



**Winthrop Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday October 4, 2021
Town Office
17 Highland Avenue
And Via Zoom
6:30 PM Executive Sessions
7:00 PM Business Meeting**

Call To Order – Roll Call

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

Item 112 Consideration of entering Executive Session

Suggested Motion: Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) to discuss Disposition of Real Estate

Motion: Moran **Second:** Wess **Vote:** 7/0

Time Entered: 6:31 p.m.

Item 113 Consideration of leaving Executive Session

Motion: Peters **Second:** Moran **Vote:** 7/0

Time Exit: 6:55 p.m.

Action:

Move to approve the disposition of the sale of the real estate discussed in executive session pursuant to the Cobbossee property adjacent to the East Winthrop Beach for the sum of \$225,000 to be distributed 1/3 to the Town and 2/3 to East Winthrop Improvement Association. The agreement is to be executed by the Town Manager, representatives from East Winthrop Improvement Association and the Town Attorney, Lee Bragg. In addition to the sale, an easement will be granted to Ted Wiederhorn in lieu of a right of way that he currently possesses. The East Winthrop Improvement Association will gift the property adjacent to the beach to the Town as part of the transaction.

Motion: Caprara **Second:** Peters **Vote:** 5/0/1 Wess abstained
Councilor Jenkins no longer present.

Item 114 Consideration of approving minutes of meetings held [September 13, 2021](#) and sign disbursement warrants.

Motion: Moran **Second:** Alexander **Vote:** 6/0

Item 115 Finance Reports from Previous Month

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

Item 116 Presentation: Invasive Plants in Cobbossee Lake - CYC Lake Association & Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed

Diane Hastings, Evelyn Kieltyka and other members of Cobbossee Lake Association, provided information regarding the health of Cobbossee Lake in relationship to invasive plant species in particular the recently discovered milfoil.

Item 117 Discussion of [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Funds](#)

Chairperson Fuller explained that the purpose of this discussion is to review the list of allowable expenditures and get a sense of priorities that should be honed in on. The Town Manager advised that the American Rescue Plan Act Fund is very specific about what these funds can be used for. He explained that at the staff level, a fair amount of time was spent going over the two ½-page list of allowable expenditures and discussing what we might be able to do given the background. It was the consensus that Winthrop would benefit from using these funds in the following way:

- Remote Work Ready
- IT/Phone Systems
- Remote Meetings Capacity
- Modify Workspaces/Facilities for Covid
- HVAC/Virus Removal
- Security Upgrades that may intersect with Covid.
- Town Wide Communications Upgrade
- Premium Pay for Essential Workers
- Enhanced Online Services -Website/IT
- Enhance Public Beach for Covid Restrictions
- Water/Sewer

There was lengthy discussion between Council members regarding what should be funded. There is more research to do and this will be revisited at the next meeting with another round of next steps.

Item 118 Discussion of [Fee Schedule](#) for Proposed Marijuana Ordinance

Chairperson Fuller advised that tonight we need to review the numbers so they we can be entered into the ordinance. The ordinance will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The majority of the Council agrees that the higher range fee for adult use cultivation should be used and the median range fee should be used for the other areas. The license application fee will be \$250.00.

The ordinance be an agenda item at the November meeting.

Other Business:

Motion: Move to appoint Amy Hughes to the Conservation Commission and Mike Levy to the Cemetery Committee.

Motion: Wess **Second:** Jenkins **Vote:** 7-0

Councilor Alexander advised that according to the Maine CDC Winthrop has an 89% COVID overall vaccination rate.

Winthrop Grade School Staff: 85%
Winthrop Middle School Staff: 93%
Winthrop High School Staff: 74.2%

As resident of the town, Councilor Alexander finds the numbers at the high school disturbing. She sent an email to some school committee members stating this.

Manager's Report: None.

Adjourn.

Suggested Motion: Move to adjourn meeting at 8:35 pm

Motion: Peters **Second:** Wess **Vote:** 7-0