



# TOWN OF WINTHROP ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Joseph A. Boncore, Esq. Chair

Heather A. Engman, Esq. Vice Chair

Karin Chavis

Gus Martucci

Michael Power

Thomas Reilly

David Stasio, Esq.

Paul Varone

Carla Vitale

## **Minutes Tuesday, June 9, 2015**

Chair Joseph Boncore opened the meeting at 7:09pm in the Harvey Hearing Room and welcomed Committee Members and the public. He then called the roll, a quorum was established by the following:

Chair Boncore – Present

Vice Chair Ms. Engman- Present

Karen Chavis – Present

Jason Deeb- Present

Michael Power-Present

Tom Reilly-Present

David Stasio- Absent Excused

Councilor Varone- Present

Carla Vitale- Present

Chairman Boncore then read into the record correspondence received from former school committee member Gus Martucci. It is attached as Appendix A to these minutes. The Meeting Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 26, 2015 were circulated and reviewed independently by the Members. Councilor Varone made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Power

Hearing no discussion – Chairman Boncore called for a voice vote in favor to accept and it was unanimous to accept the Minutes for May 26, 2015 as presented.

Chair then distributed a draft schedule of meeting dates and potential topics for the rest of the year as well as thanked the members of the public that were present in the room. The following citizens were present. School Committee Chair Gary Skomro, School Committee Members MaryAlice Sharkey and Dawn Sullivan, Council President Peter Gill and Councilor Mael.

## **Public Comment:**

Ms. Sharkey gave testimony in support of term limits and in keeping the number of school committee members the same as it is currently. However considering changing the term limits from four (4) years to two (2) years

Chairman Skomro gave testimony in support in keeping the number of school committee members the same as it is currently. He doesn't support a recall provision and he believes a stipend may be appropriate. He also answered a question from a previous meeting stating that the Winthrop designee to the Shore Collaborative School must be a Winthrop School Committee Member and not just a resident.

Ms. Sullivan gave the following testimony: she feels the position of school committee member is a 30 hour a month responsibility and therefore is in support of keeping the number of members as it currently is now. She is against a stipend and feels that the Superintendent should not be asked to also attend the Council Meetings as a means to keep the Council informed if we should no longer have the Council President on the School Committee.

President Gill said that sometimes he feels there could be a conflict of interest for the Council President to serve on the School Committee but he still believes it is important that it remain that way.

Motion made by Mr. Power to lower the number of school committee members to five members.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Chavis

Discussion

Councilor Varone - after hearing testimony he will vote no

Mr. Deeb – after hearing testimony he will vote no

Voice Vote Taken – the motion failed.

Mr. Reilly – wants to say he thinks Stipends are regulated by Ordinance not Charter

Councilor Varone would like the language of Article 5, section 1(e) addressed – would like to see a stipend increase

Mr. Reilly – believes the way our current Charter is written recent Ethics Rulings would not allow our current Council to ever vote an increase – suggests we look into a legal opinion as to how that may go if it is something this committee decides to put forward. And Mr. Reilly will research it and report back to the group.

Mr. Power offers to look into a recall provision and report back to the group.

Mr. Reilly says that he believes in an Abandonment provision but not a full Recall provision.

Chairman Boncore then asked the group to open discussion regarding potentially removing the Council President from the School Committee.

Mr. Reilly says as a former Council President – he thinks the current way with the President also serving on the School Committee is the right thing. Although he does offer that he thinks the term should be four years instead of two.

Chairman Boncore asked for any further discussion and Ms. Engman suggested we again blast Facebook and WCAT with information about our group and its mission.

Hearing no other discussion and no interest in public comment.

Motion made by Ms. Chavis to adjourn at 8:55pm.  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Powers – voice vote – motion carries and group adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Vitale