

**Winthrop Town Council
Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2012**

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

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

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

Approve the May 7, May 21, June 4, June 25, 2012 meeting minutes:

Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins, the above minutes were approved with a unanimous vote with the following corrections made to the minutes of May 21st - Kennebec Valley Economic Development changed to Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce and for the June 25th meeting \$120,000 for road repair was to be paid out of surplus.

Item #62 - Morrill Trust

The purpose of this trust was originally set up to use the Morrell home as a meeting place for organizations. The trust was dissolved because the property has been sold. The trustees requested that the funds remaining in the trust be transferred to the town, who will then deposit the amount to the new library building fund (specifically, the new addition). This passed by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins. All required documentation must be received and reviewed by the town attorney prior to the transfer of funds. There is approximately \$100,000 in this fund.

The following motion was read into the record:

I move that the Town Manager be authorized and directed to sign such consents and other documents as he may deem necessary to facilitate the termination of the Ida A. Morrell Trust and therefore to accept and deposit the residue of the trust in the capital account for the expansion of the Charles M. Bailey Library.

A check made payable to the Town with a notation on the check or in a transmittal letter that the funds are to be deposited in the Capital account for the Library Expansion project is sufficient.

Item #61 - Gift of Property to Town of Winthrop (Lot 7-20 Map 35A)

The town manager received a letter from the property owner's daughter in reference to Lot in Brandywine Subdivision off of Mt. Piscataway Road (this land is quite swampy and there are no buildings on it).

The council is required to review her request to donate this lot to the town. The town attorney will review the final package with all the necessary documentation to make this a legal transaction. The Council will then authorize the town manager to accept this donation.

According to the land owner, it would cost approximately \$2,000 in legal fees to transfer the property over from the parents to the daughter. The lot is valued at \$4,000. Note: so stated in this letter is the fact that the owner does not plan on paying taxes on this land. Therefore in essence the town will end up taking it over.

There are several options that the town has with this donation such as auctioning it off, donating it to the Kennebec Land Trust and others.

Motion by Fuller a seconded by Jenkins to accept this donation passed with a unanimous vote. The Council will decide at a later date what they would like to do with it.

The following motion was read into the record:

I move that the Council accept the offer made by Dorene Vail to convey property identified as Map 35A, Sub 20, Lot 7 to the Town for no consideration, on condition that Ms. Vail provide a deed signed by all the family members who have a legal interest in the property along with an affidavit confirming the names of her parents' heirs, and on the further condition that the Town Manager and the Town Attorney determine that the Town will obtain good and merchantable title.

Item #60 - Transfer Station Discussion

The Chairman gave the background to the Town Manager's executive decision regarding the transfer station and picking. "Someone's trash can be another's treasure".

The problems have increased over several years of no policy, procedures or monitoring. Complaints have become numerous. The overall view of setting aside items is a well meaning activity and one that is favored by the majority.

The town council will be adopting rules to make the process fair and safe for everyone (the Winthrop residents as well as the transfer station employees).

A draft policy was written by Transfer Station personnel and circulated listing guidelines. Questions arose with the first being to change the word 'picking' to a name more suitable such as reclaiming or reusing. Note: The amounts of materials that are being reclaimed are not hurting the town financially (this is recycled revenue generated for the town).

Motion was made by Fuller, and seconded by Jenkins to vacate the town manager's executive order and in doing so, the process to reclaim will continue, allowing more time in getting additional information from the public as well as the Green Committee and others as well as having the town attorney review the final draft. In this motion, an exception was made indicating that Winthrop residents would be able to have first choice on reclaimed items. This is a provisional measure as there will be a later meeting of the council to iron out the details of a permanent picking policy.

The draft policy reads as follows:

*Town of Winthrop/Winthrop Transfer Station
Policies and Safety Regulations*

Items that can be picked:

<i>Furniture</i>	<i>Books</i>
<i>Woodpile</i>	<i>Compost pile (2 buckets)</i>
<i>Shingles</i>	<i>Brush pile</i>
<i>Vacuums</i>	<i>Winter sand (2 buckets)</i>
<i>Tires</i>	<i>Miscellaneous items (to be identified)</i>
<i>Bikes</i>	<i>Mowers</i>

*Items that cannot be picked – revenue generated for the town and
DEP controlled)*

<i>Heat fund bottles</i>	<i>Televisions</i>
<i>Uplift Box Items</i>	<i>Computers and Acc.</i>
<i>Motor Oil</i>	<i>Light Bulbs</i>
<i>Batteries</i>	

Safety Regulations

- 1. No climbing into demo trailer for anything.*
- 2. No climbing into garage hopper that is inside the building*
- 3. No climbing into Metal roll off*
- 4. No climbing onto woodpile*

In the future we would like to see items that are set outside of the metal roll off for recycling require a donation that would match market price per ton as Grimmell pays Winthrop.

The Transfer Station has a box trailer that is of no use. We would like it converted to use as a recycle/swap shop that residents may give donations to a private charity for items if approved by the Town Council. We would look for two or three volunteers that could oversee the detail during business hours. Items brought to the Transfer Station will be encouraged to go to this donation trailer. Any item left in the recycle shop more than one week will be donated or disposed.

Who Gets What

Employees from the Transfer Station who are Winthrop residents get first bid as long as their work is first priority. Employees selling items to the public or other businesses for their own gain will NOT be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be enforced immediately by the Transfer Station Foreman, Town Manager and or the Town Council.

Councilor Caprara added an amendment to this motion that 'disciplinary action would be taken by the town manager if the policy was not followed'. This amendment was accepted and the entire motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Several suggestions were also raised. The charitable aspect of this process should be uppermost in people's minds. Transfer stickers must be shown, tonnage of municipal solid waste must be met, check out other towns to see how their 'swap shop operation runs and what pitfalls there may be.

The councilors requested that this item be put on their agenda in September (after the Green Committee meets) to review the additional information.

Item #63 - Dog Park

The Augusta Dog Park was built by The Rotary Club of Augusta and members of the community as a gift to the city, its dog owners, and their dogs. This is an off-leash dog park at Mill Park. This park is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. The purpose is to ensure that visits to the park are safe and enjoyable for dogs, their owners, and other community members.

Our Rotary Club has shown interest in this as well as many of the town's residents. Volunteers to help establish one is growing. Other service clubs may join to fund this worthwhile venture. Chief of Police Young is the chairman of this committee and is asking that the town endorse the dog park for Winthrop. There will be no money involved by this endorsement.

Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins that the council give its full endorsement noting that it definitely coincides with "Winthrop plays outside" as now "Winthrop plays outside with their dogs". The motion passed with a vote of 6-1 (Fitzgerald).

Other Business:

Councilor Fuller: reported on the present status of the Appointments Committee. The Dam Committee will be resuming along with others. Letters have been mailed; the closing of Main Street for the Art Festival which is to be held in August will be put on hold until next year. A survey of the attendees will be taken this year and their input will be taken into consideration.

Councilor Jenkins: On September 29th there will be a "Community Day Trade Show" sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and others with the goal of exploring ways to collaborate. We are presently inviting and recruiting various groups. More information is forthcoming.

Richard Duggatt, a new resident to Winthrop, requested the council enforce a speed limit along his street. He is complaining about the noise produced by the truck drives using that route in the early morning hours preventing him from sleeping.

Chairman Cookson explained to Mr. Duggatt what the procedure will be since Route 133 is a state route. The Department of Transportation will have to be involved and the process begins with a letter or email from him to the town manager which will then eventually lead to a public hearing.

Town Manager's Report

1. The grant money for the library's roof repair is on track as it is not going to be encumbered by the current issues with the bond that Governor LePage is not spending at this time.
2. The town's revenue as of June 30, 2012 is \$900,000 more than last year at this time. A tax anticipation notice will not be needed.
3. Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passing with a unanimous vote that the anonymous donation of an oxygen case with bottle and regulator (valued at \$400) was approved.
4. Notifying residents with a postcard has proven to be inefficient and other means of notification are presently being explored. More to follow.
5. An RFP for a three year contract with an auditor has returned Runyon, Kersteen, Ouellette's (RKO) and RHR Smith and Company responses. Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins which passed with a vote of (7, 0) to accept RHR Smith and Company's Bid of \$63,000 as RKO came in \$4,500 higher. The School Superintendant will be notified who the Council chose. The School Board can only choose an auditor to do the AOS budget and has to work with the town's choice to do the Winthrop School System audit.
6. Resurfacing Bids - The bid amounts were: Lane Construction = \$131,721.50; Pike Industries \$115,156.25; Ferraiolo \$110,000.00. Ferraiolo failed to include the required

documentation and therefore will not be considered (this was verified as legally acceptable by the town's legal counsel Bernstein Shur). Motion was made by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passing with a unanimous vote to approve Pike Industries bid. Note: A completed list of priority roads will be sent to counsel this week.

7. Route 133/North Wayne Road/Inness Road intersection has a blind drive. Questions arose as how to proceed to move the entrance to Innes Road down the North Wayne Road in order to allow a vehicle pulling a trailer to get out onto North Wayne Road in time to make a turn onto Route 133 without blocking the North Wayne Road. This problem arose as a new resident is moving to Innes Road. There are no cost figures at this time. This is for informational purposes as it may become a significant issue at a later date. Since Route 133 is a state highway, the Department of Transportation will have to be involved.
8. A call has been made to Captain Alexander of the County Sheriff's Office as the town is pursuing the rescheduling of work crews to mow when needed or on a flexible schedule meeting the sexton's needs first.
9. The official ballot and paperwork was circulated for the councilors to review in reference for the election to MMA's Legislative Policy Committee. Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passed with a unanimous vote (6-1 Fitzgerald) to nominate Scott Morelli, Manager of the City of Gardiner and Curtis Lunt, Manager for the town of Monmouth.

Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins passing with a unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.