

## Winthrop Town Council Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2016

Attending: Sarah Fuller, Chairperson; Dave Bubier, Barbara Buck, Linda Caprara, Richard Henry, Priscilla Jenkins, Linda MacDonald, Peter Nielsen, Gene and Veronica Carbona, Carl Swanson, Ginny Geyer, Charles Eichacker, Chief Ryan Frost, Steve Kennedy, David Lee, Melody Main, Emily Downing, Joanne Joy, Gary Dawbin, Linda Huff, Greg Chabot

Following the Call To Order at 7:00 PM, Chairperson Fuller led the Pledge of Allegiance, determined the quorum, and began the meeting, to wit:

Item 36. The Council voted to approve the minutes for the meeting held March 7, 2016 (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0), and signed disbursement warrants.

Item 37. The Appointments Committee recommended David Lee for appointment as Alternate Member of the Planning Board. The Council voted to approve the recommendation (Jenkins/MacDonald, 7-0).

Item 38. The Council voted to grant a Transient Seller's License to Sarah Berry for a Farmers Market on Saturday mornings at the Town Office parking area (Caprara/MacDonald, 7-0).

Item 39. Following discussion, the Council voted to issue a Special Entertainment Permit to Gene Carbona for a reception venue at 309 Route 133 (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0).

Item 40. Joanne Joy, Executive Director of Healthy Communities of the Capital Area, informed the Council of available grant funds to develop policies and new signage to restrict the use of tobacco and tobacco substitutes at the Town Beach. She said the new products contain untested chemicals, and produce trash with poorly understood contaminants. Following discussion, the Council voted to update the Beach rules and draft change language for Ordinance #15, Use of Public Property and Parks (Henry/MacDonald, 7-0).

Item 41. The Council reviewed the 4 proposals for audit services. Staff recommended a 1 year renewal with RHR Smith & Co., with optional second and third years, depending on first year results from RHR Smith changes to produce a shorter turnaround period. RHR Smith proposed \$15,000 fees for each of 3 years, split evenly between Town and School. The Council voted to approve the recommendation (Caprara/Bubier, 7-0).

Item 42. The Council considered a suggestion to buy a cemetery mower with repurposed 2014 bond funds. The consensus was to use the present mower a few more years.

Item 43. A motion was made and seconded, and then both were withdrawn, to repurpose 2014 bond funds to undertake reconstruction of the Maranacook Lake dam. The Council voted to table the matter (Henry/Caprara,7-0), pending review of the municipal budget proposal.

Item 44. The Council voted to sign four quit claim deeds, per a list dated April 4, 2016, for satisfied tax obligations and a sale of tax acquired property (Henry/Jenkins, 7-0).

Item 45. The Council voted to designate the Town Manager as its responsible party for processing Utility Pole Permits applications (Caprara/Bubier, 7-0).

Item 46. The Chairperson explained a subcommittee of Linda Caprara, Richard Henry and herself had met to discuss making a policy to help dispose of tax acquired property, and an ordinance to make possible the refund of excess proceeds from the sale of tax acquired properties. Attorney Ann Freeman from Bernstein Shur drafted a policy and an ordinance, with input and changes from the subcommittee. After review, the Council voted to approve the Town of Winthrop Policy for Tax Acquired Property, and set a public hearing on the proposed Disbursement of Excess Funds Received from the Sale of Tax Acquired Property Ordinance (Henry/Caprara, 7-0).

Other Business:

Chairperson Fuller announced the Chamber of Commerce breakfast at 7:15 AM on Thursday April 7, featuring a presentation from Chief Frost and Chief Dovinsky on the opiate problem.

Councilor Jenkins reported on a meeting with Spectrum Generations to conduct a survey among Winthrop's senior residents to determine their most urgent needs for living in place.

Manager's Report:

1. Community Aging Survey –as above.
2. Distribution of 2016-2017 Budget proposal; presentation schedule. Councilors Caprara and Jenkins will miss 4/11/16 meeting. Chair suggested bringing brown bag supplies.
3. Councilor Macdonald will represent Winthrop on the Kennebec County Budget Committee.
4. Library Addition, Bond repayment 3/18/16, \$50,000.
5. The Council voted to contact Stephen Landry at MEDOT for a lamp replacement at the intersection of Route 202 and Highland Ave. (Henry/MacDonald, 7-0). The Council voted to authorize overweight equipment on municipal ways in connection with repaving Main St. (Caprara/Jenkins, 7-0).
6. Submitted grant application to private foundation for Fire Station support 3/31/16.
7. Nomination papers for council seat due 4/29/16.

Item 47. The Council voted to enter executive session at 8:23 PM pursuant to 1 MRSA Sec 405 (6)(D) to discuss a proposed contract with AFSCME Council 93 (Caprara/Jenkins, 7-0). The executive session ended at 9:14 PM, with no action taken.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.