

Winthrop Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2020
VIA Zoom
7:00 PM Business Meeting

Call To Order – Roll Call

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

Item 75 Consideration of approving minutes of the meeting held on August 3, and sign
disbursement warrants

Suggested Motion: Move to approve council meeting minutes for August 3 as written

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

Item 76 Presentation of Spirit of America Award

Cobbossee Watershed District Limnologist Wendy Dennis was presented the Spirit of America Award for her persistent, creative and successful approach to replacement of the Maranacook Outlet Dam. Wendy's decades-long commitment to improving the water quality of our lakes was noted as unsurpassed.

Item 77 Update: Winthrop Response to COVID 19

The Emergency Management Agency continues to meet weekly to monitor current Covid status and plan for future Covid conditions. Recycling continues to ramp up with the addition of #2 plastics later this week and the intention to continue problem-solving this issue. We received a \$55,000 Keep ME Healthy grant for Covid expenses. Thanks to Chief Frost for doing the leg work on securing this funding.

Item 78 Consideration of Appointments Committee Recommendations

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Appointments Committee Recommendations of Tinalyn Caise to the Planning Board.

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

Move to take from the table previous Appointments Committee Recommendation

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

Move to approve Appointments Committee Recommendation of Nick Stasulis to the Maranacook Dam Committee

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

Public Hearing – Barn at Silver Oaks Liquor License

Open: 7:27pm

There was general discussion of the current and future operation of the business.

Close: 7:33pm

Item 79 Consideration of Barn at Silver Oaks Liquor License

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Barn at Silver Oaks Liquor License.

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

Item 80 To consider Order 2020-17 Recommendation from Cemetery Committee regarding repairs

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Order 2020-17 Recommendation from Cemetery Committee regarding repairs

Motion: Caprara **Second:** Alexander **Vote:** 7-0

Item 81 To consider authorizing manager to execute documents associated with closed landfill Super Fund site

Suggested Motion: Move to approve authorizing manager to execute until December 31, 2020 documents associated with closed landfill Super Fund site, not to impact existing protections or monitoring activities.

Motion: Alexander **Second:** Wess **Vote:** 6-1 Moran

Item 82 Consideration of Resolution 2020-3 opening trusts accounts

Suggested Motion: Move to approve Resolution 2020-3 authorizing manager to execute documents associated with opening trusts accounts

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

Other Business:

Councilor Wess gave an update about the two ad hoc committees working on docks and moorings in the Norcross vicinity and the East Winthrop Beach and the Improvement Association. He is hoping that the work of these committees will be ready for discussion at a near future Council meeting.

Manager's Report:

Financial Update – Information about YTD revenues as measured against FY20 activity and FY21 budget was presented. In general, the Town’s financial position remains strong, even in the face of pressures resulting from Covid disruptions.

Bond Sale – We did extremely well in the recent sale of the approximately \$4 million bond. The rate was an attractive 1.41%, our status was upgraded from negative to stable and analysts expect our A rating will become A+ based on current trends in the Town’s financial management. We have saved in excess of \$300,000, closer to \$400,000.

Turtle Run Bridge – Although we produced plans for a replacement bridge in record time and have been circulating them among likely contractors, we have received little interest as contractors are out straight to complete obligations before winter. We are willing to pay a premium of approximately \$10,000 beyond estimates (cost rising from \$35,000 estimated to \$45,000) to get the bridge replaced before winter, but after that we will wait until spring and solicit bids again.

Implicit Bias Training – the Town’s Management Team will participate in a regional Implicit Bias Training during the week of November 9. Each day management staff from Winthrop, Hallowell and Gardiner will participate in a two hour program. Augusta will participate in the same training, but as a single municipality given the number of their management staff.

Police Department Crisis Intervention Training – the Winthrop PD was singled out as the “gold standard” by the National Alliance for Mental Illness - Maine recently while applying for Crisis Intervention Training. At the conclusion of this training round WPD will be 100% trained in these techniques, overwhelmingly beyond the 20% requirement. Thank you Chief Frost and WPD officers for your commitment to attain this status.

Other – One half of Memorial Drive will be reclaimed and paved in this year’s upcoming program, beginning next week, marking a multi-year effort to improve the road. Approximately \$350,000 has been spent to date.

Adjourn.

Suggested Motion: Move to adjourn meeting at 9:10 pm

Motion by: Eldridge

Second: Alexander

Vote: 7-0