

June 21, 2011

Councilor Varone led the pledge of allegiance. All Members were present.

Public Comment

Maggie Morris spoke in support of the proposed Bed & Breakfast Ordinance.

Guy Brandenstein spoke relative to recycling.

Cindy Levins spoke in support of the proposed Bed & Breakfast Ordinance.

Public Hearing on Voting Location Consolidation

Town Clerk Carla Vitale was asked as a budget goal to report to the Council her recommendation on consolidating from three voting locations to two locations. In the last year she went through the Cummings School with the Commission on Disabilities Chair as well as Fire & Police Chiefs, and submitted a memo stating that all three locations could go down to this one location if the School Committee would commit to having a professional development day and not have children in the building on election days. There was a public hearing on this in 2010 and the public was not in favor of the idea and the initiative was put on hold.

In March, she went through the Senior Center with a Boston Elections Official with the intention of moving precincts 3 and 6 out of the High School and precinct 4 out of Golden Drive. A survey was done for the site and deemed the site to have the appropriate square feet, parking and ADA Compliance. A report was created with comments from the State and is available.

More recently she was asked to go down to two locations and impact the least amount of voters possible. Therefore the motion she recommended at tonight's meeting was to move precinct 4 out of Golden Drive and into the High School. She ended her report stating she was willing and able to hold elections anywhere the Council deemed appropriate, and hoped a final decision could be made tonight.

Council President Turco stated that the Board of Registrars of Voters would be coming later in the meeting to add comment to this discussion.

The next matter to discuss with the Town Clerk was Reprecincting. The President informed the public that every ten years after the Federal Census, communities are mandated by state law to redraw the precinct boundaries. A map created by the State had been given to the Council in the beginning of May and had been viewed and discussed several times. The Town Clerk provided the Map, Block Data, Precinct Descriptions and a motion and asked that a vote be taken such that the Town stay in compliance with Mass General Law. President Turco stated that he would entertain a motion during New Business and thanked her for her report.

Committee Reports

Councilor Boncore reported that on June 13, 2011 a meeting was held by the Rules & Ordinance Committee on Charter revisions submitted by the Ordinance Review Committee as well as Board of Health Regulations. He stated that under New Business he will be making several motions out of the meeting.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager McKenna reported on the following:

- Recreation Department funds issue and the suggestion to forward matter to Finance Sub committee of Town Council
- Year End Transfers and the suggestion to forward matter to Finance Sub committee of Town Council
- recent meeting with MSBA which included a walk through of the High School and Middle School. Manager informed the Council that the MSBA has given the Town 90 days to prove their is community support for a new combination High / Middle School. Part of that requirement is two public hearings and a formal vote of the Council that states support and endorsement to change the scope of the project to include a new High/Middle School.

Motion by Vice President Letterie, 2nd by Councilor Boncore to support school expansion scope to include all options for a potential combination High School / Middle School and renovation of both buildings separately. Motion Passed.

Councilor DelVento asked if there was a requirement to create a Site Selection Committee for this purpose. The Manager said yes but that would be in phase two of the project.

The Manager continued with his report on the following items:

- Fort Banks Playground renovation project - stating that the Town has committed to 50% financial support to this project and a recent meeting with the Fort Banks PTA was promising.
- Recent meeting with the Harbor Management Committee relative to public access to the Town's waterways and the assignment given to them to create a Capital Plan addressing these goals.
- Plans to create a community garden at the Senior Center.
- Board of Health plans to hold a Rabies Clinic on Saturday, July 9 from 9-11. As in past years, the Town Clerk will be attending to sell Licenses during that time.
- Winthrop Library is conducting amnesty through June 30, 2011.

Vice President Letterie asked the Manager about Double Poles. He asked the number of poles and the process? Fire Chief Flanagan answered the questions as he has been managing this for quite some time. President Turco asked about taxing the double poles and asked the Manager to send a letter to the DOR to get a definitive answer on if that is allowed.

Councilor DelVento asked for status on the pot hole projects around Town. Town Manager McKenna stated that in the new fiscal year, the remaining problems will be addressed.

Old Business

President Turco stated the following:

- transfer of \$147K supplemental is still in Finance Committee
- Transient Vendor permit item is still in Planning Board and that Committee will soon submit a report. He then referred the matter to the Rules Committee for possible ordinance change.

Motion made by Councilor Boncore, 2nd by Councilor Sanford to amend Section 32.040 Section C to remove the words "limited to zones BA, Business A and CB, Center Business. Councilor Boncore then asked the Manager to have his staff publish said change so that they may put it on the agenda for the next meeting on July 5.

There was discussion on the appropriateness of this motion and could it be passed quickly via the Emergency Motion provision in the Charter. It was decided it was not.

President then continued:

- SDOD for Temple project still at Planning Board
- Consolidation of MIS/Finance will be discussed at the school committee meeting on Thursday.

Councilor DelVento asked for details and cost of the implementation plan of consolidation. The Manager replied that once costs are identified, he will return to the Council for funding.

Public Hearing on Bed & Breakfast Ordinance was opened. Councilor Boncore state that this was posted in the Winthrop Transcript on June 9, it come from committee and therefore does not need a second. Motion: XXXXXXXXXXXX

President Turco opened the hearing for discussion. He read a letter sent to the Council in support of this ordinance. Councilor Sanford and DelVento spoke in support of this motion. There was some discussion on a fee to obtain a permit to be a Bed & Breakfast, it was decided to amend the above vote to include the motion contain the language that it would be the same fee currently in our Ordinances for a Lodging House License \$100. Motion passed by voice vote. Councilor Boncore stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals will make the application and asked the Town Manager to have that discussion with the Zoning Board.

Public Hearing on Vacant Building Ordinance

Councilor Boncore state that this was posted in the Winthrop Transcript on June 9, it come from committee and therefore does not need a second. Motion: XXXXXXXXXXXX

President Turco opened it up for discussion. Vice President Letterie and Councilor DelVento spoke in favor of the motion. Councilor Calla asked how this would effect property currently on the market? Councilor Boncore stated that if properties were owned by the bank, then the bank would lien the fees at the time of sale. Chief Flanagan spoke at length regarding vacant and abandoned buildings and the need to have them be registered with the Town. There was discussion about who would declare a building vacant, how would that appeal be handled. Councilor Boncore stressed that all this was brought up during committee deliberation and was included in the ordinance.

Councilor Powers stated he felt at this time better language was needed in this ordinance. Councilor Varone and Councilor Calla agreed. Councilor Calla then invoked her privilege that this matter be held until the next meeting of the Council.

Councilor Boncore made a motion, 2nd by Vice President Letterie to instruct the Town Manager's Office to publish in the Transcript seven Board of Health ordinance proposals as well as make them available via the web and hard copy to the public.

President Turco asked the Manager for status on digital recording of the Council Meetings, the Manager stated that the Town Clerk along with the MIS staff at the School have met and are continuing to research available options. Report will be forthcoming.

President Turco then invited Registrar of Voters Member Paul Clayton to give input on the consolidation of voting locations. Mr. Clayton feels that there is limited access for Seniors at the High School. The President then asked if there was further comment? Hearing none he asked if there was a motion.

Motion made by Councilor DelVento, 2nd by Vice President Letterie, to move Precincts 3, 4 and 6 from the current locations and move to the Senior Center to take effect for the Presidential Primary in 2012.

Motion made by Councilor Varone, 2nd by Councilor DelVento to vote to approve the Reprecincting map, precinct descriptions and block data as provided by the Town Clerk, created by the State to take effect as mandated in 2012.

Councilor Boncore asked for a five minute recess.

Committee Appointments

Motion made by Vice President Letterie, 2nd by Councilor Sanford to approve the President's appointment of J. Calvin Farrand as an associate member to the Conservation Commission thru June 30, 2014.

Motion made by Councilor Calla, 2nd by Councilor Powers to approve the President's appointment of Irene Dwyer to the Zoning Board of Appeals thru June 30, 2014.

Motion made by Councilor Boncore, 2nd by Councilor Powers to approve the President's appointment of Vincent Zappulla to the Planning Board thru June 30, 2014.

President Turco asked the Town Manager if Harbor Management Committee terms were set by State Statute to be able to make appointments accordingly.

There was discussion on hiring a clerk of committees or a council clerk. There was consensus amongst the Council that researching a full time clerk of committees was needed but that the hiring of a council clerk should happen immediately. Motion made by Vice President Letterie, 2nd by Councilor Powers to have the Town Manager post the position of Council Clerk immediately.

There was discussion of a summer schedule for the Council. It was decided to keep the regular schedule and plan to meet July 5 and July 19 as well as August 2 and August 16.

The President named Vice President Letterie, Councilor Powers and Councilor Boncore to the Town Manager Annual Review Committee.

He then referred to the Memorials Committee the task of finding something suitable and fitting to honor the years of service Richard Dimes has given to the Town.

Councilor Calla made a motion, 2nd by Councilor Boncore to hold a special meeting on June 30, 2011 to double the Council and Council President salaries to take effect per the Charter in January of 2012.

Public Comment

Guy Brandenstein comment on the Vacant Building Ordinance proposal.

Motion made by Councilor Maggio, 2nd by Councilor Powers to adjourn.

Submitted,