

Winthrop Town Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 3, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Winthrop Town Office

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Attendance: Chairman Kevin Cookson: Priscilla Jenkins, Sarah Fuller, Ken Buck Sr., Larry Fitzgerald, and Linda Caprara. Jeffrey Woolston (Town Manager) was also in attendance.

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

Approve the November 5 and November 13, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilor Fuller and seconded by Councilor Buck to approve both sets of meeting minutes, passed with a unanimous vote, with the following corrections to the November 5 minutes. Attendance changes: Delete “along with Mary Costigan from Bernstein – Shur” and add that The Chairman stated that Councilor Jennifer Currier had resigned. Item #87: Add, “Amy Lawson, Western Kennebec Economic Development Alliance also spoke. She will deliver a draft letter of intent for the CBDG grant proposal to the council at an upcoming meeting.” Item #88 Change “\$90 to \$9” dollars in the second sentence and change “Councilor Fuller to Town Manager” in last sentence. The Conservation Committee should be changed to Conservation Commission.

Item # 94 – Bingham Program Grant Presentation

– Several councilors congratulated Patrice Putman on the award of the Bingham Program Grant and her efforts on behalf of the town. During her presentation, Ms Putman covered the overall goals of the Play outside Coordinator to spend 10 hours per week to foster a reduction in obesity plus exciting the community about being active. The funds would be delivered to the YMCA recreation program. Some of the offerings to accomplish the objectives will include: A 10,000 step program with multiple walking routes, a moonlight snow shoeing program, and a 5k multi-age Zombie Run.

Item # 95 – Parliamentary Procedure Workshop Poll Results

– There were several persons interested in attending the parliamentary procedures workshop. Tentative dates for the class will be Jan 21, 28 or Feb 11 starting at 6 pm. The Town Manager will coordinate the meeting with Mr Pease. The manager to also send the council rules and charter.

Item # 96 – Consider Solid Waste Hauling Contract

– The manager covered the idea behind the possible solid waste hauling contract. The contract would require the town to deliver its solid waste to the Waterville Pine Tree Waste facility. Pine Tree would then transport the waste to the PERC facility in Orrington. The change would increase the time Mr Cole is on site directly supervising plus reduce the wear and tear on the tractor and trailers. Currently, the manager would not reduce manpower with the new contract. The tentative contract offering from Pine Tree hauling was for one year. The council asked that the manager contact Pine Tree and ask about a multi-year contract and how costs would move from year to year.

Item # 97 – Discuss Matching Funds Grant To Remove Town Wharf

– Grants exist that help communities fix problems they might have with infrastructure. The manager touched on the e-mail offering by Ms Ingrid Nivison to write a letter of intent for a grant to pay for the removal of the town beach cement and steel wharf. The council will decide at a later date if the required 25% matching funds are more than the town can spend to remove the wharf. The manager will look for more precise costs associated with removing the wharf. The first rough estimate the manager received was about \$100,000. The motion by Councilor Fuller, seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald assuming Winthrop qualified for the grant, that he move ahead with writing the letter of intent was approved unanimously and if the grant is available in other years and whether in kind services could be used to defray the town's matching costs passed unanimously.

Item # 98 – 2012 Town Audit Update – RH Smith Co

- Mr Smith gave an informal presentation about what is going on with the current audit. He told the council that his intent when everything is finished is to offer the town the opportunity to improve its financial management practices. He expects to come back to the council after one-on-one discussions with the department heads.

Item # 99 – Council Authorization to Accept Prepayment from Harper's West LLC consistent with Harper's Proposal

- Mr Kevin Mattson has offered to repay his bonds including all future interest to the town for his 24 Main Street property. Motion by Councilor Buck, seconded by Councilor Caprara to accept his offer was passed unanimously.

Item # 100 – Consider Abating Certain Real and Personal Tax Amounts to Clear Balances

- Motion by Councilor Caprara, seconded by Councilor Buck to approved order #147 which authorizes the Tax Collector to waive the collection of property and personal property taxes less than \$2.00 per account from December 2012 through March 2013 was passed unanimously.

- In another issue involving property taxes, the council did not support waiving the interest and fees assessed of an account that was not current because the person paying the bill did not know

that the town changed where the bill was sent. The council concluded that someone at the location that did receive the bill should have asked questions about the property taxes during the past three years.

Manager's Report

- The manager asked that \$750.00 be moved from the Office Safety reserve account to the Clerk's budget overtime line to pay for compensatory time. The motion made by Councilor Buck, seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald to approve the request was passed unanimously.
- The manager requested the council accept the Town of Monmouth's offer to purchase 3 TMS Monitor mounts, 2 TMS battery chargers, and 8 TMS batteries for the LP-12 monitors for \$2,000. Those equipment items were made obsolete when the new EMS monitor/defibrillators were purchased. A motion made by Councilor Buck, seconded by Fitzgerald to authorize the sale of the various equipment items to the Town of Monmouth for \$2,000 was unanimously approved.
- The manager mentioned the State's Dam Safety Loan program that will be operational next Spring.
- The motion, made by Councilor Buck and seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald, to approved order #148 which confirms the council approval to accept a \$2,000 grant from Maine Municipal Association's Safety Enhancement Grant and Scholarship Grant program was passed unanimously.

Item # 101 – Consider going into executive session pursuant to Title 1, Section 405(6) (D) to discuss a union request received from AFSCME

- At 8:23 pm Councilor Fuller made a motion, seconded by Councilor Caprara to go into executive session pursuant to Title 1, Section 405(6) (D) to discuss a union request received from AFSCME.
- The council came out of executive session at 8:34 pm. A motion made by Councilor Fuller, seconded by Councilor Caprara to approve the personnel request received from AFSCME was passed unanimously.

Other Business – There was no other business

Adjournment at 8:35 pm