

**Winthrop Town Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Town Meeting
Monday, May 2, 2005
Winthrop Town Office**

- **The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chair Kevin Cookson.**

- **Roll Call**

Council Members Present: Kevin Cookson, David Rheame, Jayne Despres, Bill MacDonald, Linda Caprara, Ken Buck (Patrice Putman excused)

Others present: Cornell Knight (Town Manager), Lee Bragg, Lisa Frost (Secretary), Public Works Director-David Smith, Superintendent Paula Gaudet, Terry Despres, Ann Dooling, Jeff Ladd, Karen Criss, Kevin Harrington, School Board Members, Jan Tewskbury, Sue Thomas, Louis Carrier, several other citizens

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

- ❑ **Approve the Minutes of April 4, April 11, April 13, April 20, 2005**

MOTION by David Rheame, seconded by Jayne Despres to approve the minutes of April 4, April 11, April 13 and April 20 with the correction on the first page of the April 20th minutes should read, "Motion by Rheame, seconded by Buck to reduce the salary adjustment for the clerk and asst. clerk by half and award the other half next year. Vote 4-3. Nay - Cookson, Putman, MacDonald, Despres, Yea - Rheame, Caprara, Buck . . ." Discussion: Councilor Jayne Despres noted the second page of the April 20th minutes should read, "Motion by Despres, seconded by Putman to approve the manager's recommendation to increase the chief's pay by \$2000." VOTE: 6-0.

- ❑ **Chair Kevin Cookson recognized Sue Thomas on behalf of the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce and Town Council for her lifelong commitment to Winthrop in 40 years of business and volunteering.**

- ❑ **Item #55 Consider the tax acquired property bids.**

Town Manager Cornell Knight presented a package with sealed bids, which had not been opened yet.

MOTION by David Rheame, seconded by Bill MacDonald, that in the packet of four items, the second item, S2001R, will be removed from the bids because the taxes have been paid in full. In addition, a quitclaim deed shall be submitted to the owner. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

No bids were received on the other properties.

MOTION by David Rheame, seconded by Linda Caprara, to put the other three properties out for bid. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

- ❑ **Item # 56 Consider increasing the tipping fees for demo debris at the Transfer Station.**

Town Manager asked to table Item #56 because the Director of Public Works has found another place in Lewiston that is at \$72/ton. Therefore, there is no need for an increase at this time.

MOTION by Linda Caprara, seconded by Jayne Despres to table Item #56. Discussion: Councilor Ken Buck asked if the Town's contract with PERK expired. Town Manager stated it is not with PERK, it was taken to Demo Debris in Waterville and paid \$80/ton and it increased to \$92/ton. KTI in Lewiston offered \$72/ton. Councilor Ken Buck asked what the difference is between PERK and EMWAC. Town Manager Knight stated PERK is Penobscot Energy out of Orrington and Winthrop is a charter member and have been going there since 1989. EMWAC is from Auburn and their rates seem to be higher than PERK. Mr. Knight stated if net out, as a charter member, we pay \$57/ton through PERK. Attorney Lee Bragg said it generally runs double than PERK offers. PERK is a discounted rate because the town is a chartered member. EMWAC may cost charter members more due to recent debt. Town Manager Knight stated he would try to get a price to compare. VOTE: 6-0.

- ❑ **Item #57 Consider the sale of the Highway Department's Chevy Blazer.**

Town Manager Cornell Knight stated the Chevy Blazer has more maintenance problems than it is worth. He proposed selling it to buy a vehicle more suitable for the cemetery crew.

Councilor Ken Buck asked if the Ranger could be used instead of buying a new truck. Director of Public Works David Smith stated the mechanic uses the Ranger and it also cannot hold a riding lawn mower. Mr. Smith also questioned the liability of the public works employees using their own vehicles (driven to the cemeteries) whereas they could buy the proposed vehicle to transport the equipment and employees. It will also eliminate the need to buy a trailer. Councilor Buck questioned the amount they would receive for selling the truck.

MOTION by Jayne Despres, seconded by Linda Caprara to sell the Highway Department's Chevy Blazer. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

❑ **Item # 58 Consider the transient seller's license for Wicked Weenies, Main Street.**

MOTION by David Rheaume, seconded by Jayne Despres to approve the transient seller's license for Wicked Weenies, Main Street. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0

❑ **Item # 59 Presentation of the School Budget 2005-06.**

Terry Despres presented the School Budget 2005-2006. The budget was prepared using the new state Essential Programs and Services model. As proposed there will be a slight decrease in the amount of local funds raised for education compared to last year. The public hearing will be held June 6.

❑ **Item #60 Hold a public hearing on an ordinance entitled "License Required to Operate Bowling Alleys, Shooting Galleries, and Pool or Billiard Rooms."**

Chair Kevin Cookson opened the public hearing at 8:24PM. Town Manager Cornell Knight stated there had never been an ordinance for pool halls; therefore, Chief Joe Young has proposed an ordinance. Councilor David Rheaume said the ordinance doesn't list how many pool tables. Town Manager Cornell Knight clarified the \$25 is for one or more pool tables. There were no other comments. Chair Cookson closed the public hearing at 8:26PM

❑ **Item #61 Consider the first reading of the ordinance "License Required to Operate Bowling Alleys, Shooting Galleries, and Pool or Billiard Rooms."**

MOTION by Linda Caprara, seconded by Jayne Despres to approve the first reading of the ordinance "License Required to Operate bowling Alleys, Shooting Galleries, and Pool or Billiard Rooms." Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

MOTION By David Rheaume, seconded by Linda Caprara to waive the second reading. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

❑ **Tabled from 2/7/05 Item # 31 Hear a report on the use of Executive Sessions- Town Attorney Lee Bragg.**

Lee Bragg reviewed the state law on the use of Executive Sessions.

MOTION by David Rheaume, seconded by Jayne Despres to go into executive session at 9:05PM. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0.

❑ **Item # 62 Consider an executive session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA Section 405 (6)(C) and (E) for economic development purpose .**

The council returned to regular session at 10:03 pm.

❑ **Manager's Report**

❑ **Other business**

- Councilor David Rheaume asked for permission on behalf of the American Legion to put up flags on the town owned light poles using clamps, from Memorial Day through July 4th. The council had no problem with the proposal.
- There was discussion on the unfunded Homestead Exemption passed by the legislature as part of LD 1 and whether it was considered an unfunded mandate.

MOTION by Linda Caprara, seconded by David Rheaume to adjourn at 10:23PM. Discussion: None. VOTE: 6-0. Submitted by Lisa Frost, Secretary to the Town Council.