public hearing for July 20, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to hear public comments on the proposed Town of Windham Cemetery Rules and Fees. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- d. Discussion and possible action regarding plaque for Butterfly Garden.  
McDevitt MOVED, Santucci seconded, to place the plaque for Butterfly Garden at the Jilson House on Sunday at noon. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- e. Discussion and possible action to grant the request from the Open Space Commission to utilize up to \$5,000.00 from the Open Space Fund to create access for canoes/kayaks at Lauter and Shetucket Plains Park.  
Underwood MOVED, Santucci seconded, to grant the request from the Open Space Commission to utilize up to \$5,000.00 from the Open Space Fund to create access for canoes/kayaks at Lauter and Shetucket Plains Park. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- f. Discussion and possible action to award the Kramer Gymnasium masonry repairs to Cornerstone Restoration Inc. in the amount \$ 26,700.00.  
Iazzetta MOVED, Rivera seconded, to award the Kramer Gymnasium masonry repairs to Cornerstone Restoration Inc. in the amount \$ 26,700.00. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- g. Discussion and possible action to award the paving of High, Jackson and Valley Streets to American Industries, contingent upon CT DOT approval.  
Iazzetta MOVED, Underwood seconded, to award the paving of High, Jackson and Valley Streets to American Industries Inc., contingent upon CT DOT approval, and compliance with Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Regulations. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- h. Discussion and possible action to award the Willimantic Public Library roof repair and replacement to JJS Universal in the amount of \$120,000.00  
Iazzetta MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to award the Willimantic Public Library roof repair and replacement to JJS Universal in the amount of \$120,000.00. MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Santucci who was opposed.
- i. Discussion and possible action to award the furnishing and installation of fencing at Lauter and Recreation Parks to the Fence Man and Sons in the amount of \$40,525.00.  
Iazzetta MOVED, Rivera seconded, to award the furnishing and installation of fencing at Lauter and Recreation Parks to the Fence Man and Sons in the amount of \$40,525.00. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- j. Discussion and possible action to write a letter of support on behalf of the Windham Harm Reduction Coalition  
Haynes MOVED, Donohue seconded, that the Town Council authorize Beets to write a letter in support of Windham Harm Reduction Coalition. MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Iazzetta and McDevitt opposed and Eldridge abstaining.

## **15. Future Agenda Items**

Next regular meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **16. Citizens and Delegations**

Lori Jeffers, requested a re-vote on the Magnet School. Would like to see no motorized vehicles on the foot bridge and reminded the Town Council of the troubles last time we had a needle exchange.

Chris Hennigan, thanked the Town Council for acting quickly.

Annie Clark, reminded folks of the needle exchange being new when we first had it, and it will have guidance and more criteria.

Avery Dunager, thanked the Town Council for acting quickly.

Bernard D' Auteuille, feels the Board of Education meetings should be televised since they have such a huge part of our budget.

Jerry Iazzetta, stated that other Town letters of support don't state any commitment regarding the magnet school.

Joe Underwood, explained a letter of intent, and noted that no official lottery procedure has been set yet.

## **17. Adjournment**

Haynes MOVED, Howe seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Town Council at 9:02 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **Submitted By:**

**Jessie L. Shea**  
**Clerk of the Town Council**