

WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

WINDHAM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Tuesday, May 15, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.



1. Call to Order

Joe Underwood, President of the Council, chaired the meeting in the absence of Mayor Eldridge.

Mr. Underwood called the Town of Windham Council meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Charles Krich, Tony Fantoli, Tom DeVivo, N. Joseph Underwood, Kevin Donohue, Arnaldo Rivera, Christel Donahue and Jerry Iazzetta

Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge and Lorraine McDevitt were excused.

Mark Doyle arrived at 7:05 P.M.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Underwood led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment

Jeff Viens, Windham taxpayer, Columbia resident, spoke in support of permitting residential use at Windham Mills. He also noted there are priorities needed other than the 3rd floor renovations.

John Walker, owner of The Shoe Smith, spoke with regards to Thread City Development. He noted he is an owner of mixed use property and it works fantastic. He asked the Council to give the developers an opportunity to do what he wants at the Mills.

John McCommas, 29 Kathleen Drive, spoke in support of the zone changes for the Mills and does not see what the controversy is about.

Sheldon Hague, an intern for Joel Myers of Meyburd Associates, read a brief letter on behalf of Mr. Myers stating he is not in support of changing the Mills use to residential when they failed to market the property properly when they acquired it. Mr. Hague also noted Mr. Myers is a member of the NRZ Steering Committee, property owner in the NRZ and resident of the hillside section of Town.

Charlie Kratt, Monticello Street, Willimantic, spoke in support of residential use at the Mills. He believes it may bring good things to Town and noted the developers were not asking for any tax abatements.

Pam Viens, Windham taxpayer, Columbia resident, noted she as well as Jeff Viens and John Walker are members of the NRZ Steering Committee who is also in favor of the Mills. She stated she supports residential use at the Mills and believes when the Town does well we all do better.

4. Town Council Comment

Jerry Iazzetta, noted Item 14b on the agenda should have been brought to the Public Safety, Public Works, Culture and Recreation Subcommittee. He stated there was a meeting of the Committee a couple of weeks ago and questioned why this was never mentioned. He feels because certain people thought there shouldn't be subcommittees this could be a way of bypassing them and he would like it to stop. Mr. Iazzetta noted the Committee was formed to review these types of matters and make recommendations to the Council.

5. Adopton of Minutes

a. Discussion and possible action to adopt the minutes for the May 1, 2012 Town Council Meeting.

Iazzetta MOVED, Rivera seconded, to adopt the minutes for the May 1, 2012 Town Council Meeting. All were in favor except DeVivo and C. Donahue who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

6. Resignations. Receive the resignation of:

a. None.
NOTED

7. Appointments. Discussion and possible action to appoint:

a. Peter J. Zizka to a regular seat on the Library Board.

DeVivo MOVED, Krich seconded, to appoint Peter J. Zizka to a regular seat on the Library Board. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Presentations & Special Reports

a. Presentation from Chair Murphy Sewall regarding the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Insurance. Council discussion and possible action.

Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Insurance, Murphy Sewall, reported on the Committee's recommendation for self insurance and noted the Committee voted unanimously to ask the Town Council to authorize the Ad Hoc Committee to proceed with developing the approvals and documentation for self-funded medical insurance. Mr. Sewall explained the process and presented a draft proposal for managing the reserve fund. A brief discussion followed.

Rivera MOVED, Fantoli seconded, that the Town Council authorize the Ad Hoc Committee to proceed with developing the approvals and documentation for self-funded medical insurance. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Mayor's Report

a. CLIP

b. DFC

Town Manager, Mr. Beets noted the Mayor was attending the graduation ceremony at ECSU therefore he could not be at the Council meeting tonight.

Mr. Beets reported the Mayor wanted to thank ECSU for their help with the CLIP (Community Life Improvement Program) and DFC (Drug Free Community) Programs. He also thanked them for their donation of \$2500 for the prevention of drug abuse with regards to the DFC program and the work of Ray Ortiz and the Town. He also explained the CLIP program, which is a 3 year grant that ECSU received that targets alcohol abuse in the community. Mr. Beets noted ECSU collaborated with the Town in preparing a strategic plan to reach out to students through information and education.

10. Town Manager's Report

a. Legislative Session

Town Manager Beets reported the legislative session had just ended and noted the outcome of the session included the following: a 1 year postponement of the Town's revaluation, the passing of the education reform bill, a possible special session to look at more local contributions for education from Towns in exchange for State money and the availability of \$15,000,000 to explore a PILOT program using microgrids.

11. Discussion and Review of Communications

a. Letter from EDC Chair Hettinger to business owners about the Main Street Reinvestment Act.

Town Manager Beets explained the letter sent to business owners about the Main Street Reinvestment Act and commended the Economic Development Commission for reaching out to the community.

12. Resolutions and Ordinances

a. Discussion and possible adoption of a Resolution of Endorsement in favor of the Intertown Capital Equipment (ICE) purchasing incentive program, as recommended by the Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG) and its member towns.

DeVivo read the resolution and explained what it entails.

DeVivo MOVED, K. Donohue seconded, to adopt Resolution #2570, a Resolution of Endorsement in favor of the Intertown Capital Equipment (ICE)

purchasing incentive program, as recommended by the Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG) and its member towns. All were in favor.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (See Attachment A).

13. Reports of Committees, Boards and Commissions

- a. **Administration, Finance, Health and Human Services Subcommittee**
Mr. Donohue reported the Committee had not met but would be meeting very soon.
- b. **Public Safety, Public Works, Culture and Recreation Subcommittee**
Mr. Iazzetta reported the Committee will be meeting next week and noted they still had not received the guidelines for the evaluation of the Town Manager which they have been asking for since before the election. Mr. Iazzetta questioned where that was.
- c. **Tri-Board**
No report.
- d. **Magnet School Building Committee**
Mr. DeVivo reported two change orders had been issued with regards to the radiant floor heating and the damage from storm Irene.

He also noted the Committee was working towards lead meetings and were starting to have new FFE meetings. He also reported on the progress of the project and the challenges they are facing.

In addition, Mr. DeVivo reported a letter had been sent to residents explaining a change in working hours which is necessary to complete the project in the time required.

14. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action recommending that the Planning and Zoning Commission permit residential uses at Windham Mills, as recommended by the Economic Development Commission at its meeting on May 7.**
Paula Stahl, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Bob Horrocks, member of the Economic Development Commission and Mr. Briggs, one of the Developers of the Windham Mills shared their views on the residential uses at the Windham Mills. A lengthy discussion of the Council followed.

K. Donohue called the question seconded by Rivera. All were in favor.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DeVivo MOVED, Underwood seconded, to recommend that the Planning and Zoning Commission permit mixed uses at Windham Mills, as recommended by the Economic Development Commission. All were in favor except Krich, Fantoli, Iazzetta and C. Donahue. MOTION PASSED.

- b. **Discussion and possible action approving a Memorandum of Understanding to share a Director of Public Works and Facilities with the BOE.**

Krich MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, that Item 14b, approving a Memorandum of Understanding to share a Director of Public Works and Facilities with the BOE, be moved to the Public Safety, Public Works, Culture and Recreation Subcommittee. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action setting a Public Hearing for Tuesday, June 5, at 6:45 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room to consider the Windham Neighborhood Assistance Act.**

DeVivo MOVED, Iazzetta seconded, to set a Public Hearing for Tuesday, June 5, at 6:45 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room to consider the Windham Neighborhood Assistance Act. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Discussion and possible action approving a revocable Use Agreement for outdoor dining behind Fred Sinclair's Blues and BBQ Restaurant at 877 Main Street, Willimantic.**

DeVivo MOVED, K. Donohue seconded, to approve a revocable Use Agreement for outdoor dining behind Fred Sinclair's Blues and BBQ Restaurant at 877 Main Street, Willimantic. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. **Discussion and possible action setting a summer meeting schedule.**

Krich MOVED, Rivera seconded, to meet the first Tuesday of every month and dispense of the third meeting of the month for the months of June, July and August. All were in favor except Iazzetta who opposed. MOTION PASSED.

16. Future Agenda Items

- a. **June 5, 2012:** Presentation of another layout for the possible renovation of the Third Floor of Town Hall.
- b. **June 5, 2012:** Presentation from the Superintendents of the Water Commission and Water Pollution Control on their 2012-2013 budget.
- c. Town Manager evaluation

17. Adjournment

DeVivo MOVED, K. Donohue seconded, to adjourn the Town of Windham Town Council meeting at 8:45 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

**Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Council**

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
Town Council**

Resolution No. 2570

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

The Legislative Body of the Town of Windham, Connecticut, met on May 15, 20-12 and adopted this Resolution of Endorsement by the vote of 9 to 0 to endorse the **Intertown Capital Equipment Purchase Incentive (ICE) Program** proposal referenced in Section 75 of Public Act 11-57 (An Act Authorizing Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements).

Such ICE proposal is attached to and made a part of this Resolution.

Introduced by:  Date: May 15 2012

benefit our 7 participating towns. The newest pavement patching technology provided by these pavement recyclers will not only allow for permanent patching of town roads, but ultimately will reduce the cost of road maintenance to all the towns. The Skid Steer and attachments provide a "multi-use" tool that can be used on road projects, field work, snow removal, and many other town public works projects.

List the equipment or vehicle(s) for which funding is sought (Provide Serial No., VIN and Model No.):

Equipment/Vehicle	Purpose	Total acquisition cost
(2) Pavement Recycler with lights & Roller	Permanently patch roads year-round	75,178.00
(1) Skid Steer Base Machine	Prep work for road and many other projects. Multiple use with below attachments.	62,000.00
Attachments (1 each): Root Rake, 72" Rotary Cutter, Cold Planer, 78" Brush Grapple, Auger	Attachments for Skid Steer for road and many other projects.	37,700.00
(1) Trailer for Skid Steer (with pallet fork carrier and tie down rings)	To move Skid Steer and attachments between Towns	6,518.00
	Total Cost \$	181,396.00

Attach a written **sales or lease agreement** that provides the cost of the item being acquired and any additional costs associated with the acquisition (shipping, installation, etc.), approximate date of delivery and terms of the sale/lease. If leased, it must be a *capital lease*, where at least one of the municipalities ultimately owns the equipment or vehicle.

We have received estimates from equipment vendors, but will need to follow appropriate requisition requirements to purchase.

Attach a copy of the **inter-municipal agreement** which will be utilized to for the purpose of sharing the use of the equipment or vehicle(s) acquired under the provisions of this program. *NOTE that this is not required for the purpose of pre-approval.*

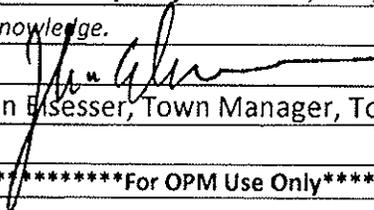
We plan on modifying and using our existing Trail Maintenance Equipment Agreement we currently use amongst 10 towns (previous RPIP OPM grant to WINCOG region).

Sustainability: Explain how the cost of maintenance and repair, and ultimately equipment/vehicle replacement cost will be provided for at the end of its useful life.

The WINCOG towns plan to follow the same arrangement they currently have with the Trail Maintenance Equipment. The town in possession of the equipment will do routine maintenance of the equipment (each piece with have an attached equipment log). The towns will each provide a maintenance fee to the lead town on a yearly basis. Additional responsibilities are spelled out in the MOA.

Attach a copy of a municipal **Resolution of Endorsement** from each participating municipality.
NOTE that this is not required for the purpose of pre-approval.

Certification by CEO of Lead Municipality: I do hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature  Date: 4/25/12

Name, Title and Town: John Bisesser, Town Manager, Town of Coventry CT

*****For OPM Use Only*****

Equipment Cost:

Vehicle Cost:

Total:

X Factor(%)

Grant Amount: (\$250,000 maximum)