

TOWN OF WINCHENDON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN AGENDA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.
Town Hall, 4th Floor Robinson-Broadhurst Conference Room

Present: Robert M. O’Keefe, Chairman James M. Kreidler, Jr., Town Manager
 Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice-Chairwoman Linda A. Daigle, Executive Assistant
 C. Jackson Blair

Absent: Keith R. Barrows

List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Draft Special Town Meeting Warrant (attached)
 - Amendment to Article 6 of the STM Warrant (attached)
 - Special Town Meeting Motions (filed)
 - Sunday Morning Sales Information for Section 12 Liquor License Holders (attached)
 - Email from Chairman O’Keefe regarding links associated with the Town Vision/Master Plan (attached)
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Chairman O’Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. The meeting aired live on local cable access channel 8. No response came forth from the audience when the Chairman asked if anyone would be audio or video recording the meeting this evening.

New Business: December 12, 2011 DRAFT Special Town Meeting Warrant – Chairman O’Keefe mentioned the warrant before them this evening has been adjusted and the Board would need to make recommendations on the new articles and finalize and approve the motions.

Additional Article Recommendations:

Article 6 being the first article that has changed relates to the new solar plan with Revolution Energy. Blair moved to recommend this article; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. Kreidler disclosed in his private capacity in doing solar consulting he has had no interaction with Revolution Energy or the other two solar plans in the past nor does he expect to in the future. O’Keefe confirmed the Town Manager’s statement and stated he has handled all of the solar negotiations. Hunt asked for clarification of the Chairman’s role in the solar negotiations. Kreidler stated, per Mass. General Law, the authority to negotiate PILOT agreements is vested solely with the Selectboard so it would be appropriate for the Board to take it up and standard practice and per your policy, the Chairman is to lead the Board.

Article 8 is another new article relating to donating unclaimed and abandoned bicycles to the Kiwanis Club. Blair moved to approve; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Article 9 is a new article relating to reducing the number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any town meeting to not less than two registered voters. The Special Town Meeting scheduled in November could not take place due to a lack of quorum. O’Keefe wanted to see about changing the quorum and hoped at town meeting someone would recommend a number greater than two but less than seventy-five. Hunt feels this is quite harsh but understands why this article is on here. She asked about what we can do to get more people involved, especially the middle aged group. O’Keefe said the quorum is about setting a standard. Everyone that wants to

show up can show up but not enough of the community felt the need to show up and this lack of quorum can create a problem. Important business has to be conducted and we have to keep trying to have another meeting. Hunt stated she had heard from people who said they were sorry they missed it. O'Keefe said this article may be the exciting article that will get people to show up and suggested the Board not make a recommendation on this article until the Special Town Meeting (STM). Blair moved to make no recommendation on this article; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

There were no new additions to the rest of the articles in the STM warrant for the Board to review.

Article 6 - O'Keefe stated a correction needs to be made on the fourth line down in this article where it says \$70,000, it should read \$140,000 per year relating to a six megawatt solar farm. He then read the article in full with the suggested amendment. Blair moved to amend article six as suggested; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Hunt moved to finalize the STM warrant; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

A recess was called at 7:21 p.m. in order to execute the STM warrant and handover to the Constable for posting.

The meeting reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

Special Town Meeting Motions: O'Keefe announced the most of the motions have already been assigned and that two of the three new articles he submitted and if there weren't any objections, he would take all three.

Public Comments and Announcements:

Stephanie Boulter, Treasurer of Winchendon Pop Warner and Coach of PeeWee Cheerleading was happy to announce the squad made it to Nationals again and the girls have been busy raising money at local establishments for their trip to Florida. She inquired about conducting a Boot Drive on Saturday, December 17, 2011. She was instructed to contact the office to fill out the proper paperwork and it could be addressed at their meeting on December 12th. She announced they were having a spaghetti dinner at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Wednesday evening and invited all to come. They are accepting donations for those who might like to make a contribution. Checks could be made out to Winchendon Pop Warner.

O'Keefe mentioned the Kiwanis Club, with the Carriage House Restaurant, was having their annual breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 3rd from 8:00 -11:00 a.m. The cost for children twelve and under is \$1.00 and adults \$6.00. Every child will receive a gift from Santa.

O'Keefe also announced that the Winchendon Historical Society Tour of Houses will be held on December 10th from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. Admission for the tour is \$15.00 with eight properties to tour this year. Tickets can be purchased at the Murdock Whitney House which is the Historical Museum.

Lionel Cloutier came before the Board with a question on the warrant regarding the PILOT solar power program. He inquired if the town was guaranteed the \$70,000 or \$140,000 whether or not electricity was produced. O'Keefe stated if they build a three or six megawatt solar farm, then they will be making that annual payment to the town. The PILOT program is payment in lieu of taxes so the solar farm will be making the payments whether or not they are profitable.

Selectmen's Comments:

Blair, not wanting to discuss or look for action this evening, brought up the subject of street lights feeling the town was at a place that the budget looks strong enough to continue these lights to service. He would like to see a staged plan in place to light up some of the streets again and suggested the issue be put on the agenda for January 9, 2012. He asked the Town Manager to address the subject at that meeting and see if the budget will allow any steps in this direction now and what his recommendation would be. He would like in 2012 a plan to bring the

lights back on in town. O'Keefe said it's quite timely with winter being here and shortly we will be back into budget season and said it would be on the agenda in January.

Appointments/Resignations: N/A

Permit/License Applications, Hearings: Sunday Morning Alcohol Sales Change of Hours: O'Keefe informed the audience that Mass. General Law has given an option to change the hours an establishment can begin serving alcohol on Sunday mornings beginning at 10:00 a.m. The past Annual Town Meeting approved this change. The following establishments have applied for this option:

Snowbound Club, Inc.: Blair moved to accept the application; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Chick's Tavern Inc.: Hunt moved to approve; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

The Glen Caffe: It was asked to amend the application to include the full business name by adding Incorporated to clear up any concerns with a business certificate not being attained. If a business is incorporated a business certificate is not required to be filed with the Town Clerk. Blair moved to accept; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

The Harbour Restaurant – This business is also incorporated. Blair moved to accept; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

O'Keefe announced that members of public that want to consume a beverage before noon on Sundays, could do so right here in Winchendon now.

Old Business:

Town Vision: O'Keefe said this comes back to an item we discussed in a past meeting. One of the responsibilities of the Board of Selectmen is to set the Town Vision. It can be set in many ways. Some communities have master plans, other communities create urban renewals plans. He shared links to our website with the Board to our current master plan which was created in 2011 and updated in 2005. The City of Gardner passed an urban renewal plan and that link was also shared. O'Keefe's purpose is to bring this matter to the Board's attention and also to people at home and friends of the media to get this conversation going. It will be brought up at the Board's second meeting of each month. Hunt commented she liked the Gardner outline with the appendix and coding. Winchendon hasn't made any revisions or changes since 2005 and it definitely needs a review; some things have changed, failed, and are done. Gardner used an outside consultant; Winchendon's was done internally, said Kreidler. At the time, Dr. John Mullen, a Professor in Planning at UMass Amherst facilitated a charette and offered raw ingredients for the master plan. He mentioned the many folks that put in a lot of time and effort to create the plan. The Board decided to look at our Master Plan in sections to decide what things we want to continue or eliminate. They will review at their second meeting in January the Table of Contents of the three documents: the 2001 Master Plan, the 2005 Updates to the Master Plan (check link) and the City of Gardner's 2011 Urban Renewal Plan. Those interested are welcomed to attend for input. Once the Table of Contents are reviewed, a special meeting could be held possibly on a Saturday so more people might be able to attend.

Town Manager's Report: The Warrant and Motions this evening was the Town Manager's Report.

Minutes:

Thursday, November 3, 2011 - Joint Meeting with School Committee: Hunt moved to approve; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Monday, November 14, 2011 - Regular Meeting: Blair moved to approve; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Hunt asked the Town Manger to update the Board on the article for the boiler for the school system that is mentioned in these minutes. Kreidler recalled to the Board the issue of additional work needed for the drainage in the area of the boilers at Toy Town Elementary School and whether or not the Annual Town Meeting article was written broadly enough to get the work done. The initial read on this was it was not. Subsequent to that, Bill Frangiamore, the School's Business Manager, brought to his attention a subsequent article at the next Special Town Meeting that was more broadly written that would allow that work on the drains to be done. O'Keefe commented, "That is good news."

Wednesday, November 16, 2011 - Regular Meeting prior to Special Town Meeting: Blair moved to approve; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Saturday, November 19, 2011 - Special Meeting: Hunt moved to approve; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Communications: None.

Agenda Items:

Schedule December Board of Selectmen meetings: The Board usually meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. The second meeting this month is on the 12th and will be scheduled at 6:00 o'clock prior to the Special Town Meeting at the Murdock Middle High School. The Tax Classification Hearing and the annual license renewals will be addressed at that time. The Board will call a recess at this meeting and will reconvene after the Special Town Meeting.

With the 4th Monday of December following on December 26th, the Board tentatively scheduled a meeting for December 19th. This meeting will be cancelled if not necessary. License holders were encouraged strongly to get their renewal paperwork in to the office on time.

O'Keefe informed the Board that he will not be able to attend the first meeting in January. Vice-Chairwoman Hunt will Chair the meeting.

Adjournment: Blair moved to adjourn; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Executive Session: Not held this evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daigle
Executive Assistant