

Minutes of the Windham Town Council Regular Meeting

Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium, 2nd Floor
Tuesday, January 5, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.



1. Call to Order.

Mayor Eldridge called the Windham Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Charles Krich, Tony Fantoli, Nectalis Martinez, Lorraine McDevitt, Tom DeVivo, Michael Lessard (arrived @ 7:04 P.M.), Dennis O'Brien, Lynne Ide and James Flores

Charlotte Patros was excused.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Eldridge led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment.

Lorraine McDevitt shared her thoughts on the Veterans Award Ceremony that took place at the Middle School and her husband's many years of service in the U.S. Marines.

Henry Crane, Willimantic, spoke in support of the jail cell renovations.

Nectalis Martinez, 268 Main Street, Willimantic, spoke about educating homeowners on the requirements of obtaining building permits and the need for establishments to have working cameras after a certain time of night.

4. Town Council Comment.

Dennis O'Brien spoke about the Veterans Award Ceremony at the Middle School and explained his role in the event.

James Flores commented on Councilmember McDevitt's earlier comments and spoke about the agenda not having the names listed showing who will serve on which Town Council Sub-Committees. He noted he would like to serve on the Public Safety, Public Works, Environment, Culture, and Recreation

Tom DeVivo suggested a welcome package be available to new homeowners outlining information about the Town.

Mayor Eldridge shared his thoughts on the Veterans Award Ceremony at the Middle School and agreed with the comments made by Councilmember McDevitt. He also

spoke about the response from the Town Council members regarding the Sub-Committees.

5. Adoption of Town Council Minutes.

a. Study Session of December 8, 2015.

b. Regular Meeting of December 15, 2015.

DeVivo MOVED, Fantoli seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015 Town Council Study Session. All were in favor except McDevitt who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2015 Town Council Regular Meeting. All were in favor except Eldridge who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

6. Resignations.

a. Roger Morin as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Noted

7. Appointments, Reappointments.

a. Appoint Council Members to the following Council Committees:

i. Finance, Administration, Development, Health and Human Services

ii. Public Safety, Public Works, Environment, Culture, and Recreation

b. Re-Appoint David Masopust, as a regular member of the Windham Historic District Commission, with a term ending date of 8/16/2020

c. Re-Appoint R. David Dupuis, as an alternate member of the Windham Historic District Commission, with a term ending date of 8/16/2019

d. Appoint Roger Morin, as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, with a term ending date of 11-21-2017

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to appoint Charles Krich, Lynne Ide, Dennis O'Brien, Charlotte Patros and Tony Fantoli to the Finance, Administration, Development, Health and Human Services Sub-Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to appoint Tom DeVivo, Nectalis Martinez, Lorraine McDevitt, Mike Lessard and James Flores to the Public Safety, Public Works, Environment, Culture, and Recreation Sub-Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to vote on Items #7b, 7c & 7d as one item. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to re-appoint David Masopust, as a regular member of the Windham Historic District Commission, with a term ending date of 8/16/2020, to re-appoint R. David Dupuis, as an alternate member of the Windham Historic District Commission, with a term ending date of 8/16/2019 and to appoint Roger Morin, as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, with a term ending date of 11-21-2017. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (All provisions of the Windham Town Charter have been met).

8. Presentations & Special Reports.

None

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Eldridge reported on a very good holiday season.

James Flores added to the Mayor's report. He noted the combined efforts of the Windham Willimantic Group and Windham High School students who were instrumental in providing approximately 1,000 toys to children during the holidays. Mr. Flores and Mayor Eldridge thanked the 3 Windham Fire Departments, the Willimantic Fire Department, Troop K and BJ's for their time and donations to the toy drive.

10. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Beets reported on the following:

- Town Council email issues
- Windham Youth Service Bureau update regarding State funding
- The upcoming Chocolate Festival on February 13th
- The RFP issued by the Town of Marlborough for Dispatch Services
- The CDBG Resolution to the State
- The State approval of 2 electric vehicles and the location of the charging stations

11. Discussion and Review of Communications to Council.

None

12. Discussion and Review of Agendas, Minutes, Reports of Town Boards, Committees, and Commissions.

Discussion on minutes of the Planning & Zoning Commission

13. Resolutions and Ordinances.

- a. **Discuss and possibly approve a Resolution authorizing the sale of bonds for the design and construction of new, ADA-compliant jail cells in the Police Department (the Jail Cell Project), and setting a Town Meeting for Tuesday, February, 23, 2016, subject to the concurrence of the Windham Board of Finance. (Resolution coming from Bond Counsel.)**

DeVivo read the resolution and moved for its adoption.

DeVivo MOVED, Flores seconded, to adopt Resolution #2675. All were in favor.

RE: Appropriation and Bond Authorization of \$1,250,000 for the Windham Safety Complex Jail Cell Area Project.

RESOLVED:

that the Town Council of the Town of Windham (the "Town") approves and recommends to the Board of Finance that the sum of \$1,250,000 be appropriated for the cost of the Windham Safety Complex Jail Cell Area Project, such project to include, but not be limited to, renovations of the existing building, including booking room improvements, upgrades to the electronic and physical security systems and fire alarm improvements as well as the design and construction of

new ADA compliant jail cells, new HVAC systems, site work, equipment and furniture as well as engineering, architectural and temporary and permanent financing costs (the “Windham Safety Complex Jail Cell Area Project”) and to meet said appropriation and in lieu of a tax therefor, bonds of the Town be issued pursuant to Chapter 109 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, or any other provision of law thereto enabling, in the amount of \$1,250,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds available therefor. The bonds shall be general obligations of the Town to which its full faith and credit is pledged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the appropriation and bond authorization be approved by the Board of Finance and the voters at Town Meeting,

(i) the Town Manager and the Treasurer be authorized to issue and sell such bonds and notes in anticipation of such bonds and to determine the amount, date, date of maturity, interest rate, form and other details of such bonds and notes, pursuant to Chapter 109 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, or any other provision of law thereto enabling; and

(ii) the Town Manager and the Treasurer shall sign the bonds and notes by either manual or facsimile signatures and that the law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds; and

(iii) the Town Manager and the Treasurer, or either of them, is authorized to designate a bank or trust company to be the certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent of the bonds; to sell the bonds and notes at public or private sale or negotiation; to deliver the bonds and notes; and to perform and comply with all requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and to perform all other acts and execute such documents which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds and notes including, but not limited to, the execution and delivery of a bond purchase agreement, tax compliance agreement and bond insurance agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town reasonably expects to incur expenditures (the “Expenditures”) in connection with the capital project for which a general functional description is provided above. The Town reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the cost of the Expenditures with the proceeds of bonds of the Town described above. The maximum principal amount of such debt is not expected to exceed \$1,250,000. This declaration of official intent is a declaration of official intent made pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the Board of Finance approve an appropriation and bond authorization for the Windham Safety Complex Jail Cell Area Project, a Special Town Meeting is hereby called to be held on February 23, 2016 at the Windham Town Hall, Bellingham Auditorium, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, Connecticut 06226 at 6:30 p.m. to consider and vote upon the resolution for the Windham Safety Complex Jail Cell Area Project as set forth above.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Old Business.

- a. Discuss and possibly authorize an application for State of Connecticut Urban Act Grant Funds to assist in the design and construction of the Jail Cell Project.**

DeVivo MOVED, Lessard seconded, to authorize an application for State of Connecticut Urban Act Grant Funds to assist in the design and construction of the Jail Cell Project. All were in favor except Krich who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

15. New Business.

- a. Discuss and possibly authorize an application for State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) Grant Funds to assist in analyzing the environmental contamination at 1248 Main Street (former Knights Oil location).**

Ide MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to authorize an application for State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) Grant Funds to assist in analyzing the environmental contamination at 1248 Main Street (former Knights Oil location). All were in favor. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Ide MOVED, DeVivo seconded to add to the agenda Item #15b; Discussion and possible action on Sub-Committee meetings.

- b. Discussion and possible action on Sub-Committee meetings.**

DeVivo MOVED, Krich seconded, to set the first meeting of both Sub-Committees for Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. Future Agenda Items

- a. Councilmember O'Brien requested on behalf of State Representative Johnson a joint meeting with the Town Council, Board of Finance and Board of Education to discuss the Town's needs prior to the Legislative Session on January 19, 2016.**

17. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment.

James Flores spoke about Three Kings Day and why he is involved with the Windham Willimantic Group rather than the Three Kings Day celebration.

18. Adjournment

DeVivo MOVED, Krich seconded, to adjourn the Windham Town Council Regular meeting at 8:50 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council