



## **Town Council Meeting Minutes**

August 17, 2010

Under the Rules and Procedures of the Winthrop Town Council, President Turco called the meeting to order at 7:00PM in the Harvey Room of Town Hall. Councilor Letterie, Councilor Varone, Councilor DelVento, Councilor Sanford, and Councilor Boncore, Councilor Maggio, Councilor Powers and Vice President Calla were present.

Councilor Sanford led the Council in the pledge of allegiance. Council President Turco asked the Council Clerk to call the roll for the record.

Council President asked for Public Comment, hearing none, he asked the Clerk for any correspondence since the last meeting, hearing none he asked the Council if there was a motion for the approval of Minutes that had been distributed electronically.

### **Minutes**

**Motion by Councilor DelVento, seconded by Councilor Powers to approve the amended minutes of July 6, 2010 as submitted by the Clerk. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

**Motion by Councilor Letterie, seconded by Councilor Sanford to approve the minutes of August 3, 2010 as submitted by the Clerk. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

**Motion by Councilor Letterie, seconded by Councilor Sanford to approve the minutes of June 1, 2010 as submitted by the Clerk, subject to the Town Manager's corrected Budget document. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

**Motion by Councilor Letterie, seconded by Councilor Powers to approve the minutes of July 20, 2010 as submitted by the Clerk. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

### **Committee Reports**

President Turco gave a School Committee update on the following:

- announced that they had recently voted to approve free full day kindergarten
- Viking Pride had recently donated two buses to the school department

- Meeting scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup>, to interview a Interim Superintendent
- High School Accreditation is coming up this fall
- Norma Gobiell from the Superintendent's Office has retired

**Motion by Councilor Maggio, seconded by Vice President Calla to award a citation to Norma Gobiell for her years of service as an administrator in the School Department. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

### **Committee Reports**

Councilor Varone then gave an update on the Town Manager Review Committee and updated the Council to their recent meetings. He also summarized the submitted reviews and read some commentary from the Council on the manager's performance. The committee had decided to alter the current evaluation form for next year to be more generally applicable to any Town Manager. The Town Manager thanked the Council for their feedback and allowing him to be involved in the process.

Councilor Maggio reported that the Committee on Committees met on August 9 and formed a mission. They will be reaching out to all Boards & Commissions reminding them of their statutory requirements as it relates to open meeting, and scheduling appointments for each group to come before the Council to provide an update of their goals and achievements.

### **Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager James McKenna reported on the following items:

- Viking Pride has recently made an offer to pay the lease on two new school buses for the School Department and Parks & Recreation Department to use. A copy of the lease is provided and would like the Council to authorize the School Department to enter into a five year lease to procure said busses.

Councilor Letterie asked that the Council vote this before the Manager continues his report.

Motion by Councilor Letterie, seconded by Vice President Calla to authorize the School Department to enter into a five-year lease to procure two busses with the understanding that Viking Pride has agreed to make the lease payments directly with the provider. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

### **Town Manager's Report Continued:**

- Drought advisory for Winthrop and other communities in New England
- Recent staff redeployment of Charlotte Fobert to Town Clerk's Office
- Transfer request for several staff support salaries
- Relocation of the Parks & Recreation Program to Middle School Wood Shop
- Recent meeting with the Citizen's Finance Advisory Board discussing fiscal policies going forward
- Meeting with Paul Revere Bus Company and MBTA relative to Herman Street and a possible change in bus routes to alleviate traffic concerns. Item will has

been referred to TSAC for further review. Also discussed was possible coordination with Ferry Operation.

- Possibility of a pilot four way stop at Herman and Pauline Street – also been referred to TSAC.
- Status of Center project moving forward, is about two months behind schedule. Contractor has a punch list to finish.
- Special Legislation relative to the National Grid Easement on Kennedy Drive has been signed.
- Crosswalks are getting painted over the next few weeks at night before the opening of school.

The Town Manager then introduced Chief Delehanty, Board of Health Director Eric Moore and DPW Director Dave Hickey to discuss increased wildlife in Winthrop and ways to correct the problem.

### **Old Business**

Held over for this meeting is the appointment of Joseph Boncore to the Charter Review Committee. The Council President informed the Council that recently appointed member Joseph Ferrino had resigned from the Committee and that he would be putting School Committee Member Mark Rotondo before them to fill that resignation.

Councilor Boncore asked to be excused from the meeting briefly during deliberations as Joseph Boncore is his son and Councilor Boncore will not be participating in the discussion or vote. He then left the room.

**Motion by Councilor Sanford, seconded by Councilor Varone to approve Joseph Boncore to the Charter Review Committee. President asked the Clerk to call the role:**

Councilor Varone	Yes
Councilor Letterie	No
Councilor DelVento	Yes
Councilor Maggio	No
Councilor Sanford	Yes
Councilor Boncore	Abstain
Councilor Powers	Yes
Vice President Calla	Yes
President Turco	Yes

**Motion passes 6 affirmative, one negative, one abstension.**

**Motion by Councilor Boncore, seconded by Councilor Varone to approve Mark Rotondo to the Charter Review Committee. President asked the Clerk to call the role:**

Councilor Varone	Yes
Councilor Letterie	Yes

Councilor DelVento Yes  
Councilor Maggio Yes  
Councilor Sanford Yes  
Councilor Boncore Yes  
Councilor Powers Yes  
Vice President Calla Yes  
President Turco Yes

**Motion passes.**

### **New Business**

Council President asked if there was any objection to laying on the table until the next meeting the ongoing discussion of fiscal policies. Hearing none he proceeded to next order of business.

President Turco stated that he would entertain a motion for Town Clerk reappointment. **Motion by Councilor Boncore, seconded by Vice President Calla to appoint Carla Vitale as Town Clerk for a three year term to expire August 17, 2013 or until a successor is chosen. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

Council President asked the matter of contract and compensation for this appointment be taken up at the next meeting in an Executive Session.

**Motion by Councilor Boncore, seconded by Councilor Sanford to appoint Carla Vitale as Town Council Clerk for a three year term to expire August 17, 2013 or until a successor is chosen. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

President Turco asked the Council to entertain a motion to approve Kristine Dow for appointment to the Conservation Commission. Councilor DelVento asked that this be held until the next meeting.

President Turco asked the Council for a motion to appoint two new members to the Cultural Commission. Said applications had been previously distributed to Council.

**Motion by Councilor Sanford, seconded by Councilor Powers to appoint Linda Driscoll and Louis Piccioulo to the Winthrop Cultural Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2013. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

### **Public Comment**

Resident Genia Cerulli spoke relative to recent influx of wildlife in the Point Shirely area and the possible improvement of the sea wall on Shirley Street near Deer Island.

Guy Brandenstein inquired if the Charter Review Meetings would be public and would they be filmed by WCAT. President Turco assured him that all Charter Meetings would

of course be public and would ask WCAT to film if staff available to do so. He also inquired about Winthrop Beach Renourishment project.

Fire Chief Paul Flanagan invited the Council to an upcoming BBQ to celebrate the Shirley Street area and the success of removing an urban blight issue to that neighborhood.

Councilor DelVento asked that the Council consider amending Council Rule #7 to incorporate recent Open Meeting Laws.

**Motion by Councilor Maggio, seconded by Councilor DelVento to adjourn at 9:30pm. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Vitale

**Documents Used in this meeting are as follows:**

1. Town Manager's Council Meeting Packet dated August 17, 2010
2. Committee Appointment Letters for all above appointments.
3. Drought information from MEMA

**These documents can be found in the Town Clerk's Office upon request.**