

WINDHAM FIRST TAXING DISTRICT
Monday September 12, 2011
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

President Diane Rayhall called the monthly meeting of the Windham First Taxing District to order at 1905 hours.

Diane asked for a moment of silence in honor of 9/11.

The following members were present: Diane Rayhall, Elaine Rogers, Peter Bruscatto, AnnMarie White and Sandra Millerd, Jan Mott, and Mark Herrick.

Approval of Minutes June 6, 2011:

Elaine Rogers moved to accept minutes dated June 6, 2011; Peter Bruscatto seconded the motion, rest in favor. Diane noted on page two that name change from Norman Allard to Norman Benjamin, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Jan Mott gave the treasurer's report and read the following information:

Account Balances:

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 9,483.00
Savings Account Balance:	\$ 31,780.45
Grant Match Reserve:	\$ 48,912.00
Grant Improvement Reserve:	<u>\$111,335.90</u>
Total:	\$201,511.35

Bills to Pay:

WSFCA-911 Dispatch	\$ 29,489.00
So. Windham FD	\$ 79,704.00
No. Windham FD	\$ 84,567.00
Windham Center FD	\$ 86,940.00
Shane Navratil	\$ 4,500.00
Wilcox & Reynolds	\$ 31,831.00
The Hartford	\$ 571.00
HD Segar	\$ 5,222.00
Guilford Smith Library	\$ 21,000.00
Windham Free Library	\$ 21,000.00
WYO	\$ 12,800.00
Town of Windham	\$ 22,862.99
Town of Windham	<u>\$ 8,209.97</u>
Total	\$377,624.00

David Light asked the Board if getting paid in full at one time. Diane Rayhall explained they get most of bulk of money now, then they get the rest in January. The fire departments get three installments. Elaine Rogers moved to accept treasurer's report and pay the bills, seconded by Mark Herrick, all in favor.

Public Comment:

None

Elaine Rogers Update on Three Windham Fire Departments

The Fire Department's were working on call grids to make it easier for calls. The departments were looking into solar panels to abate power bills. Diane Rayhall asked if they were looking into getting in on the Town's plan. Windham Center and South Windham were willing to, but North Windham wasn't because of the airport's landing strip goes over the firehouse. Chief Wylie said he contacted representative from solar panels and airport, but didn't get answers he needed. He was told that it could take 45 days to get a response, so he didn't want to commit to Town's plan.

Guilford Smith Library

Afron Seal read the upcoming events for the library. They had the highest attendance of one of their events. She stated they needed to move a spruce tree. They are getting three quotes. The library received a \$500 donation from the Windham Federation of Teachers. They are planning a spaghetti dinner with the Congregational Church. She will provide more information on that event next month.

Windham Free Library

David Light didn't have much to report. Their annual meeting will be held next Monday. They didn't meet during the summer. They had their biggest fundraiser – the Jazz in the Garden. He didn't have a dollar value yet, but the event usually raises 10 to \$13,000. They will have the Windham Center program starting. They may not meet every month, only at key points. They didn't have any big plans for the year. They are looking at where they want to go, they want to try again to gather the board members of all three libraries. Diane Rayhall commented she attended the Jazz in the Garden and thought it was great. She wanted to let David know that she called the library and told them she was going to pay at the door, and when she arrived they had no record of her call. It caught her off guard. David will follow up on. He asked what the procedure was for the \$21,000. Diane explained how the Taxing District receives their funds from the Town after the budget is passed, and then when and how they disburse the funds out.

Windham Youth Organization

President Greg Job said it was their 50th anniversary in July. They received a letter of accommodation from the State of Connecticut. On July 9th they had a fundraiser at Applebee's. Their enrollment was up and down. They will address in the off season with the schools. They had a vandalism issue with spray paint, but nothing major. Diane Rayhall asked if older girls went to the Willimantic League. Greg said they did because the High School coach moved to that league. Diane asked that when they have opening day if they could e-mail her a few days before so she could have Ann e-mail the Directors. Greg said he would and noted that it's usually held in the second week of April.

South Windham Fire Department

Helene Chapman read the June and July reports. They need to do their August report.

Windham Center Fire Department

Chief Lloyd Niles read the June, July and August reports.

North Windham Fire Department

Chief John Wylie read the June, July and August reports.

Mark Herrick asked the chiefs what time Public Works came out for the storm. Chief Niles said he saw them during the day of the storm on Jerusalem Road for road closures. Mark Herrick noted there was one shelter opened and that it should have been opened 5 or 6 hours before the storm hit. The High School was opened, but then closed. Diane wanted to thank the fire departments for their hard work during the storm.

Discussion and possible action for NWFD vehicle exhaust capture system

Chief John Wylie stated he tried for three years to get a grant to pay for this system, but it's been a problem because the station is not open 24 hours. He handed out handouts on the system. He had two quotes and tried to get a New Jersey company to send a quote, but they never responded back to him. Chief Wylie preferred the Magnegrip proposal because there would be less coordination in setting it up. Peter asked if he spoke to any other company that had their system. Chief Wylie had gotten written reviews, but had gotten no responses to e-mails he sent out to other companies. Peter said the Air Bag system was not good because the emissions get hot and it burns up the bags. This is definitely a safety issue and a good cause. Chief Wylie asked what does the Board have to do to go forward. Diane stated the attorney has to review first and then at the next meeting it goes to the public. Peter asked if an RFP was done when he asked for quotes. Chief Wylie used the grant information and listed his apperistise. Peter was concerned because if the other bids were lower and the Baord picked the highest bid, this could be a problem without the RFP. Peter made a motion to move forward to the attorney. Elaine seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

Old Business

Diane wanted the fire chiefs to be aware of the Magnet School's ground breaking on Saturday, September 17th. Diane included a copy of the town's Budget mill rate calculation. She attended the Board of Finance meeting to see where the mill rate would be if budget goes through. If the budget passes the mill rate would go to 1.39 from 1.28. On September 27th would be the vote.

New Business

Windham Center fire department appointed a building committee with mark Herrick as Chairman. They want to build another firehouse in the next seven years. Their current building has lots of OSHA violations, so Chief Niles wanted to let the Board know they will be working with them on this project.

Diane noted she wanted the Chief's to address the CL&P issue on the storm at the next town meeting. Chief Niles said Route 203 and Jerusalem Road were shut down for days. He understood CL&P was busy, but he was concerned for these people and if there was an emergency. There seemed to be a breakdown of communication between the Town Hall and the

Fire Marshall. Diane thought a meeting should be scheduled for the fire chiefs in Willimantic and the town regarding the storm. Diane will setup a meeting with Neal Beets and Brad Wojick. Afron Seal said she had people coming to the library for water. AnnMarie stated she knew a woman in the city who had no electricity for a week and she didn't get the local paper so didn't know where the shelter was, and that someone who lived in the trailer park near the airport didn't know where to go if she had to leave her trailer. Chief Niles said the biggest downfall was when the town got rid of Code Red. Diane told the Chiefs to submit their expenditures to EOC. Mark Herrick said there were local issues, but overall the State needs to review. Diane noted that Sue Johnson, Nancy Wyman, and Joe Courtney were going to be in attendance at the Magnet School ground breaking to give them ideas or suggestions on the storm issues.

Diane spoke to Brad Wojick a couple of weeks ago regarding the three fire departments and gas. She asked the Chiefs were they purchased their gas. Chief Niles said that three years ago the fire departments approached the town about purchasing their gas there, but the price was too high. Brad said their tank wasn't big enough to handle them. Mark Herrick suggested to meet with Brad again to see what price was now. Windham Center currently has an agreement with South Windham to get their gas.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Motion made by Elaine Rogers to adjourn at 2020 hrs, seconded by Mark Herrick, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

AnnMarie White
Clerk