

Winthrop Town Council

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 7, 2009

Winthrop Town Office

Attendance: Kevin Cookson, Patricia Engdahl, David Rheaume, Linda Caprara, Priscilla Jenkins, Sarah Fuller. Ken Buck excused.. Cornell Knight Town Manager, Chief Joe Young and 5 members of the public.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cookson at 7:00 pm

Motion by Fuller Seconded by Jenkins to approve minutes of November 2, 2009. Vote 6-0.

Tabled from November 2nd, Item #102 Consider the second reading of the amendments to the Traffic Ordinance #17, which bans skateboards on Main Street sidewalks.

Motion by Rheaume Seconded by Caprara to remove this item from the table. Vote 6-0.

The change from last meeting was to ban skateboards on Main Street from Morton Street to Clark Street. No other proposals were received from the skateboard group.

Motion by Rheaume Seconded by Caprara to approve the first reading of the Traffic ordinance as amended. Vote 6-0.

Motion by Rheaume Seconded by Fuller to waive the 2nd reading of the Traffic Ordinance. Vote 6-0.

Item #128 Hear an update from Don Chase, American Legion Commander, on the war memorial site.

Don Chase and Roger Guerette proposed a 5 foot high by 7 foot 4 inch wide black granite monument, honoring war veterans, be installed on Norcross Point. The sidewalk will be replaced with granite pavers that will be inscribed with veterans names. Councilor Caprara thought the monument should be on Main Street for better visibility. Councilor Fuller said the idea should be talked about at a comprehensive plan meeting since there has been a lot of discussion about future uses of Norcross Point.

Motion by Rheaume Seconded by Caprara to approve the monument location at Norcross Point. Vote 3-3, yea Cookson, Rheaume, Caprara; nay Fuller, Engdahl and Jenkins. Motion failed.

Motion by Jenkins Seconded by Caprara to table until the January meeting until the comp plan committee can discuss it. Vote 6-0.

Item #129 Consider the payment plan to fund the Kennebec County fiscal year change.

The county is changing their fiscal year and towns have the option of funding the assessment in one year \$263,507 or over 5 years \$52,701.40 per year. That will increase the tax rate by .09 mills per year. Councilors Rheume and Caprara questioned the state valuation increase. The Town Manager will get more info from the assessor.

Motion by Jenkins Seconded by Fuller to finance the county fiscal year change assessment over 5 years. Vote 4-2, Rheume and Caprara opposed.

Item #130 Consider a request from Jay Lindsey to donate the police snowmobiles to the school's Nordic ski team.

Motion by Engdahl Seconded by Jenkins to approve the donation to the ski team provided that the sleds are covered by the school's insurance. Vote 6-0.

Gary Dawbin distributed a draft of the FERC licensing application he is working on to use the Mill stream dam to produce power. This will be discussed in more detail at the February meeting.

Councilor Caprara left meeting.

Councilor Jenkins said the Green Committee is considering a grant application for weatherization projects. The council was in support of such an idea.

Councilor Fuller said the Comprehensive Plan sub committee for Agriculture will meet Wednesday.

Manager's Report-

The Nordic ski team wants to trim trees at the community trail and sell the firewood in a raffle to raise money for trail maintenance. There was no objection to the project.

The Transfer Station truck lost two wheels during a delivery to PERC, no one was injured but the cost to repair will be \$2000. The town will talk with Commercial Tire about the problem.

There was no objection to the Town Office closing on Christmas Eve day, if all employees use a vacation day.

Councilor Rheume asked about the school's policy on picking up students close to the school. The town manager said he would ask the Supt of Schools about the policy.

Motion by Rheume Seconded by Fuller to Adjourn at 8:10 pm. Vote 5-0.