



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

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**MINUTES of the  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
Wednesday, April 13, 2016

**Board Members Present:** Chairman, Roberta Fraser; Jack Marsh and Ben Kilanski. Also present: Water/Wastewater Superintendent, Rick Meleski; Highway Superintendent, Dale Gray; Finance Assistant, Amy Bond and Town Administrator, Shelly Walker. Herbert Stephens is excused.

**1<sup>st</sup> Order of Business: Open Meeting and Acceptance of the Minutes**

The Chairman opens the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to approve the minutes of April 6, 2016. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Order of Business: Business**

Bob Heydon of Standard Power is present to discuss both the Town of Winchester and the Winchester School joining with other surrounding towns to obtain a lower electricity rate. Bob has saved these towns and schools three cents on their electricity rate over the last year. Mr. Heydon would like to get the town on a six month contract to coincide with the School's contract scheduled to expire in six months. Standard Power can obtain quotes for the next board meeting. There is no penalty if the town decides to go back to Eversource after the contract is over. There is a penalty if the town terminates the contract early. The six month contract is for a fixed rate. Mr. Heydon noted many times the rates for a one year contract is less than a two year contract. All board members were in favor of obtaining quotes for next meeting.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Order of Business: Public Hearing on an application for Tax Relief under RSA 79 E- Rustic Table**

The Chairman read the advertisement for the public hearing: *The Winchester Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on 4/13/16 at 7pm on the Main Floor of the Town Hall on an application for Community Tax Relief submitted by The Rustic Table, Steven Morse for property located at 320 Keene Road, map 32, lot 51.*

*In accordance with RSA 79-E, section 79-E:4, the Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to determine whether the structure at issue is a qualifying structure, whether any proposed rehabilitation qualifies as substantial and whether there is a public benefit to granting the requested tax relief, and if so for what duration for the tax relief.*

Selectman Fraser *makes a motion* to open the public hearing. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0. The Land Use Administrator gave a brief overview of the application and the criteria that must be met to qualify. The only issue the Land Use Administrator has with the application is the location of the business and if it is in the downtown/village area. Winchester's downtown/village is not clearly defined. The owners are requesting five years of relief. The Land Use Administrator has attached a covenant for this application. A discussion followed on what areas the residents and Selectmen consider to be in the downtown/village. Board members were in agreement the downtown area ends at the Campground. The Land Use Administrator noted the property meets the requirements of substantial rehabilitation and public benefit. The assessment of \$138,200.00 would be frozen for five years. The owners Steve and Ruth stated this property has been extensively renovated and is still in need of additional work on the back of the building. Ruth noted she would like to make additional improvements for parking and outdoor seating. Ruth stated people are traveling to eat at her restaurant and a portion of the meals tax comes back to the town. Other businesses in town also benefit as these customers may shop after their meal.

The Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Robert Leustek and Robert Spruill of the RED Committee both voiced their support for this application and feel it would benefit the town and other businesses. Selectman Kilanski would like the downtown to be clarified by the Planning Board in the future. Selectman Fraser *makes a motion* to close the public hearing. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to approve the application for tax relief under RSA 79-E for map 32 lot 51 for five years at the assessment of \$138,200.00. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Order of Business: Other Business**

The Financial Assistant is present to discuss the three quotes she has submitted for uniform contracts: Unifirst -\$81.10 per week with no annual increase, Crown - \$142.43 per week with a 3.13% annual increase and Cintas - \$140.58 per week with a 3-5% annual increase. This was tabled until next week.

The chairman noted the purchase order for street line painting had been revisited but there was no vote on the matter. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to cancel the purchase order in the amount of \$3,000 to J.D.K. for street line painting. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

Elisha Jackson and Trevor Croteau are present to give an update on the School. Elisha would like to thank to town for working with the school on the parking lot drainage issue as well as sanding and salting the School parking lot in the winter months. Elisha noted the school may be returning up to \$400,000.00 to taxpayers. Selectman Marsh stated if possible he would like to hold off on paying the May and June School payments to avoid taking a tax anticipation note. Elisha stated the Highway department will be working on correcting a drain on the elementary side of the building. Trevor thanked the board for allowing the Highway department to correct the drain. The board thanked Elisha and Trevor for the update.

An intent to excavate has been submitted for map 4 lot 2. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to approve this intent. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A gravel tax levy has been submitted in the amount of \$2,524.06 for map 15 lot 51. Selectman Fraser *makes a motion* to approve this levy. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A timber tax abatement has been submitted in the amount of \$9774.40 for map 12 lot 34 due to incorrect reporting. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to approve this abatement. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A timber tax abatement has been submitted in the amount of \$1,411.24 for map 12 lot 34 due to incorrect reporting. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve this abatement. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A corrective timber tax levy has been submitted in the amount of \$755.21 for map 12 lot 34. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve this levy. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A raffle ticket permit has been submitted by Bros. Grim R.C. to be held at the VFW with a drawing to be held on April 30, 2016 for a gift card and other prizes. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve this permit. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

Six appointment papers have been submitted all for three year terms to reappoint the following Fire department members: James Amman, John Stephens, Michael Brown, Robert Dingman, Charles Lawrence and Jonathan Bebey. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve all six appointments. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

An elderly exemption application has been received for map 8 lot 106. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve the elderly exemption. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

Four property tax abatement warrants have been submitted for the previously approved abatements: map 2 lot 59-2, map 3 lot 3, map 2 lot 58 and map 15 lot 51. Selectman Marsh *makes a motion* to approve all four warrants. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

A vacation request has been submitted by the Town Administrator for April 18th, 20th and 21st. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve the request. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0.

There is an opening at the Cemetery since Mike Brown has submitted his resignation. Board members were in agreement to advertise on the Town website, online and around town for this position.

The Chairman read a letter from the Fire Chief of Northfield, Mass. The Fire Chief thanked Winchester for assistance in responding along with fifteen other departments to save a historic building in flames.

The Chairman stated since there isn't a full board tonight there will be no discussion on appointing someone for the open seat on the Select board.

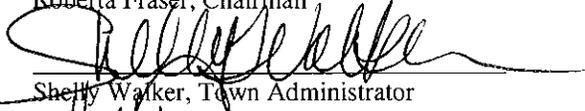
**8<sup>th</sup> Order of Business: Adjournment**

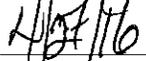
Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to adjourn. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 3-0. The meeting adjourns at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully recorded,  
Shelly Walker  
April 13, 2016

BOS Regular Minutes approved by the Board:

  
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Roberta Fraser, Chairman

  
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Shelly Walker, Town Administrator

  
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Date Signed