

WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES



Windham Town Hall Meeting Room

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Eldridge called the Town of Windham Regular Town Council Special Teleconference meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Charles Krich, Tom DeVivo, Lorraine McDevitt, N. Joseph Underwood, Mark Doyle, Michael Lessard, James Flores, Charlotte Patros and Christel Donahue.

Tony Fantoli was excused.

Department Heads in Attendance: Tara Risley-Marquez, Matt Vertefeuille, Mary DeMarco, Brad Wojick, Marc Scrivener, Druscilla Carter, Paulann Lescoe, Nancy Rivera, Gay St. Louis, Patricia Spruance, Tom Pesce, Christian Johnson, Mike Licata, Joe Gardner, Joan Paskewich Brian Hathaway, James Finger and Peter Zvingilas

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado and Personnel Director Paul Hongo were also in attendance.

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

No sign in sheet was required by a consensus of the Council.

Dawn Niles, North Windham, provided information on the upcoming classes for CPR & AED training and the foreclosure workshop. She also urged the Council to consider making cuts to the proposed budget.

David Wollner, Willimantic Brewing Company, spoke about the possibility of having a Craft Beer Tasting after the Willi Whammer ½ marathon on April 26 and asked for the Council's support.

Charles Kratt, Monticello Street, Willimantic, spoke about the proposed budget and stated some departments cannot be cut because the Town is dependent on them.



4. Town Council Comment

None

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. Discuss and possibly move to adopt the minutes for the February 11, 2014, Special Town Council Meeting with our state legislative delegation.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adopt the minutes for the February 11, 2014, Special Town Council Meeting with our state legislative delegation. All were in favor except Donahue who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

b. Discuss and possibly move to adopt the minutes for the February 18, 2014, Regular Town Council Meeting.

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adopt the minutes for the February 18, 2014, Regular Town Council Meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to move Items 15a – 15d up on the agenda to follow Item 5b. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. New Business.

a. Discuss and possibly move to award a contract to Game Time Athletics in the amount of \$6,765 for portable recreation bleachers, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. Funding source = Recreation user fees.

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to award a contract to Game Time Athletics in the amount of \$6,765 for portable recreation bleachers, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Discuss and possibly move to award a contract to D+W Development in the amount of \$67,016 for ADA-compliant facilities in several Town buildings, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. Funding source = state LOCIP.

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to award a contract to D+W Development in the amount of \$67,016 for ADA-compliant facilities in several Town buildings, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Discuss and possibly move to approve using \$100,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund to pave driveways and to survey areas for cremains in two Town cemeteries, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. Funding source = Cemetery Trust Fund.

Underwood MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to approve using \$100,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund to pave driveways and to survey areas for cremains in two Town cemeteries, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. **Discuss and possibly move to approve a craft beer tasting and food event on the Town's Jillson Square/Green on Saturday, April 26, 2014. Applicant meets all Town Council requirements (\$2 million insurance, police security, TIP-certified servers, etc.), but needs Town Council approval in order to obtain a state liquor permit.**

Underwood MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to approve a craft beer tasting and food event on the Town's Jillson Square/Green on Saturday, April 26, 2014. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Resignations.

None

7. Appointments.

None

8. Presentations & Special Reports.

None

9. Mayor's Report.

None

10. Town Manager's Report.

None

11. Discussion and Review of Communications.

None

12. Resolutions and Ordinances.

None

13. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions.

None

14. Old Business.

- a. **Regarding the FY 14-15 budgets for the Town General Government, Department heads, the Town Manager, the Unified Finance Director, and the Town Controller will stand for questions and information requests from the Town Council. Town Council discusses Town General Government budgets, and possibly gives budget direction.**

Town Manager Beets stated Department Heads were in attendance to answer questions from the Council relating to their individual budgets. Each Department Head came in front of the Council and gave a brief review of their department's budget.

Town Manager Beets also addressed the question asked at the previous Council meeting regarding the consolidation in the Finance Department relating to the positions of Christian Johnson and Tom Pesce and he explained the differences in their job descriptions.

The Council requested the consolidation of all line items relating to the Dispatch Center be included in one location in the budget. In addition, the Public Safety, Public Works, Environment, Culture and Recreation Committee recommended \$20,000 be added to the Capital Improvement Plan for the dog pound and the Administration, Finance, Economic Development and Health & Human Services Committee recommended Line Item 50609-326, HeartSafe supplies, be increased from \$1,100 to \$2,500.

James Flores requested his following comments be noted for the record.

“I have a problem when you create a big paid job and at the same time you don’t want to give money to social agencies”.

Items 15a – 15d was moved up on the agenda to follow Item 5b.

15. New Business.

- a. Discuss and possibly move to award a contract to Game Time Athletics in the amount of \$6,765 for portable recreation bleachers, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. Funding source = Recreation user fees.
- b. Discuss and possibly move to award a contract to D+W Development in the amount of \$67,016 for ADA-compliant facilities in several Town buildings, as recommended by the Public Works, Public Safety, Environment, Recreation, and Culture Committee. Funding source = state LOCIP.
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- d. Discuss and possibly move to approve a craft beer tasting and food event on the Town’s Jillson Square/Green on Saturday, April 26, 2014. Applicant meets all Town Council requirements (\$2 million insurance, police security, TIP-certified servers, etc.), but needs Town Council approval in order to obtain a state liquor permit.

16. Future Agenda Items

None

17. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment

Bernie D’Auteuil, 168 Walnut Street, Willimantic, questioned how the “hot potato” issue will be handled after the departure of Dr. Adamowski and the current Superintendent.

Henry Crane, Windham Street, Willimantic, stated he hoped Mr. Johnson will do a good enough job so we will not have to hire another finance person.

18. Adjournment

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to adjourn the Windham Town Council meeting at 10:07 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council