



**Winthrop Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Town Office
17 Highland Ave.
Monday April 4, 2022
And Via Zoom**

<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86703647394>

Meeting ID: 867 0364 7394

Executive Session at 6:30 PM

Open Session resumes at the conclusion of Executive Session – Approximately 7:00 PM

Call To Order – Roll Call

Chair Sarah Fuller, ____ Vice-Chair Andy Wess, X
Councilor Barbara Alexander, X Councilor Bruce Burns, X
Councilor Linda Caprara, X Councilor Elizabeth Peters X

Item 50 Consideration of entering Executive Session

Suggested Motion: Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) Legal Advice.

Motion: Burns **Second:** Peters **Vote:** 5-0

Time Entered: 6:33 p.m.

Item 51 Consideration of leaving Executive Session.

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Caprara **Vote:** 5-0

Time Exit: 7:05 p.m.

Action: None.

Item 52 Consideration of approving [minutes of meeting held March 7, 2022](#) and sign disbursement warrants.

Motion: Caprara **Second:** Burns **Vote:** 5-0

Item 53 Finance Reports from Previous Month

[Revenues](#) [Expenses](#) [GL Balances](#) [Other Funds](#)

Item 54 Consideration of [Van der Brew, LLC Victualer's License](#).

Kim Vandermeulen, Owner/Founder, attended the meeting and explained they serve beer that they brew, serve snacks and at times, a food truck is on site.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Van der Brew, LLC Victualer's License.

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Burns **Vote:** 5-0

Item 55 Consideration of [Van der Brew, LLC Special Amusement Permit](#).

Open: 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Vandermeulen advised that they do have live music on most Saturdays with no issues.

Close: 7:11 p.m.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Van der Brew, LLC Special Amusement Permit.

Motion: Burns **Second:** Caprara **Vote:** 5-0

Item 56 Public Hearing: [Solar Moratorium Ordinance](#)

Open: 7:12 p.m.

Close: 7:38 p.m.

David Lee, Planning Board member, advised that there have been several solar farm application requests over the last year or so. He feels there is a need to specify what the criteria is when filling out the application. Mr. Lee suggests that solar requests be placed on a temporary hold until a solar specific ordinance is created. This will stop any application in progress until a more comprehensive plan has been put forward as to what the limits are.

Mark Arsenault, Code Enforcement Officer, mentioned that there have been approximately seven applications that have been approved and that those applicants would be grandfathered from the ordinance. There is currently one application that is pending. This applicant will have the opportunity to present to the planning board and seek approval prior to the moratorium going into effect.

Several members of the public spoke about their thoughts and or concerns regarding solar power and the moratorium.

Item 57 Consideration of the Solar Moratorium Ordinance.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve the Solar Moratorium Ordinance with one correction that should have allowed the effective date to be 30 days after today.

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Burns **Vote:** 4-0-1 Wess abstained.

Waive Second Reading

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Caprara **Vote:** 4-0-1 Wess abstained.

Item 58 Public Hearing: [Cost Recovery Ordinance](#).

Open: 7:41 p.m.

Chief Brooks reported that this item is about billing a person's automobile insurance for the fire department responding to a car accident to clean up spills, clean up the road, direct traffic etc. There are approximately 40-50 calls of this nature per year. This would go through a third party billing company of our choice who would charge us 15% of the bill. Most insurance companies are accepting these bills. The funds will go into the fire department's reserve account for truck repair, maintenance or replacement and building maintenance.

Amendment on Page 2:

The Finance Director is authorized to ~~institute legal action~~ collect insurance claims that remain outstanding for more than 60 days. Delete "institute legal action".

Close: 7:55 p.m.

Item 59 Consideration of the Cost Recovery Ordinance.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve the Cost Recovery Ordinance with amendment.

Motion: Peters **Second:** Caprara **Vote:** 5-0

Waive Second Reading

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Peters **Vote:** 5-0

Item 60 Consideration of [Council Order 2022-9 Cost Recovery Fee Schedule](#).

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Council Order 2022-9 Cost Recovery Fee Schedule.

Motion: Peters **Second:** Alexander **Vote:** 5-0

Item 61 Presentation of [Cobbossee Watershed District Budget Request](#).

Bill Monagle, Executive Director, presented the Cobbossee Watershed District's budget to the Council. He mentioned that the annual budget meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19 at the YMCA Camp.

Item 62 Presentation of [Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed Budget Request](#).

Toni Pied, Director of Conservation, Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed spoke of the following budget requests:

- The Annabassacook Lake Improvement Association is asking for \$1,500 dollars. Of that amount, \$1,000 is to support Courtesy Boat Inspections and \$500 to support the survey efforts.
- The Berry, Dexter, Wilson Watershed Association is asking for \$525 to support Courtesy Boat Inspections.
- Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed are asking \$5000 to support the removal of invasive Variable Leaf Water Milfoil from Annabessacook Lake.
- Maranacook Lake Association is asking for \$2000 to support Courtesy Boat Inspections.
- Cobbossee Yacht Club is asking for \$9000 to support Courtesy Boat Inspections.

Item 63 Consideration of [Council Order 2022-8, setting June 14, 2022 as Special Election for Open Council Seat and School Budget Validation Referendum](#).

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Council Order 2022-8, setting June 14, 2022 as Special Election for Open Council Seat and School Budget Validation Referendum.

Motion: Caprara **Second:** Peter **Vote:** 5-0

Item 64 Consideration of Tennis Court Electrical Bid Ruby Baker.

Suggested Motion: Move to accept Greg Ruby's (Winthrop Electric) bid for \$33,480 for the Tennis Court Electrical project.

Motion: Caprara **Second:** Burns **Vote:** 5-0

Item 65

Transmittal of FY23 Municipal Budget ([Revenue](#) and [Expense](#)) and [Budget Workshop/Adoption Schedule](#).

Other Business:

Vice-Chair Andy Wess acknowledged the passing of Councilor Rita Moran. He asked for a moment of silence to recognize Rita's goodwill, civic duty and her all around hard work for the Town of Winthrop for over 35 years. Wess stated Rita was a good person and will be missed.

Several members of the public requested that the Mooring Ordinance be an agenda item at a future meeting for public discussion. The Town Manager confirmed that as per the mooring ordinance, moorings must be removed 90 days (not 30 days) from April 7, 2022.

Manager's Report:**Fire Station Update:**

There have been problems with a concrete apron at the entrance of the fire station, and it has caused some disruption, as far as doors are concerned. Chief Brooks explained that JF Scott Construction of Winthrop has come up with a plan to redesign this at a cost of about \$13,000. These funds would come out of the final construction of the building funds and the fire department reserve. JF Scott has major projects coming up as of July 1 so we need to move now or they will not be able to do it.

Land and Water Conservation Fund/Norcross Update:

The Town Manager advised that we have been working on an amended application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund after the Council approved an increased in local match. He advised that there have been many details to work out. He believes that the amended application will go to the agency later this week.

East Winthrop Beach Update:

The Town Manager mentioned that it was thought that we would have concluded the real estate transactions by now. He feels it will happen very quickly.

Brown Tail Moth:

The Public Works Department have been working on brown tail moth nests and infestations primarily in the downtown and Norcross Point area (the two areas we were aware of from our experience last year). A tree contractor has been hired to take care of the high areas that public works cannot get to.

Suggested Motion: To adjourn the meeting and have the items that people want to have put on the agenda for the next meeting submitted in writing to the Town Manager.

Meeting adjourned meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Motion: Caprara

Second: Burns

Vote: 5-0