



Winthrop Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday March 7, 2022
Via Zoom
<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86703647394>
Meeting ID: 867 0364 7394
7:00 PM

Call To Order – Roll Call

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

Item 42 Consideration of approving [minutes of meeting held February 7, 2022](#) and sign disbursement warrants.

Motion: Wess

Second: Burns

Vote: 5-0

Item 43 Finance Reports from Previous Month

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

Item 44 Consideration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for Winthrop Utilities District (WUD) Wastewater Project.

Dan Wells of Winthrop Utilities District attended the meeting and explained that last year Dirigo Engineering was hired to evaluate all the pumping stations. Their report noted that the pumping stations needed approximately 2.5 million dollars in repairs. The Mechanic Street pump station is a perfect candidate for CDBG funding. WUD is eligible for a CDBG grant and needs approval from Council to apply. The project will cost approximately \$550,000 with the potential of \$450,000 in grants. The Utilities District will hold a public hearing on this grant on March 15.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for Winthrop Utilities District (WUD) Wastewater Project.

Motion: Peters

Second: Wess

Vote: 5-0

Item 45 Public Hearing: [Proposed Mooring Ordinance](#).

Open: 7:15 p.m.

Chairperson Fuller and Town Manager Kobrock advised that several months back, this item was put on hold, given some conversations that were happening with area communities about consistency for ordinances and potential for a harbormaster and water quality issues.

Given that the ice is going to be out in the near future, we wanted to have something on the books before those other measures.

Close: 7:20 p.m.

Item 46 Consideration of the Proposed Mooring Ordinance.

Suggested Motion: Move to approve the Proposed Mooring Ordinance.

Motion: Peters

Second: Burns

Vote: 5-0

Waive Second Reading

Motion: Burns

Second: Peters

Vote: 5-0

Item 47 Consideration of Council Order 2022-3 [Discontinuance of Public Easement](#) for second reading.

The Town Manager gave a brief history of this order and advised that this order will discontinue the public easement at Welch's Point and allow the Town Manager to execute documents associated with the real estate transaction.

Motion: I move to approve Council Order 2022-3 - Discontinuance of Public Easement for second reading and that the Town Manager be authorized to accept a deed from the East Winthrop Improvement Association and further to execute deed to abutters, which deeds are to be placed and held in escrow along with the abutters' purchase money pending final action by the Council on the Discontinuous Order at its meeting on March 7, 2022.

Motion: Wess

Second: Peters

Vote: 5-0

Item 48 [Conservation Commission Annual Report](#).

Members of the Conservation Commission attended the meeting via Zoom. Chairperson Amy Hughes advised that the annual report was submitted on February 4. Our primary concern from the report is invasive plants at the Mount Pisgah Conservation area and around the Roger Guerette Community Trail. The town approved a study by Two Trees Forestry. Two Trees Forestry mapped out the areas that are heavily infested with invasive plants. The Maine Forest

Service reimbursed the town for the cost of this study. The Maine Forrest Service has a program that would fully reimburse the fees of a licensed pesticide company to take care of the areas that invasive species have been identified. Hunter Manley, licensed forester, gave an estimate of a little over \$10,000 to take care of the invasive plants in the areas that have been identified. This will be fully reimbursed by the Maine Forrest Service once the work has been completed. The town is the entity that needs to make application to the Maine Forrest Service to request approval for the funding. Under the rules, the work will have to be completed by October of this year. There will be both pesticide and mechanical removal. We will enlist high school students from the day of caring to do some of the mechanical removal.

Motion: I make a motion that we approve the Conservation Commission's application for funding to get invasive plants removed from public property via the Town Manager.

Motion: Peters

Second: Burns

Vote: 5-0

Item 49 Discussion of a Fire Department [Cost Recovery Program and Ordinance](#).

Chief Brooks reported that this item is about billing a person's car insurance for the fire department responding to a car accident to clean up spills, clean up the road, direct traffic etc. This would go through a third party billing company of our choice. We would only be billing an insurance company, so we will not be going after an individual car owner or somebody who does not have insurance. Most insurance companies are accepting these bills. The funds will go into the FD reserve account for truck repair, maintenance or replacement and building maintenance. The Town Manager explained that this is just an initial discussion. If this is something that we are interested in pursuing we will come back at the next meeting with a fee schedule and with a draft ordinance that is ready for adoption.

Item 50 To amend the agenda to include one additional item - Consideration of a bid for fencing around the tennis courts.

This is time sensitive and we appreciate the Council considering this.

Lonney Steeves of the Winthrop YMCA, reported that he has been working with Bob of B & B Bussier Fence Company out of Monmouth who has given us a bid for approximately \$56,000 for taking down the existing fence and putting up a new fence when our tennis court project is completed, that will include; two 10-foot gates - one at the end where we currently have one and one in the middle section.

Bob also put in a separate bid the pickle ball court that is located on the side of the tennis courts.

That is time sensitive, because there is a concern that the pricing is going up.

Chairperson Fuller wanted to clarify this is all included in the amount that was allocated for and that this is not above and beyond what we already budgeted for.

Motion: To approve the bid for new fencing around the tennis and pickle ball court.

Motion: Burns

Second: Wess

Vote: 5-0

Other Business:

Councilor Wess feels it is time to end the Zoom meetings and start attending Council meetings in-person.

Manager's Report:

Nothing to report.

Suggested Motion: Move to adjourn meeting at 8:05 pm.

Motion: Wess

Second: Burns

Vote: 5-0