

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2014  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium  
109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.**

Present: Elizabeth R. Hunt, Vice-Chair  
Robert O'Keefe  
Keith Barrows

James M. Kreidler, Jr., Town Manager  
Linda A. Daigle, Executive Assistant

Remote Participation: C. Jackson Blair, Chairman

Absent: Fedor Berndt

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List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Pole Petitions: Spring St./Woodlawn Ave (filed)
- Email request from Winchendon 250<sup>th</sup> to set up Gift Account (attached)
- Winchendon Enhancement Committee documents (filed)
  - ❖ “A Vision for the Future – Learn about Ingleside” flyer
  - ❖ WEC member list & Mission Statement
  - ❖ Concept Map for Ingleside
  - ❖ “Have you heard about the Ingleside Property?” survey/insert for The Winchendon Courier
  - ❖ Complete Survey
  - ❖ Makerspace Introduction
  - ❖ Ingleside Master Plan – Tighe and Bond Draft Outline
  - ❖ Winchendon Community Forum Summary Report
  - ❖ Large Map of aerial view of Ingleside
  - ❖ Large Map of Concept for Ingleside
  - ❖ Application for Toy Town Fall Festival and Open House at Ingleside, Sept. 27, 2014
- Letter of Interest from Mr. Cyganiewicz to serve on the Cultural Council (filed)
- Board of Selectmen Committee/Board Vacancy List for August (filed)
- American Street Hockey Institute Application for Road Race Oct. 11, 2014 (filed)
- Application for Water Abatement – 16 Hale St. (filed)
- Town of Winchendon Community Choice Power Supply Program Aggregation Plan by Colonial Power Group, Inc. (attached)
- Election Ballot for Sept. 9, 2014 (attached)
- Internal Enforcement Guidelines for Fuel Storage System Regulation Bylaw – 8/25/14 (attached)
- Minutes for approval: (filed)
  - o Monday, July 14, 2014 Regular Meeting
  - o Monday, July 21, 2014 Special Meeting
  - o Monday, August 4, 2014 Meeting Prior to Special Town Meeting

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Acting Chair Elizabeth Hunt called the meeting to order at 6:23 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.

*Remote Participation* – Hunt announced Chairman Blair would be participating remotely this evening.

*Disclosure of Audio/Video Recording*: No one announced they would be audio recording the meeting this evening when asked by the Chairman.

### **SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS:**

Daigle informed the Board she had heard from a representative of Kinder Morgan today wanting to meet with the Board of Selectmen next week either Sept. 3 or 4<sup>th</sup>. Multiple dates have been tentatively scheduled with Kinder Morgan but then they have been cancelled. She stated it feels to be a pattern with them. She informed Kinder Morgan again that the Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month and asked if they could attend one of those dates. She also told them that there are other Boards/Committees that meet on the other nights of the week. The representative wasn't sure but stated they would be in the area next week. Daigle asked what the Board's pleasure was in either calling a meeting next week or to ask them to come to one of their upcoming September meetings. After some discussion on the matter and learning that there are already Board Committee meetings scheduled for those dates next week, it was decided to communicate with them the desire of the Board to have them come before them at either one of their September meetings and to supply us with specifics of what they would like to speak about so the community can have awareness and for them to be able to answer questions that the audience will have for them. Kreidler added the Public Relations person they have coming out has done this before with other towns. He's going to tout the value of the company and the project and do, as he probably is charged, talk as little as possible in terms of detail or answer questions about this project. There is a requirement within the FERQ process that these types of meetings be held and he feels that their objective is to get in, check the box that they met before them and get out as unscathed as possible. He informed them the week before last he got a call on a Tuesday saying he, the guy, was going to be here on Thursday and could he arrange a meeting. Not only would we have not met the 48 hour requirement but it shows the priority and value they are placing on this meeting, which is little to none.

O'Keefe moved that they reply to them, that they have looked at the Sept. 3 and 4 dates, the meetings are booked therefore they are invited to either of the two meetings in September; Blair seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Raymond Rader came forward with a few questions/comments.

- He is still waiting on a response back from the Selectmen on six questions he raised in a letter a couple months ago.
- He would like to see more street lights on.
- He commented that the town has no representation of "person of color" in the Police, Fire, DPW departments.
- He commented that his car is leaking LP gas and was wondering if he was going to be protested by people that run the pipeline because his car is leaking.
- He commented this was the last time he would be participating in Town government being disappointed with the leadership. He accused Selectman O'Keefe and Barrows from conducting themselves in a rude manner being inconsiderate at two past Selectmen's meeting.

Mr. Rader then left the meeting room.

O'Keefe responded to Mr. Rader's comments. He let Mr. Rader speak and did not interrupt him. At that meeting Mr. Rader referenced he was being interrupted. That is rude and he doesn't like being interrupted. In regards to the letter Mr. Rader sent him, O'Keefe stated his questions were addressed to items relating to Executive Session; he had no particular time period, no particular meetings. He was asked to provide the specifics and chose not to. Regarding street lights, we have turned on additional street lights in the past year. Jobs for the Police and Fire Dept. are Civil Service and beyond our control; we look forward to seeing people of all types apply for these types of jobs. Whether or not his car has an issue with the Pipeline Resolution is beyond him because the Resolution does not deal with automobiles.

Barrows said it's unfortunate that Mr. Rader walked off rather than stay for any meaningful discussion or debate. He accomplished what he wanted to do and then just walked off. He doubts the word "shut up" has ever come out of either of their mouths when addressing the public. That's not been done. He wasn't brought up that way. We ask people to respect one another when engaging in civil discourse but there is a need at times to squash out profanity. He remembered one instance with a dog hearing where one person had to be squashed because of the

colorful language. It's a gross mischaracterization to even suggest that either O'Keefe or I uttered shut to any individual in a meeting.

#### **POLE PETITION PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

The Town Manager read both Pole Petitions opening the Public Hearings at 6:40 p.m.

Spring St., Verizon job #1A0Z0DP - Mr. Paul Davis, works for UC Synergetic out of Southerland Mass, a contract engineering design company working for Verizon. He was here representing them. He said, per the request of the DPW Director John Deline, they are taking a guide wire out of the tree and having a stub pole placed in across the street.

Barrows wanted to make certain the petitioner is taking into consideration the position of the DPW Director to move the pole back two feet so as not to obscure the Veteran's Cemetery sign and to have this condition part of the motion. Mr. Davis was not aware of this condition but would note it.

Woodlawn Ave. National Grid Job #17201931 – Iris Price was present representing National Grid. One pole would be put up to be used as a guide to steady the pole. DPW Director John Deline stated he had no problem with the Woodlawn petition.

There was a request if anyone else in the public would like to speak.

O'Keefe move to close the hearing at 6:48 p.m.; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

O'Keefe move to approve the application of Woodlawn as applied and Spring St. with the condition the pole moved two feet back further from the road; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **BOARDS/COMMITTEES:**

Revolving Account for Winchendon 250<sup>th</sup> Committee – Barbara Lafrennie came forward representing the Committee and explained this would be an interest bearing Gift Account, not a Revolving Account. The Town Manager added the Town Accountant approves this account which requires a vote of the Board. The account would hold funds that people donate to for future celebrations of the Town as well as sale proceeds from the parade DVD and the Winchendon Remembers fundraiser at Christmastime. Barrows moved the Board authorize the creation of such an account; O'Keefe seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Winchendon's Enhancement Committee – Ingleside Project – Members of the Winchendon Enhancement Committee came forward. Hunt announced the Committee is now members of Toy Town Partnership and are here tonight to update them on the progress of the project. The members of the Committee present this evening introduced themselves. They were Linda Daigle, Dave Romanowski, Don O'Neil, Ken LaBrack, John Deline and J. Lillie. Mr. Lillie spoke about the last time they were before the Board about this project there were a lot of questions. They have been meeting weekly, working on answering those questions. A Robinson-Broadhurst grant has given them funding for a Master Plan of the property at 86 Ingleside Drive which is being done by Tighe and Bond and will be completed in time for the Fall Town Meeting. They are in the outreach segment and have been meeting with many of the Town's boards and committees; we are currently setting up meetings with all of the Church boards, reaching out to the boy/girl scouts and other civic organizations in Town in order to get the word out about the Ingleside project. He reported to them they are working on several "Makerspace" projects right now with the hope eventually they will be on the property. Two small community gardens have been started, one Art Show with the community took place in collaboration with the Winchendon 250<sup>th</sup> Committee, they are working on a second Art Show hoping to collaborate with the Murdock Choir and working on a Makerspace project to do a Community Caroling program in December. Steve Haddad, a member of the Committee not present this evening, will continue to work on Makerspace projects with the kids at the School. We are looking for more things that we could collaborate on. Lastly he said we are looking to reach out to the Community with having the Toy Town Fall Festival at Ingleside. The Winchendon School has given us permission and the opportunity to introduce the

property to the whole Town and the Winchendon 250<sup>th</sup> Committee has allowed us to put on the festival this year. This is an opportunity to not only enjoy the Town's Fall Festival activities but also a way to showcase the property with an Open House.

Daigle informed the Board that they have been meeting just about every week for almost a year know as a private group appointed by the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation and that recently became members of the Toy Town Partnership. She said the Missions of both groups are very alike and with the things the group wanted to do and knowing that Ingleside may be owned by the Town in the future, it was time to have Town affiliation. We met with the Partnership, they recommended our appointment and we have been appointed.

Daigle spoke about the information in their packets mentioning the survey that was done on June 21<sup>st</sup> during the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration and also how the survey and information about the project was put in The Winchendon Courier this past Friday. She encouraged them to complete a survey for what they would like to see on the property and also asked folks to send in their survey. The committee would love to hear what people would like to see on this property if purchased by the Town.

Daigle pointed out the Tighe and Bond Draft Outline for the Ingleside Master Plan wanting the Board to see all the areas that will be addressed by this study.

Kreidler spoke about the financial pieces. This spring there was a warrant article for this purchase that included debt exclusion, a tax increase. He thought the Committee took guidance and input from a number of people with that course of action and withdrew, reconsidered, and are now looking to come back in the fall without seeking an override. They are looking to cobble together a path forward to have the Town come to own this parcel of land, despite anyone's preference on the ultimate end use, as a municipal asset close to the center of Town with 40 plus acres of land, waterfront, where there is access to the bike path. The value won't be the debate, it's how do we get there. How do we lock it up and secure it. The Winchendon School has been very friendly from a timing perspective to the group. John Deline has a significant portion of the Town's General Government budget under his control. He manages a big pot of money. He has done some course correction in the past on his structure to maximize the deliverables and his commitment has been that he is going to work between now and the Fall to further restructure some of how he provides services within his existing budget to try and carve out funding sufficient to be able to pay the debt out of existing dollars within the General Government Budget to make this purchase. He commended the group on going to dig in as deeply as they have to and making this a project hard to say no to.

O'Keefe also commended the committee for their massive amount of information and outreach. You have gone well beyond in making sure the community knows what the plans are and how their input could help shape the plan. In addition, to the Town Manager's comment about funding, the number one complaint would be you are going to raise taxes again and congratulated the Committee for working on a way to purchase this land without raising taxes.

Romanowski stated it's not just about the purchase of the land but we want to see the project succeed and hoped the Master Plan would address some of the funding in the future. The outreach is also an important part of this plan succeeding. Deline believes this will be a game changer for the Town not just having open space but having a location where activities can involve the community. He believes this project will benefit the downtown area with people that will visit.

O'Keefe added while this is being quoted as not being downtown he believes it is because of the connectivity through the existing bike path that you could walk to that corner of the property.

Deline concluded that we need to look towards the future and beyond any current budget issues to see what the benefit to Winchendon will be five, ten, even a hundred years from now. It's short money from the Town in what the Town will benefit from in the years to come.

Kreidler informed all present that Morton E. Converse, almost a hundred years ago, established a hundred year fund to benefit the residents. There was an amount that was invested and in a hundred years for it to be deployed to the

community for something very much like this. There will be an amount of money available for something like this from someone who had the foresight a hundred years ago to put a little bit aside because he loved his town.

O'Keefe was granted permission to take the agenda out of order so the Committee's permit application for the Fall Festival could be addressed.

Entertainment Permit – Winchendon Fall Festival at INGLESIDE, September 27, 2014 – Winchendon Enhancement Committee/Toy Town Partnership – O'Neil spoke about the event that will involve some of the styles of past years, craft vendors, pie eating, pie baking and auction contest. We will also have the Amazing Race, Ingleside version, where different stations will be on the property where you will see what can be done on this area of the property, possibly guided tours of the house, viewing of the existing barn and five bay garage. It will be a good opportunity for people to see the property and what can be done with it. We are accepting any ideas. It's a beautiful piece of property. Hunt was pleased to see a Detail Officer will be present at the entrance to the property. Any large tents would need to go through the Building Inspector. O'Keefe moved for the applicant; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION:**

Cultural Council Appointment - Austin Cyganiewicz - Mr. Cyganiewicz has expressed interest in serving on this Board. The Council has provided a favorable recommendation. O'Keefe moved to appoint Austin to the Cultural Council; O'Keefe seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

August Vacancy List – Hunt read the current vacancies on the Boards and Committees appointed by the Selectmen. She asked people to please come forward and serve.

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

Road Race Oct. 11, 2014 – American Street Hockey Institute (ASHI) – Eleni Aidonidis came forward on behalf of the ASHI of which she is a member and a player. They are a non-profit organization. They are fundraising for a trip to Switzerland in the year 2015 to play in the championship. This road race will help raise funds. The route has been changed. The Rt. 140 section has been removed. The proposed route is now on the bike path, Teel Rd. and Bemis Rd. O'Keefe moved to approve the application with the condition that the group continues to work with and follow instructions of the Winchendon Police Dept.; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Water/Sewer Abatement Application – Joyce Klauzinski, 16 Hale St. - Kreidler said you have before you an application from Joyce Klauzinski seeking an adjustment/abatement for her bill dated May 1, 2014. He stated it is beyond the sixty day filing requirement pursuant to their policy. He offered to address any questions about the abatement beyond the technicality if they wished. O'Keefe stated the application is outside of the time frame and moved they reject the application; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Choice Power Supply Program Aggregation Plan – Colonial Power Group, Inc. - Mr. Brian Murphy, President of Colony Power Group of Marlborough, Massachusetts, was pleased to be before the Board this evening and describe the plan in front of them and to answer any questions they might have and to seek approval of the plan to move forward with it to the appropriate state agencies. Kreidler recapped the program that Town Meeting approved to support doing a Community Aggregation Program like this. It is an opportunity for every private electrical consumer in Town, resident as well as commercial, to have all their power pooled into one big bucket and put into the market place making it able to get a better deal. It's purchasing power. Kreidler is pleased to report Colonial Power Group has prevailed through the process and now have the draft plan before them. Mr. Murphy reported that the Dept. of Public Utilities and the Attorney General now have a fairly smooth process the Town of Winchendon can benefit from. Colonial Power Group doesn't generate electricity or sell it; they design, implement and manage the program described in the document. He was before the Board to ask approval of the plan as soon as possible so they could compile all the other documents that would come under this one and get them to the Dept. of Energy Resources for consultation and then file with the Dept. of Public Utilities. The approval process begins which can take several months. The goal is to get the Town's purchasing power out in the spring of 2015. Pricing

would come back to the Town Manager and the Board for approval and if accepted, a contract would be executed and every ratepayer would be notified on Town letterhead about this program and given a chance to opt out. They would have initially thirty days to opt out of the program and also at any time during the program they could decide to opt out. Customer choice is always preserved here. Hunt was concerned about solar companies currently knocking on doors. People may be jumping towards solar and will become trapped with a contract. Mr. Murphy replied saying the good news is the consumer can do both. They are not competing with folks that are offering to install roof top solar arrays on homes. A consumer that had an existing array on a roof top would actually be a double winner. They would be selling power to the utility at the utility's retail rate. When it's cloudy, they would be using electricity at the Town's rate. It's a win win with someone going down that road. This program does not compete with that, nor interfere with it. O'Keefe commented he liked the consumer choice. You can opt out one month, opt back in the next month and then out again the next month. If you don't like the price the consultant gets you, you can pay the service provider. It gives people the power to switch. You are not locked in. You now have a choice for electricity. You don't have to sign a long term contract. Kreidler pointed out consumers can make their judgment on a month to month basis depending on National Grid's rates. The competitive supply contract that Colonial will procure will be a rate for a period. If you like that and it is lower than the grid rack rate, then you take it. If you get notice from National Grid that it's going down, then you could jump back. Utility rates change every six months stated Mr. Murphy. It's in the Town's interest to create stability and jump in as it suits them. People can budget for electricity with the knowledge the numbers are not going to change on the bill. O'Keefe moved for approval of the Aggregation Plan as submitted; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Election Ballot – September 9, 2014 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. – O'Keefe moved to approve the Election ballot; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy was thanked.

**OLD BUSINESS:** N/A

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Kreidler reported he was away last week and does not have a formal report for them. He did have one document in draft form before them. It is an Internal Enforcement Guidelines for Fuel Storage System Regulation Bylaw. Kreidler reminded them the bylaw was passed at Town Meeting and now action items need to be in place to direct who will set it into motion, monitor it and maintain it in time. He read through the guidelines and asked for the Board to review and comment and get back to him. He'd like to get it implemented for the first week of September. O'Keefe asked to send it electronic to the members not present this evening. Kreidler offered he was bringing this before the Board even though it is a staff issue because this subject has been before them. It will develop over time and will be a living breathing document.

**MINUTES:**

Monday, July 14, 2014 Regular Meeting  
Monday, July 21, 2014 Special Meeting  
Monday, August 4, 2014 Regular Meeting prior to STM

O'Keefe moved to approve all three meeting minutes as submitted; Barrows seconded. With a roll call vote of all aye except for the meeting of August 4<sup>th</sup> where Chairman Blair abstained due to his absence, the minutes were approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** N/A

**AGENDA ITEMS:** N/A

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no Executive Session being needed, O'Keefe moved to adjourn; Barrows seconded. By roll call vote of all aye, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daigle, Executive Assistant