



Town Council Meeting
April 26, 2011
Cummings School Multi-purpose Room

Under the Rules and Procedures of the Winthrop Town Council, President Turco called the meeting to order at 7:05PM the Cummings School Multi-purpose Room Councilor Varone, Councilor DelVento Councilor Powers, Councilor Boncore, Councilor Sanford, Councilor Calla, Councilor Maggio, Vice President, Letterie and Council President Turco were present.

Coach David Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance the President asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Minutes

Vice President Letterie made a motion to approve the minutes of April 5, 2011

2nd by Councilor Varone

Discussion: Councilor Delvento had a question on the three amendments.

The President asked if we could table the minutes of April 5, 2011 until next weeks Town Council meeting scheduled for May 3, 2011.

Motion by Vice President Letterie to table the minutes of April 5, 2011

2nd by Councilor Powers

Approved, the minutes were tabled

Public Comment

Richard Bangs of Woodside Avenue gave an update on the community meeting given by Councilor Sanford that took place regarding the Petition for Designation of the Overlay District at 142 Pleasant Street. The purpose of the meeting was for residents to hear and discuss other ideas for the property that would be acceptable to the neighborhood.

Mr. Bangs said there was a good turnout of residents. The Attorney and the Architect for the project were present. The owner of the property was not present and Mr. Bangs feels nothing was accomplished. The neighborhood consensus was to tear it down construct a few 2 family homes or single-family homes and restore it to a residential neighborhood. This would be conveyed to the owner to see if it would be economically feasible.

The Council will take this information into consideration when the matter will be taken up at the May 17th Town Council meeting.

Presentation Basketball Citations

The Council President thanked members of the Winthrop High Boys Basketball team and Coaches for their attendance at the meeting and congratulated them for an outstanding season and becoming State Champions.

Councilor Boncore made the motion to honor the team and Coaches with Citations and said that they made Winthrop very proud. Congratulations were given along with a standing ovation.

Committee reports

Discussion was on the motion by Councilor Varone to have the Town Council adopt MGL c.59, Sec. 5, Clause 56 which sets for the property exempt from local taxation by the 2010 Municipal Relief Act Chap. 188 Sec 42. Clause 56 exempts up to 100% of the real and personal property taxes assessed to Massachusetts National Guardsmen and Reservists for any fiscal year they are deployed overseas. This exemption will apply in the fiscal year that begins July 1 after the acceptance vote unless a later fiscal year is specified in the vote. Acceptance of this bill runs for two years and then expires unless renewed.

Motion from Finance Committee to adopt MGL c.59, Sec.5, Clause 56

2nd not needed

discussion: Councilor Varone: this helps support our troops who's lives are severely impacted.

Approved on a unanimous voice vote.

Health & Safety Meeting minutes given there was a discussion regarding changing the bus route and residents spoke of reasons different streets are not conducive to a bus route. A motion was made to return the issue to TSAC for further study.

The Town Manager acknowledged the new superintendent of Schools, John Macero at the meeting and welcomed him aboard.

Town Manager's Report

The Budget is being prepared and will be ready for delivery Thursday afternoon. Will be submitting a balanced budget. The Finance Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee were a great help. The School Committee budget reflects fiscal prudence and 3 new initiatives important to building the school academically and professionally. Officially acknowledge School Committee member, Mark Rotondo for his work and submitting a budget on time

Issues town is improving on its fiscal foundation. Spared deep cuts this year due to School board action we were able to count kindergarten students for chapter 70 formula funding. Local aid cuts were offset by chapter 70 funding and helped us get through a difficult time. There was a reduction of school attendance at the Voke. No layoffs, will keep and provide services public safety, public education.

President Turco mentioned that unrestricted local aid was projected to be cut about a quarter of a million dollars but because of the decision the School Committee made by

providing free kindergarten, we are bringing in about \$370,000 more in Chapter 70 money. In result the Town will take in about 120,000 more in State aid in fiscal 2012 than it did in fiscal 2011. The Town Manager added going forward this will add value every year.

Town Manager McKenna acknowledged the Financial team of Mike Bertino and Michele Karas.

Asking for executive session to discuss details necessary to close the Dalrymple School purchase and contract settlements.

Harbor Management and Planning Committee a lot of work is being discussed. Dredging issue, shellfish constables and other operational concerns look for council input.

Councilor Calla asked if the meeting was televised? A lot of people are interested in these issues. No it is not televised.

Date of next meeting, May 23rd in the Harvey Hearing Room

President Turco discussed the possibility of televising all Boards and Committee meetings at a cost of about \$6,000 a year. A decision needs to be made on whether we would want to do this.

Councilor Boncore asked about the Landing. Terminal bids open today are on track.

There is a meeting scheduled with the Speaker regarding Winthrop Beach next week.

The Town Manager will send out a regular newsletter on line from the Manager's Office Good informational tool. Councilors can add to this.

Street sweeping schedule is in full force going forward. There was an issue with a sweeper. It is being repaired. It is important to remove cars from streets during street sweeping.

The Manager concluded his report.

President Turco announced a letter in the meeting packet from Mass Highway chapter 90 for Fiscal Year 2012 \$280,657. Speaker DeLeo and Senator Petrucelli were thanked for their leadership.

Old Business

Petition for Designation of Overlay the neighborhood meeting was discussed.

Councilor Sanford gave a brief update of the neighborhood meeting. No concessions were made on the Developer's side. Disappointed no progress was made. The issue will come before The Council May 17, 2011.

Town Manager: Presentation on Consolidation Implementation needs to be reviewed. Questions and a presentation will be done at a later time after the Council has had some time to review the plan. It is an aggressive agenda and will take a level of faith to work

out the details. Has received good supportive comments and will blend those to come up with the best plan for the town.

Many communities are discussing consolidation. Recognize the future is challenging to provide economically and efficient services to the Town. This will bring the best value to the taxpayers of the town. It may take a trial and error period, we could review after a year and evaluate and if it is working why, if not, what are the reasons. Success will be in the outcome and how we do it. It will be helpful for all to participate to insure that this is successful and hope to receive unanimous support for the plan. The President and Council discussed the meetings needed and how to plan with the School Committee to come up with the most efficient schedule.

Councilor Boncore is impressed with the work the Town Manager put into the plan. Asked if it needed to get done for this coming fiscal year because there is not much time left to adopt for inclusion in the budget.

The Town Manager agreed it would be ideal to roll out the plan in the beginning of the fiscal year, but he did not design it that way. Submitting a budget that reflects a couple of elements but does not have to make the deadline of July 1st. Can implement in August or September and make adjustments. The budget is being left as is. Can do one piece first or all three at one time. Councilor DelVento stated that getting it right is more important. The budget can be adjusted later. The President agrees even if takes more time, wants to see it work.

A joint meeting between the School Committee and Town Council will be scheduled in May.

Consolidation on the table

Proposed Rental Ordinance

Councilor Boncore received a package from the Health Department asking for 7 more ordinances. Would like these addressed all at the same time.

The President referred to the Rules and Ordinance Committee the following:

- Swimming pool regulations
- Solid waste collection and disposal
- Dumpster regulations
- Tanning facilities
- Body art establishments
- Sale of tobacco products
- Keeping of animals

TSAC items, Councilor DelVento at a previous meeting brought to the Council's attention the need for publication and a public hearing regarding the four way stop sign and cab stands. It is in the process of being publicized and will have a public hearing May 17th and at that time will void the previous vote and officially revote.

Bed & Breakfast will stay in Rules and Ordinance

Petition for Designation of Overlay District for the Temple referred to the Planning Board. The Town Manager asked if they could make presentation to the Council at the next meeting.

Councilor Calla was approached by Tara Mizrahi and invited to a Community meeting on May 2nd at the Temple to explain why they are requesting the SDOD and make a presentation. The general public and Councilors are invited as well.

New Business

Bridge Construction Project Presentation

The Town Manager mentioned concerns and comments from the public regarding the bridge project and the impact it will cause due to the location of construction being the main artery coming and leaving Town. The Town Manager also explained that this is a very necessary project. The bridge is in tough shape and we are happy to get it done.

DPW Director, Dave Hickey: the new bridge will increase in height and thickness.

John Vitagliano, Committee Liaison for the bridge project, made a presentation to inform the community on scheduling and what the project is all about and how to minimize the impact on residents. The existing bridge, built in 1955, is heavily used and by addressing this project now will be keeping ahead of major critical infrastructure projects. Addressing this project now will avoid us having a catastrophe in the future, which could result in complete closure of the bridge.

This will be a 2 year, \$ 3.4 million project that will begin the last week in May. Have been meeting with the Town Manager and Dave Hickey and attended pre-construction meetings. Concerns were relayed to Mass Dot regarding interference with the project at Short Beach. The two projects will be integrated. Anticipating both a Winthrop and Boston Police Officer detail directing traffic. Also met with Chief Flanagan regarding concerns accommodating emergency vehicles. The bridge will have enough strength to handle fire trucks and enough room to get by during construction. There will be two-way traffic during construction. The bridge accommodates small boaters that need passage underneath. The new design will improve passage under the bridge for boaters.

The construction will pose an inconvenience for the customers of the businesses along the construction path. Barrels will guide traffic with spacing critical to allow access to businesses and a detail officer will be essential.

Councilor Sanford is concerned the lights on Saratoga Street will cause a significant back up and the timing will have to be looked into. Mr. Vitagliano is satisfied the lights will not pose a problem. Once the project starts the detail officers will know if the sequence of the lights are causing a problem.

Councilor Varone: estimated completion 2 years. 1 year per side of bridge. Starting next to dunkin donuts. Will be working on Saturdays.

New business

Committee Appointments

Pursuant to Section 2-10(a) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed Brian J. Beattie to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Appointment expiring on June 30, 2014.

Motion by: Councilor Boncore

2nd by: Councilor Powers

Discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Pursuant to Section 2-10(a) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed Stephen A. Machcinski to the Conservation Commission. Appointment expiring on June 30, 2014.

Motion by: Councilor Sanford

2nd by: Councilor Varone

Discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Three appointments to the Council on Aging.

Pursuant to Section 2-10(b) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed, Marsha E. Eagan to the Council on Aging. Appointment expiring June 30, 2012.

Motion to approve by Councilor Varone

2nd by Councilor Boncore

discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Pursuant to Section 2-10(b) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed Dottie J. Donofrio to the Council on Aging. Appointment expiring on June 30, 2013.

Motion to approve by Councilor Varone

2nd by: Councilor Calla

Discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Pursuant to Section 2-10(b) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed Judy Vankoomian to the Council on Aging. Appointment expiring on June 30, 2014.

Motion to approve by Councilor Varone

2nd by: Councilor DelVento

Discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Pusuant to Section 2-10(a) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President reappointed Brian Dalton as Constable

Motion to approve by Councilor Boncore

2nd by Councilor Powers

Discussion: none

Appointment Approved

Hold next appointment because application was not circulated. Constable Keith Scott Hershenson

Motion to approve by Councilor Maggio

2nd by Councilor Sanford

Motion to table the appointment by Councilor Powers

2nd by Councilor Sanford

Motion to table the appointment approved

Pursuant to Section 2-10(a) of the Winthrop Town Charter, the President appointed the following to the Town Scholarship Committee

Dr. Lisi, Superintendent

Gail Conlon, High School Principal

Robin Kostegan, Assistant Principal

Rona Mael, Town Scholarship Committee

Annette Bertino, HS Scholarship Committee

Monica Ford, Town Treasurer

Mary Lou Osborne Chairman, Winthrop School Committee

Motion to approve by Councilor Calla

2nd by Councilor Powers

Discussion: none

Approved

Energy Committee

John Rogers is looking for data entry person to serve on this committee.

Councilor Delvento suggested high school students looking for community service.

Go online to fill applications several boards have openings.

Public Comment

Mr. John Ribeiro: There will be a public forum to discuss casino gambling on May 4th at Winthrop Middle School at 6:30 -7:00 public can submit questions. After that the Forum will begin where they will address the questions. Both sides will be represented.

Formerly invite Councilors to the meeting.

Citizens committee gaming an application was received.

The President asked the Council if they want to recreate this committee?

Council thought it needed to wait. Mr. Ribeiro thought that committee should be put in place.

No other public comment

At the request of the Manager, a motion was made by Councilor Sanford to go into executive session to discuss collective bargaining and the sale of the Dalrymple property.

2nd by Councilor Powers

Roll Call vote

Councilor Varone	YES
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Councilor DelVento	YES
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Councilor Powers	YES
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Councilor Boncore	YES
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Councilor Sanford	YES
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Councilor Calla	YES
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Councilor Maggio	YES
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Vice President Letterie	YES
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President Turco	YES
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All members have voted in the affirmative.

Will adjourn from executive session and will not return.

Respectfully Submitted

Leighanne Strangie

Town Council Clerk

Also included with meeting minutes letter from Mr. John Ribeiro to Mr. McKenna