

**Winthrop Town Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 4, 2012**

***Attendance: Chairman Kevin Cookson; Linda Caprara, Priscilla Jenkins, Sarah Fuller, Ken Buck Sr., Larry Fitzgerald, Lee Bragg, Jeffrey Woolston (Town Manager) and Julie Winberg (Secretary). Absent: Jennifer Currier***

*Item #50      Hold a public hearing on the Budgets for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year:*

*Resolution #99      Part 1    Municipal Budget*

*Public hearing opened at 7:09 p.m. and closed at 7:10 p.m. with no public comment:*

*Motion made by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins to adopt the following passed with a vote of 4-2 (Buck and Caprara)*

*Note: an amended motion made by Caprara to transfer \$120,000 for road construction from surplus failed with no second.*

*A Resolution providing for passage of the Municipal Budget for the fiscal period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 in the gross amount of \$5,141,483 to which the following estimated incomes, totaling \$2,862,072 have been applied to reduce the appropriation from taxes:*

*\$ 905,000    from Excise Taxes  
\$ 387,888    from State Revenue Sharing  
\$1,569,184 from various departmental incomes*

*Providing a net total Municipal Budget to be raised from taxation of \$2,279,411. Also providing for the following additional estimated assessments:*

*Kennebec County:                    \$616,469  
Cobbossee Watershed District \$ 80,971  
TIF Agreement                        \$ 60,017*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins to waive the second reading passed with a vote of 4-2 (Buck and Caprara).*

*Resolution #99 Part 11 School Budget*

*Public hearing opened at 7:14 p.m. and closed at 7:55 p.m. Discussion centered on the amount designated as Pre K Program \$80,064.03 and the need for such a program came into question during these fiscally challenging times. The Superintendent of Schools justified this action basing his information on research and the value of these programs for the students and community. These are organized structured programs that benefit the pre K student right into third grade and beyond. The program is sought-after by the community and there are 12 students to date on the waiting list for next year.*

*He went on to say that the biggest increase and challenge to the school budget is the federally mandated special education program which has gone up considerably. It is illegal to make any cuts in special education. These unfunded mandates are a serious problem as the cost for these programs fall back on the towns and become their problem.*

*A Resolution providing for passage of the following appropriations for support of the School Department for the fiscal period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.*

*Articles 1 through 11 – authorize expenditures in Cost Center Categories:*

*With motions made by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins, the following Articles were passed with a vote of 4-2 (Buck and Caprara):*

*Article 1 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for regular instruction. Board of Education Recommends \$3,573,290*

*Article 2 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for special education. Board of Education Recommends \$1,760,724*

*Article 3 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for career and technical Education and the Carlton Project Board of Education Recommends \$ 163,661*

*Article 4 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for other instruction. Board of Education Recommends \$ 319,640*

*Article 5 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend on student and staff support. Board of Education Recommends \$ 802,937*

*Article 6 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for system administration. Board of Education \$18,986 and AOS Assessment \$331,500  
Board of Education Recommends \$ 346,919*

Article 7 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for school administration. Board of Education Recommends \$ 502,249

*Article 8 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for transportation and buses. Board of Education Recommends \$ 558,170*

*Article 9 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for facilities maintenance. Board of Education Recommends \$1,051,371*

*Article 10 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for debt service and other commitments. Board of Education Recommends \$ 976,389*

*Article 11 To see what sum the District will be authorized to expend for all other expenditures.*

*Board of Education Recommends \$ 100,001*

*Article 12 through 19- Raise Funds for Proposed School Budget*

*With motions made by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins, the following Articles were passed with a vote of 4-2 (Buck and Caprara):*

*Article 12 To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.*

*Total EPS Allocation \$8,414,495*

*Required Local Contribution \$4,644,376*

*Article 13 To see what sum the District will raise and appropriate for annual payments on local debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.*

*Board of Education Recommends    \$202,310*

*Article 14      To see what sum the District will raise and appropriate in additional local funds – Recommend \$1,027,143 which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services model by \$796,587 as required to fund the budget recommended by the Board of Education.*

*Article 15      To see if the Town of Winthrop will authorize to expend \$468,378 for School Nutrition Program and raise \$100,000 as the local share.*

*Article 16      Authorizes the Adult Education Program and raises the local share – to see if the Town of Winthrop will authorize to expend \$104,715 for Adult Education and raise \$25,000 as the local share; with authorization to expend any additional, incidental or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the Adult Education Program.*

*Article 17      Authorizes the Carlton Project program and raises the local share. To see if the Town of Winthrop will authorize to raise \$83,661 as the local share for the Carlton Project*

*Article 18      Summarizes the proposed school budget*

*To see the sum the District will authorize the Board of Education to expend in total for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 from the District's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-1, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for support of schools.*

*Board of Education Recommends    \$10,155,351*

*Article 19      Authorized expenditure of Grants and other receipts*

*The Board of Education is authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal and state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes provided that such grants, programs or their sources do not require the expenditures of other funds not previously appropriated.*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins to waive the second reading passed with a vote of 4-2 (Buck and Caprara).*

*Item #51 Determine the dates when property taxes committed during the 2012-2013 fiscal year shall become due and payable.*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passed with a vote of 5-0 (Caprara not available for this vote) to keep the dates of October 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*Item #52 Determine the rate of interest that shall apply to delinquent taxes committed during the 2012-2013 fiscal year until those taxes are paid in full.*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passed with a vote of 5-0 (Caprara not available for this vote) to keep the interest rate at 7%.*

*Item #53 Consider the rate of interest that shall be applied for overpayment of taxes*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passed with a vote of 3-2 (Buck and Fitzgerald) (Caprara not available for this vote) to keep the interest rate at 3%.*

*Item #54 Consider the Capital Improvement Budget*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins to approve the CIP budget as presented passed with a vote of 5-1 (Caprara).*

*Item #55 Consider appointments*

*Clark Phinney for Planning Board  
Leonard Blanchette for Winthrop Utilities District*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins to approve these appointments passed with a unanimous vote.*

*Item #56 Public Hearing on General Assistance Rule Changes*

*Public hearing opened at 8:21 p.m. and closed at 8:25 p.m.*

*Item #57      Consider the General Assistance Rule Changes*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Caprara to adopt the rule changes are presented passed with a vote of 6-0.*

*Item #59      Recreation Committee Status Report*

*Patrice Putman, Chair, was in attendance and gave a brief report on the status of the Recreation Committee and the project in the works promoting Winthrop as a great place to live, work, raise children, and build your business.*

*To support their programs, the committee would like to apply for some of the many grants that are available, one of which is due by June 30, 2012 and others throughout the year and would like the council to write a letter of support. No motion was needed and all the councilors agreed.*

*Councilor Caprara requested that the Town Manager write a letter asking our Congressman or their representative to meet with the council at their next meeting – July 2<sup>nd</sup> – the discussion being what the government is planning on doing to help struggling town to support the federally managed programs such as special education.*

*Manager's Report*

*EPA will hold a meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. here to talk about the water situation.*

*Motion by Fuller and seconded by Fitzgerald, the Council went into Executive Session with the Town Manager and the Town Attorney at 8:50 p.m.*

*Item #58      Executive session in accordance with 1 MRSA, Section 401 – Personnel Action*