

Winthrop Town Council
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 7:00 pm
(meeting postponed from Monday due to snow storm)
Town Office

Attendance: Councilors David Rheume, Kevin Cookson, Ken Buck, Patricia Engdahl, Sarah Fuller, Priscilla Jenkins, Linda Caprara. Town Manager – Cornell Knight, Colleen Crowley Library Director, Dan Brooks Fire Chief, Capt Ryan Frost, 10 members of the public.

Meeting is called to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes of February 2, 2009

Councilor Engdahl said the motion in item 14 was made by Rheume not her.

Motion by Caprara Seconded by Fuller to accept the minutes with the change. Vote 6-0.

Russ Hazzard said there was no dollar amount listed in the minutes for the Bond Anticipation Note and should be amended.

Motion by Engdahl Seconded by Caprara to reconsider the minutes of the January meeting at the next council meeting. Vote 6-0.

Item # 23 Hear about the Bailey Public Library's reading program with Lyn Plourde and the Picture Book – Colleen Crowley, Director

Colleen Crowley described the Smithsonian award to the book The Dump Man's Treasures by Lyn Plourde. She also is promoting community leaders to participate in the children's reading program during the National Library Month in April.

Councilor Jenkins arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Item # 24 Consider a settlement agreement with SJ Wood Construction Inc

Motion by Caprara Seconded by Rheume to authorize a payment of \$1,500 to SJ Wood Construction Inc in full settlement of all pending claims and litigation regarding the Public Safety Building renovation contract. Vote 7-0.

Item #25 Discuss a policy to give local preference on purchases and contracts.

There was a discussion of whether to have a firm policy on local preference or to determine the policy or rules on a case by case basis. Several other town policies were reviewed.

Motion by Rheume Seconded by Jenkins to table action until the town manager can see how the City of Rockland has done with their policy. Vote 7-0.

Item #26 Discuss a policy for disposal of Town personal property.

Motion by Rheume Seconded by Buck to put all personal property out for bid.

Discussion of current practices and the need for a policy. It was agreed to continue the current method of disposing of property. Motion and second withdrawn.

Item #27 Update from Fire Chief Dan Brooks on property location for a new fire station. Chief Brooks said the best location is a parcel of land on the corner of Rte 202 and the driveway entrance of the former mill building owned by Dejour Realty and a portion of a parcel owned by the Winthrop Utilities District.

Chief Brooks said he planned to do the following and report back to the Council: Enter into negotiations for a purchase price on a parcel from Dejour Realty; hire an appraiser to establish the value of the property owned by the Winthrop Utilities District; negotiate an easement for sewer and water lines to Highland Heights road; hire a surveyor to finalize the parcel property lines. The council had no objections to plan of action.

Item # 28 Consider the establishment of a Green Committee- Councilor Jenkins.

Councilor Jenkins said the committee would look at energy efficiencies, protecting the environment and the use of alternative energy sources.

Motion by Rheame Seconded by Fuller to move ahead with the Green Committee.

Vote 7-0.

Item # 29 Consider increasing the fees on cemetery plots and burials.

Proposed increase in fees in parenthesis:

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday/Holiday</u>
Casket	\$275 (\$325)	\$325 (\$425)	\$400 (\$500)
Cremation	\$100 (\$150)	\$125 (\$175)	\$150 (\$250)

**After 3:00 p.m. add \$50.00 (\$100.00)*

<u>Number of</u> <u>Grave Sites</u>	<u>Grave</u> <u>Site</u>	<u>Perpetual</u> <u>Care</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Plot & Care</u>
1	\$75 (\$125)	\$100	\$175 (\$225)

Motion by Jenkins Seconded by Fuller to approve the increase in cemetery fees. Vote 6-1 (Councilor Rheame opposed).

Item # 30 Hear an update on the Keep Winthrop Warm Committee

Councilor Engdahl said the committee meets weekly and has worked on fund raising events, emergency assistance program, distributing the funds and the kinds of assistance. She requested some dollars for administrative work so that all funds donated can go to energy assistance.

Motion by Jenkins Seconded by Fuller to appropriate \$150 from the Council supply budget line to be used for administrative costs for the committee. Vote 7-0.

Item # 31 Update on the Highland Avenue reconstruction project

The Town Manager said the town received a \$31,000 grant from DOT for a sidewalk on Highland Avenue as part of the reconstruction of the road. Costs for the town's portion are higher than anticipated and the paving budget will likely be cut this year. The manager will see if DOT will allow a smaller town match that would include only an overlay instead of reconstruction with drainage.

Item #32 Update on the 2009-10 budget proposal

The town manager said that he has asked the school to fund their summer teacher wage so that some fund balance money can be used to help balance the town's budget.

The town of Monmouth wants to use the town's dispatch services.

Motion by Fuller Seconded by Rheaume to approve a contract with the Town of Monmouth for dispatch services, they will be charged \$41,000. Vote 7-0.

Item #33 Consider a recommendation from the Appointments Committee

Motion by Engdahl seconded by Jenkins to appoint Harold Burnett to the Comp Plan Committee. Vote 7-0.

Manager Report

The Town manager reported that \$236,222 had been spent on the police construction project to date. Change orders had a net increase to the contract to \$770,000. The biggest change order item being the extra time for removal of the front steps. There is a sewer line issue that may need a change order.

Other business

Councilor Cookson asked for volunteers for the Meals on Wheels promotion on March 18th. Councilors will check schedules and call the chair if available.

Motion by Engdahl Seconded by Jenkins to adjourn at 9:20 pm. Vote 7-0.