

Winthrop Town Council Meeting Minutes: May 2, 2016

(5 Councilors assembled in the rain with Wendy Dennis at 5:30 PM to examine the work project area at the Maranacook Dam.)

6:00 PM Item 47. The Council voted to enter executive session with Attorney Glenn Israel, the Town Manager and the Police Chief, pursuant to 1MRSA Section 405 (6)(D) to discuss a proposed contract with AFSCME Council 93 (Jenkins/Caprara, 7-0). The executive session ended at 6:55 PM, with no votes taken afterwards.

Attending: 7 Councilors, L. Carson, C. Swanson, S. Thomas, J. Stebbins, P. Nielsen, Chief Frost, Sheriff R. Reardon, S. Knight, Kim Whitten, L. Huff, G. Dawbin

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 48. The Council voted to approve, with corrections, the minutes for the meetings held April 4, 25, and 27, 2016, and signed disbursement warrants (Jenkins/Caprara, 7-0).

Item 49. Sheriff Ryan Reardon updated the Council on legislative outcomes, jail overcrowding, the CARA program, recruitment, interns, opiates and domestic violence in Kennebec County. The Council thanked Sheriff Reardon for the work done by his department.

Item 50. Winthrop Rotary President Kim Whitman told the Council about an upcoming dance on 5/14/16, to fundraise to provide support for high school students at Maranacook and Winthrop High Schools.

Item 51. Steve Knight displayed a box, like several he has offered to make, for placement on Main St. to begin a Grow Main St. program. The goal is to demonstrate vegetable production at various downtown sites, in front of stores, where proprietors have agreed. The Council thought it was a good community project, and voted to supply compost at no cost (Henry/Bubier, 7-0).

Item 52. The Council considered an offer from Paul Audette to buy a piece of tax acquired property at 2161 US Route 202. The property abuts his home. After discussion, the Council voted to accept Mr. Audette's offer of \$12,500 for the property (Henry/Bubier, 7-0)

Item 53. Chairperson Fuller opened the public hearing at 7:33 PM to discuss an amendment to Ordinance #15, Use of Public Property and Parks. The amendment defines and prohibits tobacco usage, marijuana, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, and smokeless tobacco products at Norcross Point, the Maranacook beach area, and the East Winthrop Beach. In answer to questions, the Police Department will be able to enforce the amended ordinance, and the American Legion was consulted for their input. The public hearing closed at 7:37 PM. The Council voted to approve the amendment (Henry/Caprara, 7-0).

Item 54. Chairperson Fuller opened the public hearing on a measure to replace Item 17 under the Lake Maranacook Beach Area Rules and Regulations at 7:38 PM. The measure would amend the Beach Area Rules as described in Item 53. The public hearing closed at 7:39 PM. The Council voted to amend the Beach Area Rules to make Winthrop Beach a tobacco free, smoke free property. This includes marijuana, all electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, and smokeless tobacco (Jenkins/Caprara, 7-0).

Item 55. The Chairperson opened a public hearing at 7:40 PM to discuss a new ordinance: Disbursement of Excess Funds Received from the Sale of Tax Acquired Property Ordinance. Councilor Caprara thanked Senator Earle McCormack for assistance in passing enabling legislation. The Chairperson recognized Councilor Caprara for her work on the issue. The public hearing closed at 7:42 PM. The Council voted to enact the ordinance (Henry/Caprara, 7-0). The Council voted to waive the second reading (Caprara/Henry, 7-0).

Item 56. The Council voted to set the date for the sale of tax acquired property for July 11, 2016 (Caprara/Henry, 7-0). The Council then voted to set a 10% bid deposit for bids on tax acquired property, with no minimum bid requirements (Henry/Caprara, 7-0).

Item 57. The Chairperson opened a public hearing at 7:47 PM on a list of restaurants and food vendors applying for Victualer's Licenses. There being no comments, the public hearing closed at 7:48 PM. The Council voted to approve the list of Victualers Licenses (Caprara/Henry, 7-0).

Item 58. The Council voted to sign a quit claim deed for Lauren Frost and Derick Dempsey for property on Map 37 Lot 15-000-016, and a quit claim deed for Heirs of Helen Scott for property at Map 12 Lot 006, both for satisfied tax obligations (Caprara/Henry, 7-0).

Item 59. The Council voted to abate 2015 tax accounts with less than \$5.00 balances (Caprara/Jenkins, 7-0).

Other Business: Chairperson Fuller mentioned the School Art Show will be 5/4/16 from 6-8 PM.

The Chamber of Commerce Breakfast at 7:00 AM on 5/5/16 will feature speaker Anne Trenholm.

Attorney Brian Condon addressed the Council on behalf of the Mihalakis family about a donation of land to the town to add to Maple Cemetery. The Council looked at a map of the area, and learned that the proposal will allow a number of additional grave sites to be created for public use. Attorney Condon stated that the donated land could be 40' X 75'. The Council voted to approve the proposal (Henry/Caprara, 7-0).

Manager's Report:

1. Presented MMA Property and Casualty Membership Report.
2. Cobbossee Watershed District agendas, March and April
3. Council selected Tuesday, May 31st at 6:00 PM for a public hearing with MEDOT on plans to improve the Rt2 202/Main St. intersection.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

