

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2012 7:00 P.M.  
109 Front Street, Winchendon  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium**

Present: Robert M. O’Keefe, Chairman  
Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice-Chairwoman  
C. Jackson Blair  
Keith R. Barrows  
Guy Corbosiero

James M. Kreidler, Jr., Town Manager

Absent: Linda Daigle, Executive Assistant

---

List of Documents Presented

- Proclamation – Fire Chief Allen Joseph Lafrennie (attached)
- Junk Collector Renewal Permit Application for Daniel Brewer (filed)
- Entertainment Permit Application: Winchendon Kiwanis Club – 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fun Day and Mass. State Chili Cook-off (filed)
- Parade Permit Application: Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 28, 2012 (filed)
- Poppy Sale Permit: VFW Post 2158 (filed)
- Draft Constable Appointment Application (attached)
- List of Board of Selectmen Appointment Renewals (attached)
- Winchendon Community Action Team (WCAT) Documents (filed)
- Selectman Guy Corbosiero Disclosure Statement (attached)
- Agricultural Preservation Restriction - Elmwood Rd. (filed)
- Annual Town Meeting Warrant with Finance Committee Recommendations (filed)
- Draft letter to Ms. Hilow from Selectwoman Hunt

---

Chairman O’Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 other than the Board would be audio or video recording the meeting this evening.

Reorganization of the Board

Chairman O’Keefe welcomed and introduced Guy Corbosiero as the newest member of the Board of Selectmen. Blair thanked the voters for returning Bob and Keith to the Board and looked forward to working with them. Barrows moved to nominate Robert O’Keefe for Chairman; Blair seconded. With no other nominations coming forward Barrows moved the nominations be closed. Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

*Board of Selectmen Meeting  
May 14, 2012*

Blair nominated Beth Hunt as Vice-Chair; Barrows seconded. Blair moved that nominations be closed; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments and Announcements: There were none.

Selectmen's Comments:

Mr. Blair commented on the 1<sup>st</sup> Arts Festival that was held last weekend stating it was quite a success and a delightful event. He thanked Ms. Durling and those who were involved and hoped it would be an annual event.

Corbosiero requested the Board send a letter to Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) informing them about a meeting held last Thursday. It was held here to discuss traffic problems on Rt. 140 specifically regarding 93 Gardner Rd. He stated the Department of Transportation (DOT) and MRPC indicated that it's possible that they can move some money around within the 2012 TIP program to improve the road in that area. He stated the Planning Board is sending a letter to support this project and asked that the Board send a letter in hopes that some work can be done down there creating a different flow of traffic making it safer. He moved the Board send a letter to MRPC in support of them including this project in the 2012 TIP and move it forward. Beth seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. Corbosiero said he has a draft letter started.

Proclamation – Fire Chief Allen Joseph Lafrennie: Selectman Corbosiero read the proclamation as a motion for our retired Chief. Mr. Lafrennie has been our Fire Chief for the past twelve years and has served to the great benefit of the Town of Winchendon for twenty-three years prior to being Chief in different capacities. The Board of Selectmen presents this Proclamation to Allen Joseph Lafrennie with their wishes for a happy retirement and proclaimed that May 21, 2012 shall be “Joe Lafrennie Day” in the Town of Winchendon. Hunt seconded the motion. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. O’Keefe said unfortunately Chief Lafrennie could not attend this evening but wanted to recognize and thank him. All stood for a round of applause for his service.

Chairman O’Keefe took out of order a license application for a renewal Junk Collector’s license. Daniel Brewer and Louise Brewer came before the Board. O’Keefe said the application was sent to various Departments with no issues. Mrs. Brewer stated her son has had the license now for twenty-four years since her husband passed away. Blair moved for approval; Corbosiero seconded. Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. Hunt commented on how nice they keep their area and road cleaned.

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**

List of Board of Selectmen Appointment Renewals: O’Keefe stated they had in their packets a list of potential appointment renewals for the Board of Selectmen that are effective for July 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked if any member of the committee has an issue with any of the upcoming re-appointments. Discussion was had on the intent of the list provided and the responses of the Chairmen of the Committees not received yet and what the renewal letter states. Administrative Assistant Margaret Giacobone explained to the Board that the list represented all of their appointments that are up for renewal on July 1<sup>st</sup> and that a letter will be sent to those on the list asking if they wish to be reappointed. She said a request had been made to the various committee Chairmen seeking their recommendation. They discussed the Cultural Council’s appointment of Coral Grout not able to be reappointed because by law you cannot serve more than two consecutive terms and also the other grayed out name on the list due to lack of attendance. O’Keefe began to go down the list of appointments starting with the Capital Planning Advisory

*Board of Selectmen Meeting  
May 14, 2012*

Committee. Blair moved to appoint Robert O'Keefe to the Capital Planning Advisory Committee as the Selectmen's member; Corbosiero seconded. Hunt said this is not the intent to vote line by line. We are waiting for the Chairmen's recommendations. The Board voted unanimously on this one appointment this evening and Blair moved to table the rest of the appointments until we have a recommendation from the various Committee Chairmen and that it can be un-tabled at any time; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Constable Appointment Application Process: O'Keefe spoke about the new application process for our Constables that will certify that they have met the various criteria that the statute lays out. Kreidler stated the Board would either need to adopt this form or not. It is strongly recommended by Linda who has done the research. This is not for our election Constables who post warrants and do electoral work; this is more for the Constables who do process serving. Blair moved to adopt; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye the motion carried unanimously.

### **PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS, HEARINGS:**

Junk Collector Annual Renewal – Daniel Brewer: This was taken up and approved already this evening.

Entertainment Permit: Winchendon Kiwanis Club – 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Day and Mass. State Chili Cook-off - August 4, 2012: Blair recused himself so he could represent the Kiwanis Club. Blair spoke about the numerous successful Mass. State Chili Cook-offs that have been held throughout the year and asked for the Board's support and authorization to proceed. Barrows move to approve the application for the Winchendon Kiwanis Club for their Chili Cook-off and Annual Family Fun Day on August 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to be held on Bentley Field on Grove St. and that all fees associated be waived as this is a 100% charitable event. Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Blair returned to the table.

Memorial Day Parade Permit for Monday, May 28, 2012: Veteran's Agent Scott Gauthier came before the Board and explained the day. At 9:00 a.m. a service will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery. The Winchendon Post 93 American Legion Honor Guard will be saluting at that time. After that they will go to the Fire Station and at 10:00 a.m. the parade will begin marching down the main street stopping to salute all the major monuments along the way. Blair moved to approve with the understanding they will see Lt. Walsh for traffic issues; Corbosiero seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Poppy Sale Permit – VFW Post 2158 – O'Keefe stated for the applicant not present this evening that the VFW Post is seeking to sell poppies at the IGA, the Post Office and at Colonial Coop Bank on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Corbosiero moved approval of permit and noted that the applicant has permission from property owners where they will be selling the poppies; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

### New Business:

Winchendon Community Action Team (WCAT) – Susan Buchholz, Coordinator of the Winchendon Project and Lt. Dave Walsh stepped forward to discuss this agenda item. Ms. Buchholz stated the primary purpose to come before them this evening is to provide an update of the WCAT which is a component of The Winchendon Project. She read through some of the information provided to the

Selectmen in their packets. They have been working with Winchendon Public Schools at MMHS since January of 2008 with a mission to “modify the risk and protective factors of middle and high school aged youth to enhance mental health and deter substance use.” The goal is to support students, their parents and teachers by providing services so that mental health and substance abuse issues are not obstacles to student learning and academic achievement. She wanted to inform the Selectmen about a component that is related to substance abuse aversion, specifically a component taken outside the school walls to engage the community. We brought together any community member that was interested to form a Winchendon Community Action Team (WCAT). The mission is to strengthen partnerships within the Community which will work together to help Winchendon youth avoid the trap of substance abuse. She spoke of the strategy and activities that has proven to work to reduce student’s access to alcohol. She wanted to make clear that the alcohol issues they see in Winchendon are no different than what they see all over the country. The difference is, here in Winchendon, there is a group that is talking about it and doing something about it. She spoke of the training that was offered to the Winchendon Police Dept. to enhance their ability to address through a law enforcement standpoint and the training compliance checks done. The evidence shows the best way to reduce access is by not making it available to them. Seventy percent of students surveyed said it was easy or very easy to get alcohol in Winchendon. This led to the police training. She then thanked the Board for allowing them to come to the Annual Town Meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> to provide a brief report at that meeting. She asked if awareness could be made that day regarding some students who are interested in forming a SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) chapter. She asked if the Board would mind wearing red ribbons in support that say “Live Safe, Healthy and Drug Free”. She stated she also wanted to present the attendees at Town Meeting with a very brief survey that they could complete. Lt. Walsh then spoke about implementing a MedReturn drug collection unit that will be located at the Police Station to allow for any resident to deposit drugs with no questions asked. O’Keefe thanked Ms. Buchholz and the WCAT team for the information and for doing something about this problem. Kreidler thought it was important to emphasize that this is not just a problem in Winchendon but nationwide and thanked them for doing something to address it. Ms. Buchholz passed out to the Board a copy of the questionnaire they will be distributed at Town Meeting.

Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) – Murdock Farm – Selectman Corbosiero disclosed that a piece of property he owns abuts Marchmont Trust property and recused himself from this agenda topic. Mr. Paul Daniello from Mt. Grace Land Conservation Trust came before the Board along with Ken and June Girouard who are one of the families that own Murdock Farm. He stated he was before them tonight to sign the Amended and Confirmatory Agricultural Preservation Restriction with Option to Purchase at Agricultural Value. He explained it was an amendment to the existing APR that is on 99 acres of land on Murdock Farm. On the map he handed out, the existing APR is highlighted below Elmwood Rd. There are two parcels that will be added to this APR. He explained it would be funded through the Landscape Partnership Grant. Once signed, this will protect the entire Murdock Farm with Agricultural and Conservation Restrictions. The amendment adds twenty-four acres and the families will be paid \$73,600 funded by the grant. The Town of Winchendon is the co-holder of the APR. Mrs. Girouard said this is another step in their process to complete the APR and once signed by the Board it goes to the State for completion. Kreidler was concerned about Section C. number 5 on page 5 that if the Town needed to do work on conduits, wires, poles accessing the water tank, according to this document, it would need prior approval by the Commonwealth. He thought there should be a section that carves out the easement rights the town holds to access and maintains the lines, conduits and poles to the water tank. Mr. Daniello said he would bring it up to the Dept. of Agricultural Resources. Kreidler responding to O’Keefe stated Town Counsel has reviewed the documents back and forth to

date. Blair moved to table this until next Monday; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. Kreidler stated he would get in touch with Town Counsel along with Mr. Daniello tomorrow to address this. Selectman Corbosiero returned to the table.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant Recommendations - The Board agreed they liked the changes made to Page 3 explaining the tax impact with the proposed capital and debt exclusion articles. Following is their voted recommendations on the warrant articles. They noted that the Finance Committee also has voted their recommendations and if it is other than a unanimous vote they would mention it.

Articles 1 through 11 were recommended 5-0.

Article 12 the BOS recommended 5-0, the Finance Committee voted 3 in favor and one abstention.

Article 13 the BOS recommended 5-0, the Finance Committee voted 3 in favor and one abstention.

Article 14 the BOS recommended 5-0, the Finance Committee voted 3 in favor and one abstention.

Article 15 the BOS recommended 4 in favor with one abstention.

Articles 16 through 18 the BOS recommended 5-0.

Article 19 – O’Keefe stated the Finance Committee voted 3-1-0 to not recommend. Kreidler explained that the Finance Committee supports the article but not the funding source. Discussion was had on possibly placing this article on the fall Town Meeting warrant. Blair also felt that we should not be using stabilization funds for this purpose. Kreidler spoke of the services the CAC provides and supports taking it out of stabilization and pay it back when additional funds become available in the fall. The Board voted 3-2 to recommend. Barrows wanted to go on record as someone recommending approval of this and if the town receives the additional funds that we support an article in the Fall be written to replenish these funds from stabilization. Hunt felt that these items should be in our day to day operational budget. Further discussion was had on how to budget for these items in the future and also the unfunded liabilities with our retirees.

Articles 20 through 23 the BOS recommended 5-0.

Article 24 the BOS recommended 4 in favor with 1 abstention.

Articles 25 through 33 the BOS recommended 5-0.

Assign Articles – The Board then assigned who would move each article at Town Meeting as follows:

- Articles 1-6 - Selectman Corbosiero
- Articles 7 -13 - Selectman Blair
- Articles 14-19 - Selectman Barrows
- Articles 20-24 - Chairman O’Keefe
- Articles 25-29 – Vice-Chairwoman Hunt
- Articles 30-33 will be moved by the Planning Board.

Old Business: n/a

Town Manager's Report: Consist of the ATM Warrant this evening.

Minutes:

Monday, April 19, 2012 Regular Meeting: Barrows moved approval; Hunt seconded. By roll call vote of Barrows aye, Hunt aye, Blair aye, Corbosiero abstain and O'Keefe aye, the minutes were approved.

Communications:

Response letter from Selectwoman Hunt to Ms. Hilow: Hunt stated she was writing this letter using Board of Selectmen letterhead and wanted the Board's approval per their policy. Blair moved approval; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried.

Agenda Items:

Summer Meeting Schedule: The Board revisited the summer schedule and agreed on the following monthly meetings for the summer: Monday, June 18, Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. If needed, a special meeting could be called.

Adjournment: Blair moved to adjourn. Barrows wanted to disclose prior to adjournment that he hadn't completed the Town Manager's performance appraisal which was due today and will get on it.

Kreidler asked the Board about setting a meeting prior to Town Meeting. Barrows moved to convene at 6:30 p.m. at MMHS auditorium for the purpose of housekeeping activities prior to town meeting. Blair seconded. By roll vote of all aye, the motion carried.

Blair then moved again to adjourn the meeting; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Executive Session: n/a

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daigle  
Executive Assistant

*(Note: These minutes were prepared by utilizing the DVD recording of the meeting as I was not in attendance. - LD)*