

Town Council Minutes: October 3, 2016

6:31 PM: Item 47: The Council voted to enter executive session with Attorney Glenn Israel, pursuant to 1 MRSA Sec 405 (6)(D), to discuss a proposed contract with AFSCME Council 93, representing police officers and dispatchers (Jenkins/Buck, 5-0). The executive session ended at 6:47 PM.

7:00 PM: Business Meeting

Attending: Sarah Fuller, Chairperson; David Bubier, Barbara Buck, Linda Caprara, Richard Henry, Priscilla Jenkins, Linda MacDonald, P. Nielsen, Lauri Carson, Chief Frost, G. Rosenthal, V. Geyer, M. Hadley, J. Diket, K. Shumway, J. Pietroski, R. Hazard, C. Swanson, L. Huff, G. Dawbin, G. Chabot, P. Locashio, Chief Brooks, Dale Glidden, M. Main, G. Israel, M. McLaughlin, D. Staples, M. Arsenault

Chairperson Fuller called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and began the meeting, to wit:

Item 115. The Council voted to approve the minutes of the meeting held September 12, 2016, and signed disbursement warrants (Jenkins/Henry, 6-0).

Item 116. Council Chairperson Fuller presented the Spirit of America Award to Dale Glidden for long service to the Town of Winthrop on many committees and boards. Dale accepted the award with thanks to Sarah and the Council for his selection.

Item 47. The Council voted to approve a 3 year agreement with AFSCME Council 93, representing police officers and dispatchers (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0). Item 47B. The Council voted to pay an annual amount of \$18,948 for 15 years (with review after 5 years) from MEPRS funds refunded in July 2015 for MEPRS Retirement Plan 2C (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0).

Item 117. Superintendent Gary Rosenthal distributed handouts demonstrating that school year to date expenses are within the expected benchmark through 7 warrants. He reported a spending freeze began October 1, and noted several areas where saving will be achieved: refinancing a storage shed, conference expense caps, cafeteria tables. Auditor Greg Chabot agreed that the school's fiscal year operation for 2015-2016 finished \$182,000 under budget. Gary identified the \$717,000 error, less \$182,000, left \$535,000 as the size of the problem. Greg Chabot said town and school audits would be circulated in draft form in a week or so.

Item 118. Fire Chief Brooks referred to a handout that listed planning milestones towards the new fire station since the last presentation to Council in May. The list included ledge boring, and meetings with site, structural, mechanical and electrical engineers. He responded to councilors' questions pertaining to utilities, start date if approved, and additional progress with grants/fundraising. Architect Phil Locashio and Chief Brooks thought final design will be ready for discussion in December. The Town Manager mentioned that interest rates are lower than a year ago, and that this meeting's minutes will be sent to the grant foundation that is supporting the project.

Item 119. The Council approved the purchase of a Case SV 185 skid steer for the Transfer Station in the amount of \$30,000 (MacDonald/Bubier, 7-0). The Council thanked Larry Cole for his efforts throughout the process.

Item 120. The Town Manager presented a memorandum highlighting the work done by the Interim Assessor and the Assessing Assistant in getting the tax bills out and completing year end reports. The Town Manager recommended Linda Huff be appointed Assessor/GA Administrator, with back up service from RJD Appraisal, a contract assessing firm from Pittsfield, ME. After discussion, the Council voted to appoint Linda Huff as Assessor (Henry/MacDonald, 7-0). The Council then voted to authorize the Town Manager to sign a contract with RJD Appraisal (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0). The Chairperson thanked Michele McLaughlin for her service as GA Administrator.

Item 121. The Chairperson opened a public hearing at 7:59 PM on a Qualified Catering Liquor License application for Café @ 130 Main. There being no discussion, the public hearing was closed at 8:00 PM. The Council voted to approve the application (Henry/Caprara, 7-0).

Item 122. Chief Frost explained the Police Department received a \$300 donation. He asked the Council to use the donation to help youths as needed with scholarships for Winthrop Recreation Dept. programs. The Council approved the request (Buck/MacDonald, 7-0).

Item 123. The Council voted to accept a bid of \$1,161.74 from Ryan Mills for a tax acquired mobile home at 99 Old Rte. 133, pending agreement between the buyer and the owner of the lot it occupies (Caprara/Buck, 7-0).

Other Business:

1. The Council voted to request MEDOT for a speed study on Annabessacook Drive intended to reduce the speed limit on Annabessacook Drive to 25 MPH (Jenkins/Henry, 7-0).
2. Councilor Henry will select a new date for the Beach Committee.

Manager's Report:

1. The Public Works Department will undertake a drainage repair to the catch basin adjacent to the G.S. All-Purpose Room.
2. 2016 paving program is underway on Metcalf and Bearce Rd. The Council expressed continuing interest in a pavement management program. Memorial Drive was discussed as the major project ahead.
3. A forum on opiate issues will be held October 12 from 7-9 PM at the Performing Arts Center.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.