

## **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 29, 2012**

Under the Rules and Procedures of the Town of Winthrop Charter Section 9-12 the Winthrop Town Council, President Gill called the Spring Forum of March 29, 2012 to order at 7:00 PM in the Harvey Hearing Room. Full Council was in attendance.

### **TOWN MANAGER**

Town Manager, James McKenna spoke on:

Budget Factors, Free Cash FY2003-FY2013, Local Receipts FY 2008-Fy2015, Local Aid FY2004- FY2014, Discretionary vs. Fixed FY2013, and doing more with less: comparison.

Ten Years Ago:

The DPW had a staff of 45

Police Dept. had a staff of 39

Fire Dept. had a staff of 36

Town Hall had a staff of 27

Town Received 35% of its budget was Local Aid

Health Insurance was 6% of cost of the Town's Budget

Today:

The DPW has a staff of 31

Police Dept. has a staff of 32

Fire Dept. has a staff of 33

Town Hall has a staff of 18

Town Receives 21% of its budget from Local Aid

Health Insurance is 13% of cost of the Town's Budget

Improving our Schools:

Improving the Town's Financial Position

Increasing Reserves

Using Technology

Radio Read water meters

E911 Regional Dispatch

Fiber Optics / Telephone / WiFi

Energy Enhancements

Town Beautification:

Belle Isle Bridge – Lighting

Park Improvements

Street & Sidewalk Improvements

Town Property Maintenance

Cultural Enhancements

Ferry Terminal Building & Year Round Service

Thursday Evenings @ French Square

Senior Gardening

EBN Cultural Center

Winthrop Beach Restoration

## **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

Michele Kara, Assistant CFO spoke on:

Electronic Requisition/Purchase Order System for School Department as part of the Consolidation (decentralize vs. centralized).

Treasurer / Tax Collector's Office the adoption of accepting payments by credit cards

Assessing – finalizing the digital mapping of assessing maps for GIS which to incorporate with the GIS efforts of DPW / Grants

Online Assessing Records

## **BUILDING COMMISSIONER/INSPECTOR**

James Soper, Building Commissioner spoke on:

- Website Development

Enhance Department Home Page

Encourage Public Use

Update Forms - Adobe

- Supplemental Budget Request

Enforcement of Vacant & Foreclosed Property Ordinance

Registration & Inspection

Compliance

Enforcement Assistance

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief of Police, Terence Delehanty spoke on:

Stabilization

Personnel

Services

Capital Assets

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief, Flanagan spoke on:

Buildings

Personnel

Capital Plan

## **SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

Superintendent, John Macero spoke on:

Educational Goals

Student Instruction

Teacher Collaboration

Enrichment Opportunities

Budget

## **Level ServiceDEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

DPW Director Steve Calla spoke on:

Explanation of Snow Budget

Managing the Budget to Remain Productive While Living Within Our Means

Departmental Goals

Upcoming Infrastructure Projects and How It Affects FY13 Budget and Rates

## **WATER/SEWER**

*See Chart Attached*

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

Vinny Ruocco spoke on:

Align and Upgrade Client Technology in Town Offices

Integrate Interactive SMART Technology into Classrooms

Continue to Consolidate Town and School Equipment and Network Resources

### **TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk, Carla Vitale spoke on:

To have Appropriate Funding to Carry Out All Initiatives and Increased Responsibilities Required of Our Office

To Replace Office Ladder Used In Vault and Begin a Replacement Plan for Aging Voting Booths

To Fund Maintenance Contracts and Purchase Adequate Supplies to Properly Run the Department

### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Health Director, Eric Moore spoke on:

Prioritize Public Health Needs, Resources, and Policies

To Source for Grants to Fund Public Health Programs

Enforce Town and State Health Regulations

### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Parks and Recreation Director, Sean Driscoll spoke on:

Increase visibility in surrounding cities and towns by partnering with their local

Recreation departments and other local organizations for combined programming and special events.

Partner with a local community college to help strengthen our adult education programming.

Establish a fund for families that cannot afford to pay for recreation programs.

### **WINTHROP FACILITIES**

Winthrop Facilities Director, Gerry Boyle spoke on:

Consolidate Procurement of Maintenance and Supply Contracts

Develop Proactive Preventive Maintenance Program

Initiate Energy Efficiency Program

### **LIBRARY**

Jim Mattarazzo, Library Trustee spoke on:

5 year plan continually evaluating their goals and trying to reach them.

### **VETERANS**

Larry Holmes, Director of Veterans Services spoke on:

Vibrant Veterans Community

Difficult Financial times and no family or veteran that goes without services

### **HARBORMASTER**

Joe Montalto, Assistant Harbormaster spoke on:

### **COUNCIL ON AGING**

Town Manager James McKenna spoke on behalf on Council on Aging Director, Nancy Williams:

Meeting the demand of escalating concerns regarding the elderly through increased outreach intervention by establishing a fulltime outreach coordinator position. Increase funding for the Friends of the WCOA through the second annual appeal to assist with subsidy for Council On Aging programming. Revolving Account: continue to raise funds for the revolving account through Social events/fundraisers, so as to pay the salaries of the van drivers and educational and health related programs

President Gill stated he was impressed the attitude of the Departments and how they are working together although their resources are limited.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave Osborne of Precinct 5 had questions about the Quinn Bill and Sewer Rates.

Matthew Low had questions about Surplus Property.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:35pm.**

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A DVD of this meeting is available from WCAT

Public Documents used in this meeting are available in the Town Manager's Office.

Town of Winthrop Spring Forum of March 29, 2012

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen S. Hickey  
Town Council Clerk

## Chart 1

Water/Sewer							
Draft Budget Comparison 2012/2013							
February 2012 (Updated 2-26-2012)							
	Budget 2012	% Budget	Rate breakdown	Budget 2013	% Budget	Rate breakdown	201
Water							
Operating Expenses	\$ 886,784	38.61%	1.92	853,981	31.49%	1.82	
Debt (existing)	\$ 66,755	2.88%	0.14	66,755	2.48%	0.14	
Debt (Nahant Bellevue, Somerset)	\$ -			55,480	2.06%	0.12	
Debt (Walden st Contract #3)	\$ -			115,000	4.24%	0.26	
Debt (Point Shirley drainage)	\$ -			18,000	0.66%	0.04	
Debt (Auto Meter Read)	\$ -			75,000	2.77%	0.18	
MMRA	\$ 1,230,989	52.76%	2.63	1,389,398	51.28%	2.98	
General Fund Chargebacks	\$ 137,299	5.88%	0.29	137,299	5.07%	0.29	
Total	\$ 2,333,827	100.00%	4.99	2,710,593	100.00%	6.78	
			4.99			6.78	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013		
Water per 100 cubic ft	4.76	4.99	4.99	4.99	5.78		
Sewer Rate	7.31	8.32	8.32	***8.67	8.97		

\*\*\* Supplemented by General Fund FY 2012 (\$116K)