

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2012

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Under the Rules and Procedures of the Winthrop Town Council, President Gill called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:40 PM in the Cummings School Cafetorium. Councilor Varone, Councilor DelVento, Councilor Letterie, President Gill, Councilor Boncore, Councilor Calla, and Councilor Mael were in attendance and a quorum was established. Councilor Sanford and Councilor Powers were absent due to a prior commitment. Councilor Varone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

July 19, 2011 – Pending

December 20, 2011 – Special Meeting - Held

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Gill read his resignation letter to the Board of Assessors regarding his recent election as Council President.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager James McKenna spoke on:

- **Financial Reporting**– Working with the Finance Department to get Dashboard tool to keep track of finances.
- **Tax Rate received by DOR** –Gerry Perry was impressed with our fiscal performance although some things need to be worked on and addressed.
 - o Need to work on our Enterprise Funds and there will be an Enterprise Workshop in the future.
 - Rink operation moving forward, setting rates consistent with users, operating more efficiently and taking care of some previous year liabilities.
 - Recreation vote \$18,000 out of operating budget had to carry forward a minor deficit.
 - Sewer Fund – about \$700 short and DOR wants to see us with less hedge in those funds to set our sewer rates.

- Tax Bills went out and abatement forms will be available on-line.
- **Environmental Assessment Report from Logan Airport** – A comprehensive document and we should all take a look at this, it has not been budgeted for professional help in understanding this report but we may want to consider budgeting for a professional. The Manager had questions for the Council (1) Do we want to respond? and (2) How do we respond? The report was about noise, pollution and environment. Airport Hazards Committee should take a look at the report and give advice to the Council and also form a Task Force to respond and be on record.
- **Update from DPW** – Council has been made aware of Contract III a three million dollar project resources from MWRA-SFR Funds and how to make good use of these funds. We will have a presentation with the engineer and DPW Director Calla to the Council to plan a comprehensive strategy. DPW Director Steve Calla reported on bids for Road Way Improvement for the lower Highlands sidewalks and Summit Avenue and Locust Street.
- The Town Manager was happy to report that the Holidays were low key for the Police and Fire and he is pleased with the Leadership in these Departments..

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Councilor Calla to Open Nomination to Elect a Vice President

2nd by Letterie

Motion Passes

Councilor Calla nominated Councilor Paul Varone for Vice President

2nd by Councilor Letterie

Motion by Councilor DelVento to Close Nomination to Elect a Vice President

2nd by Councilor Letterie

Motion Passes to close nomination

There was a unanimous vote to elect Councilor Paul Varone as Vice President.

President Gill declared a unanimous consent to elect and requested the Counsel Clerk to so note for the record.

President Gill read the new Town Council Committees for 2012 which are as follows:

FINANCE

Nicholas A Delvento, Chair

James L. Letterie

Russell C. Sanford

RULES AND ORDINANCE

Philip R. Boncore, Esq., Chair

Nicholas A Delvento

Paul F. Varone

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

J. Larry Powers, Chair
Philip R. Boncore, Esq.
Linda J. Calla

PUBLIC WORKS

Paul F. Varone, Chair
Craig G. Mael
J. Larry Powers

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Russell C. Sanford, Chair
Craig G. Mael
James L. Letterie

CAPITOL ASSETTS

Linda J. Calla, Chair
Russell C. Sanford
Paul F. Varone

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

James L. Letterie, Chair
Nicholas A. Delvento
Craig G. Mael

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Councilor Letterie to Adjourn
2nd by Councilor Boncore
Motion Passes**

Town Council Meeting Adjourned at 9:15

A DVD of this meeting is available from WCAT
Public Documents used in this meeting are available in the Town Manager's Office.
Resignation Letter from Council President Gill.
Environmental Assessment Report from Logan Airport.

Respectfully submitted,
Town Council Clerk
Kathleen S. Hickey