

“Draft not yet approved by Town Council”

**Winthrop Town Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Town Meeting
Monday, November 1, 2004
Winthrop Town Office**

- **The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chair Kevin Cookson.**
- **Roll Call**

Council Members Present: Kevin Cookson, Patrice Putman, David Rheame, Jim Norris, Jayne Despres, Bill MacDonald, Linda Caprara (Despres excused)

Others present: Cornell Knight (Town Manager), Roger Blackstone, Ken Buck, Chief Joe Young, Betsy Rowe, Lonney Steeves, Linda Dyer, David Dyer, Fire Chief Roger Audette, Danielle Gamiz – KJ Reporter, Sarah Finke of Healthy Maine Partnerships, (Americorp), John Dovinsky, (Director EMS), Steve Niles (Americorp), Lisa Frost (Secretary), three other citizens

- **Ordered that the Winthrop Town Council meet to consider the following items:**

□ **Minutes of October 4, 2004**

MOTION by David Rheame, seconded by Patrice Putman, to approve the minutes of October 4, 2004. Discussion: Councilor Patrice Putman noted Mona Burk under ‘Manager’s Report’ should be Nona Burk. VOTE: 6-0.

□ **Item #150 Consider the second reading to repeal and replace Ordinance #15 Use of Public Property and Parks, that would ban dogs from Norcross Point.**

MOTION by David Rheame, seconded by Linda Caprara, to approve the second reading to repeal and replace Ordinance #15 Use of Public Property and Parks that would ban dogs from Norcross Point. Discussion:

Councilor Patrice Putman stated the wording in Section nine needed to be better. She suggested, “Notwithstanding any provision of State or Federal Law to the contrary, the Town will not allow any owner or person having...”

Councilor Bill MacDonald asked Chief Joe Young about using discretion when enforcing the ban in regards to dogs on boats. Chief Joe Young stated dogs would not be allowed on the point itself where people wish to use the grass areas, but the ban would not apply to the parking lot. Therefore, taking a dog on the boat could be an exception to the rule. Mr. MacDonald asked what would happen if a person was in the parking area and was not associated with a boat. Chief Young stated it would be the Officer’s discretion and he/she would need to use common sense, as with any law. Bill MacDonald stated the intent to unload and load into a boat should be part of the ordinance change. Councilor Patrice Putman stated it would be better to say the intent instead of parking lot vs. grass area. Chair Kevin Cookson agreed with Patrice Putman and stated the exception need to be clear. Mr. MacDonald asked what the burden to the dog owner would be if the dog defecates. Councilor Patrice Putman stated the dog owner would need to clean it up.

MOTION by Patrice Putman, seconded by David Rheame, to amend the MOTION to read. “Notwithstanding any provision of State or Federal law to the contrary, the Town will not allow any owner or person having responsibility for and control of a dog on the premises of Norcross Point with the exception of unloading and loading the dog on a boat on a lead.” Discussion: A citizen who owns part of the beach area, asked what area was included as the Public Beach. Chief Joe Young explained the section of the Public Beach and stated various people living across the street own the remainder of the beach area. Chief Joe Young stated the citizen could post her property not to allow dogs. Town Manager Cornell Knight asked if “lead” should be taken out of the ordinance. Chief Joe Young said the state law is “by tether or by voice command” and the Town ordinance took a more restrictive stance of “on a leash”, therefore, he suggested it would stand more if “on a lead” was stated in Ordinance #15.

VOTE on the amended MOTION: 6-0.

VOTE on the original MOTION: 6-0.

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Patrice Putman asked how the "pooper-scooper" law applies to private property. Chief Joe Young stated the dog owner is responsible for their dog. If it defecates on private property, the dog owner needs to clean it up.

Citizen Betsy Rowe thanked the Town Council for it was a tough discussion. She said they made the best decision possible for it was a health and safety issue.

❑ **Item #151 Consider bids for the 1977 Ford Fire Truck.**

MOTION by David Rheaume, seconded by Bill MacDonald, to sell the 1977 Ford Fire Truck to the Town of Monticello, Maine for \$2,160. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0

❑ **Item #152 Consider bids for the 1978 Fire Ladder Truck.**

MOTION by David Rheaume, seconded by Linda Caprara, to sell the 1978 Fire Ladder Truck to William Piper for \$1500. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0

❑ **Item #153 Consider acceptance of a \$100,837 grant for the Fire Department from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with an \$11,205 local match.**

Roger Audette, Fire Chief, stated he has attended training seminars on grant writing. He stated the grant is for equipment, and they are asking for a match of \$11,205 out of the reserve account. The budgeted Equipment Account is only \$10,000 every year. Therefore they applied for "big-ticket" items that they can't keep up with over the regular budget. Some of the equipment being replaced is 15-30 years old. In addition, the department does not currently have other needed equipment. Some of the equipment being asked for is duplicate items and other requests were for training programs. The requests are in order to be 100% compliant with ISO and NIFP standards, which is the only way the grant may be approved. Mr. Audette stated the grant is in the final phase and he must reply back with a decision from the Town for the local match.

MOTION by David Rheaume, seconded by Linda Caprara to accept the \$100,837 grant for the Fire Department from the Federal Management Agency with an \$11,205 local match. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

❑ **Item #154 Consider drafting a resolution to prohibit tobacco products on fields and playgrounds.**

Sarah Finke from Healthy Maine Partnerships said state parks and fields are prohibiting tobacco products throughout the state and nation. They are trying to prevent youth from smoking, since the majority of preventable deaths are from smoking. Free signs would be provided. The only cost would be for installing the signs.

Lonney Steeves, YMCA Director, stated all public recreation areas, beach, skate park, tennis courts, the field behind the town office and other areas would be included and would need signage.

MOTION By Patrice Putman, seconded by Jim Norris, to prohibit tobacco products on fields and playgrounds, including the town beach and that we accept signage addressing it. Discussion: Councilor David Rheaume stated he would approve the motion if it does not included Norcross Point. VOTE: 6-0.

❑ **Item #155 Consider an Americorp member appointment for 12 months, to the Ambulance Service Staff, with a \$5,000 match.**

John Dovinsky, Director of EMS, introduced Steve Niles from Americorp and reviewed the proposal. Mr. Dovinsky stated the proposal is to bring in an Americorp person to help with special projects such as address compliance, road guide issues, and public education including educational programs at the schools, which are projects they currently do not have the manpower or man-hours to do, because of the high call volume. In addition, the Americorp member would assist with calls for he/she would be an EMT, at the least. It would be approximately a 1700 hour/person who would be committed to an 8-12 month period. The town match is \$5,000 that Mr. Dovinsky proposed utilizing money out of accounts that will be under spent.

MOTION by Linda Caprara, seconded by Bill MacDonald, to accept an Americorp member appointment for 12 months to the Ambulance Service Staff, with a \$5,000 match that comes out of the account in the budget, as discussed. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

Citizen Roger Blackstone asked what would happen the second year. Mr. Niles stated there would be an option to continue for a second year. Depending on the Americorp grant, there may be an opportunity for a third year, but the Americorp member can only serve for 2 years.

□ **Manager's Report**

- Repairs to the Railroad Crossing on Annabessacook Road will start on Friday.
- The Town Office will close at 1PM, tomorrow, November 2nd, - not including voting.
- The Police Department has had two accidents. The Police Chief's car hit a trailer hitch on the interstate, which damaged the front end of the car, and Sergeant Cook's truck was side swiped while pulling out from Town Hall Lane.

□ **Other Business**

- *MOTION By Linda Caprara, seconded by David Rheume, to appoint Sandra Steele as an election worker. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.*
- *MOTION by David Rheume, seconded by Jim Norris to approve the application for Beano for the Lion's Club's November 13, 2004 fundraiser. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.*
- Councilor David Rheume stated Councilors are invited to a presentation for "Safety People of the Year" at the Legion on Saturday, November 6, 2004, 2PM – 4PM.
- Councilor Linda Caprara wished good luck to people running in the election.

□ **Adjourn**

MOTION by Patrice Putman seconded by Linda Caprara, to adjourn at 7:47PM. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

Submitted by Lisa Frost, Secretary to the Town Council.

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