

**Winthrop Town Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 4, 2010
Winthrop Town Office**

Attendance: Kevin Cookson, Chair: David Rheaume, Linda Caprara, James Lattin, Priscilla Jenkins, Sarah Fuller, Lee Bragg, Cornell Knight (Town Manager) and Julie Winberg (Secretary), many students, boy scouts and members of the public.

Swearing in of elected officials:

Town Council: Linda Caprara, Kevin Cookson, James Lattin

School Committee: Ike Dyer

Library Trustees: Merri Hanson, Elizabeth Sienko, Ann Theriault

Election of Town Council Chair and Vice-Chair:

Motion by Rheaume and seconded by Caprara nominating Kevin Cookson for Chair took a unanimous vote.

Motion by Caprara and seconded by Jenkins nominating David Rheaume as Vice-Chair took a unanimous vote.

Approve the Minutes of December 7, 2009

Motion by Fuller and seconded by Jenkins approve the minutes of December 7, 2009. Vote 6-0.

Item #01 Council Appointments:

Lee Bragg, Town Attorney, and Diane Douglas as Assessor.

Motion by Caprara Seconded by Fuller to approve the appointments. Vote 6-0.

Chairman Cookson appointed Councilors Rheaume, Buck and Jenkins for the Appointments Committee, Councilor Rheaume is chair. Councilors Fuller, Lattin and Caprara to the Finance Committee, Fuller is chair.

Item #02 Councilor appointment to the Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Chairman Cookson appointed Councilor Jenkins to the Chamber board.

Item #03 Town Manager Appointments

Motion by Rheaume and seconded by Caprara to approve the appointments list. Vote 6-0.

Item #04 Consider the American Legion's request to erect a veterans monument and walkway at Norcross Point.

Roger Guerette presented the proposal on behalf of the American Legion at a previous meeting again reiterated that Norcross Point was the first choice of a group of veterans proposing to raise money to fund the memorial and engraved pavers for the walkway.

Motion by Rheaume and seconded by Caprara to approve the American Legion's request to erect a veterans monument and walkway at Norcross Point and that the monument is considered an insignificant structure. Vote 6-0..

Item #05 Consider a proposal from the middle school students to initiate the "Grow" program and inform the public about this project in reference to the flower gardens in town.

Seventh graders at Winthrop Middle School presented this project to the Council. They are looking for volunteers with green thumbs to take over the care and maintenance of 26 public gardens in town.

Lisa Plossay's class was the creators of this project. The students have sent out fliers, took out ads and created a web site about the project. They gave a slide presentation to the attendees. Anyone who was interested in volunteering should contact Ann Dooling at adooling10@gmail.com.

The councilors showed their support of the G.R.O.W. – Garden Restoration of Winthrop.

Motion by Rheaume and seconded by Jenkins to approve this proposal inviting the community and service organizations to adopt it being very clear that the children are not the caretakers – the volunteers would be. Vote 6-0.

Item #06 Consider the collapsed granite culvert on the Turtle Run Road, Terrilyn Simpson

Terrilyn Simpson addressed the council on water damage to her property with possible legal action against the town. No action was taken.

Manager's Report

Carl Swanson installed vending machine misers that he was able to get from Bowdoin College. The town manager sends a thank you note.

Bank of America Trust made a judgment reference trusts that are not generating fees. Lee Bragg needs to look into this as no inquiry has been made. Was the town entitled to a process that they were not given? They took the town's oversight away. The councilors noted that this trust was to pay town medical bills. Lee Bragg will email council members on how far or if he can challenge this.

The former Bank of America building is proposed to be a Dunkin Donuts.

There will be a Regional Meeting discussing more cooperation among area communities on Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center - Solid Waste is the topic.

Green Committee will have a workshop on 1/26/10 at 7:00 p.m. Indoor storm windows at the Recreation/YMCA building on Town Hall Lane is the topic. This will be a Do-It-Yourself Interior Storm Window Workshop.

Curtailment of school funding...\$180,000 budgeted for penalty for not consolidating. They budgeted \$175,000. It is a wash for the year.

Councilor Rheaume asked that the council meet with the School Board and find out how they plan to make up the shortfalls. This meeting will be held with the auditor on 2/1/10 with the town and the School Board. It will be put on as an agenda item.

The Recreation/YMCA grant did not come thru. They are now exploring other ideas on how to get the necessary funding.

Other business:

Wind turbine ordinance will be reviewed by the Planning Board in January and presented to the council in February.

Motion by Jenkins and seconded by Rheaume taking a unanimous vote the council adjourned at 8:45 p.m.