



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

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**Minutes of the  
Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
Wednesday  
December 5, 2018

**Board members present:** Ben Kilanski, Jack Marsh, Roberta Heinonen, Herbert Stephens and Gloria Leustek. Also, present Rick Meleski, Chief Kellom, Captain Ford, Maryan Platz and Dale Gray.

**First order of business: Work Session**

The Chairman opens the meeting at 6:00pm to discuss Ambulance Dept. and how do we move forward with a PT Dept or do we look at contracting DiLuzio Ambulance Service. Chief Kellom stated that he doesn't want to see the Ambulance go away, but we need to be providing better service to the residents. We need to look at how do we do that. Selectman Marsh stated that the current budget is \$83,000, Zach had presented a proposal of Winchester staffing part-time for \$178,000 and DiLuzio had a proposal of 24/7 coverage for \$85,000. Chief Kellom said we are not comparing apples to apples. Selectman Marsh said the budget now is \$83,000 and we are having issue with staffing the Ambulance now. So, for a few thousand dollars more we would have 24/7 coverage. To get part-time and on-call for evenings is \$180,000. Selectman Heinonen said Diluzio will be making his money for the calls. If we were to make it a part-time service our collections would increase, we could change the warrant article and use the revenue to off-set the budget. When Diluzio was hear he didn't say he would be dedicated to Winchester 24/7. Chief Kellom said he made it clear to Rob that if he leaves to cover another call he would have another ambulance to sit at the town line. We will not be without an ambulance if we are paying them. It needs to be in the contract that there will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> ambulance. We need to make sure that we have an ambulance in town. Because we are trying to get out of the situation we are in now. We need to provide the service to the tax payers. Selectman Heinonen said that Winchester Ambulance also proposed something that will get us out of the issues we are having now. Chief Kellom said that Winchester is doing a part-time service not a 24/7 service. There is no guarantee just because someone is on-call that the calls will be made. Selectman Stephens asked if we would still need to have DiLuzio to cover. Chief Kellom yes, because if no answers the call we would have to have Diluzio come down. The question has been asked about using the billing fund for payroll and the answer is no we cannot. Selectman Heinonen said it reads no we can't, but we can have a warrant article to change it per our attorney. We don't have to have an article to go to a part-time ambulance service. It can put it right into the budget. Chief Kellom stated that there should be no reason that the Winchester Ambulance is not self-sufficient. Going part-time you will be making more calls which then you are making more money. Selectman Stephens asked if Winchester goes part-time will we need Diluzio to come down? Chief Kellom said yes because as of

now Winchester doesn't have a paramedic. Selectman Marsh stated that the calls have gotten better but have a long way to go. Selectman Heinonen said for the day calls because everyone works during the day. Selectman Kilanski said that 1 paramedic won't be enough and available 24/7. We would still need Diluzio services and have to pay the higher price. Selectman Kilanski believes that the decision should go to the voters. Ty Frazier said that DiLuzio is a good Ambulance Service, but the contract will need to make sure its iron clad. Diluzio makes good amount of money by transporting people back and forth to the hospital's. At any given chance they will have ambulances covering other towns. Then you are stuck with no ambulance. Winchester owns our own ambulance & the equipment how can we not be make money. All we need is to pay some staff. Look at the Jaffrey ambulance, they are servicing other towns. We are looking our "hotdog stand" that can make money and give it to someone and pay them to run it, so they can make money from it. It doesn't make since. Selectman Heinonen stated that he wants our Ambulance's and the Ashuelot Fire Station as a head-quarters. Ty said that it is money that the town could be making. It's easier to just give it away. It would be a lot work, but it can happen. Selectman Heinonen stated that our attorney said the same thing. Joining with other surrounding towns is how ambulance departments are doing it now. Selectman Marsh stated it was a proposal. No way are we giving them everything. Another missing piece the revenue side, we have to write off a lot because its unclaimed. The demographics of this area are poor. If they don't have good personal or Medicaid it doesn't get paid. Ty said if the demographic of the area is high with Medicaid/Medicare it is guarantee you will get paid. Selectman Heinonen agrees with Ty why should we give them housing & Ambulances to make money. Selectman Kilanski stated for the record we never said we would give them anything. We said we would renovate and house them. Chief Kellom said that either way we go we will have to renovate the Ashuelot Fire Station. Selectman Stephens stated his issue is we have no people to run. Selectman Heinonen said she has had several people ask how they can join the ambulance service, but because its volunteer and they have nowhere to house them they are not interested. Ty said we should not pay somebody to make money off the tax payers. There is no reason why EMS should lose money this day and age. Mike Coope asked if the Town could lease them the building to cover some of the cost. Selectman Heinonen said we could do that, but the proposal from Diluzio for \$85,000 was to give them the ambulances and give them housing. Mike said that he asked Mr. Diluzio what the default rate. He made it seem he would absorb it. No business can survive that. Somewhere along the line the cost will go up if the default rate goes up. Selectman Heinonen said that Diluzio rates are higher than Winchesters so the residents will be paying more. Chief Kellom added that if we give the service and the people aren't paying then the revenue account won't be able to pay anyone. Then we have to go the town and ask for money. Selectman Marsh said when we sat with Rob it was a proposal it was not set in stone. We never negotiated anything. There is no way we are going to give him everything he wants. A 2-year or a 5-year plan could go from \$85,000 to \$285,000. We keep talking like the \$85,000 amount is sign on the bottom line and we are done. It is far from that. With any contract there is negation. Ty said as a tax payer I have an issue with signing a contract, so they can make money off of us. If the amount keeps increasing each year it would have been cheaper to do the \$100,000 with our own employees. Selectmen Heinonen stated that we don't want what happen to Marlborough happen to us. Their contract with Diluzio has gone up each year. Selectman Heinonen said the best thing for town would be to sit down with other towns. Chief Kellom feels that we need to focus on Winchester 1<sup>st</sup> and how we can service our resident better. Once we have it running smoothly then we can look at other towns. Selectman Heinonen said there is a way to do it that won't cost the tax payers money. It will generate revenue and it will able to cover many towns. We can do that. It will not be right now. Mike stated last week the board had stated that Richmond PD had contacted Winchester about considering taking over their Police Dept. Long term this could fit into the picture, especially with building there and we could make use of

that. This could be a viable enterprise servicing multiple community. Selectman Heinonen said we need 24/7 coverage here and that won't happen for \$85,000. Ty said I want to see the number for 24/7 with 2 people with a bus. Zach said it was \$170,000. Selectman Heinonen said when we started this is was for 24/7 coverage not someone sitting on the line. \$85,000 is what he gets to do while he is housed in Winchester. Chief Kellom asked when the warrant articles are due. Selectman Heinonen said beginning of January. Selectman Marsh proposed that 2 selectmen & the Chief meet with Rob and negotiate some good numbers to bring back to the board. The board will have the final say. Selectman Heinonen said the board needs to decide what we want to do and tell Rob what we want. Todd Kilanski stated that the Ambulance needs to get hard numbers on the calls that have been responded to. Chief Kellom said let's put together questions for Diluzio and have Rob Diluzio come down with the answers. Selectman Kilanski said we will have a work session Sunday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm. Mike added that part of the \$85,000 was if the ambulance had a call and left Winchester Diluzio would send an ambulance to sit at the town line until they returned. That is still a distance to the center of town. Considering how many elderly housing units we have in town. We are a small community and should band together. This is something that belongs to us.

### **Second order of business: Minutes & New Business**

The board reviews the minutes of 11-28-18 for approval. Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

The Board signed the TAN for \$1,000,000 from Savings Bank of Walpole.

There will be a public hearing held on 12/20/18 & 1/7/19 @ 7pm at the Town Hall for the Historic District Commission.

The Budget Committee will be meeting on Dec 11<sup>th</sup> @6pm at the School.

Selectman Marsh made a motion to approve Paul Hubner as Town Clock Custodian. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

DES sent the formal letter approving the ARM funding for the Cranberry Culvert and a letter of denial for the Jones Culvert.

Jancewicz & Son sent a letter confirming that the Fire Station Roof will start in May or if weather permits April. The job will be completed in 3 weeks.

Steve Brackett would like to volunteer his time & materials to refinish the Conant Library doors. Steve will submit a plan to Karey for the board to review. The project will be next summer.

Timber Tax for map 6 lot 4 \$1,153.55- Tabled. Selectman Marsh would like to verify who is responsible for the timber tax.

The 10year Charrette update & Economic Forum will be 1/28/19 (snow date 1/29/18) form 6-9pm @ the Town Hall. This will be a collaborative effort to develop ideas and plan for the next 10 years.

Selectman Marsh made a motion to approve the abatement for map 3 lot 38-town owned land in the amount of \$1,146. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Heinonen made a motion to approve the abatement for Ashuelot River Hydro in the amount of \$611. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Marsh made a motion to approve opening a new checking account with Community National Bank to pay invoice for the water tank project. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

John Hann-Conservation Commission gave the Board a copy of a letter that he sent to Eversource on behave of the town. The letter stated the CC concerns on the Manning Hill near Pulpit Rock.

Granit State Rural Water will be hosting a training class for surrounding Water Dept's on Dec 11<sup>th</sup> from 9-1:30 @ the Town Hall.

**The board reviews and approves the following financial documents:**

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve CDBG request for SWRPC in the amount of \$3,356 & 2,356. Selectman Heinonen seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Heinonen makes a motion to approve Nortrax Equipment for repairs to the grader in the amount of \$7,556.99. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Heinonen makes a motion to approve Town Beach Fund-\$50, Ambulance Fund-\$600 & Police Detail Fund-\$600 for the cost of the 2017 audit. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve CAG in the amount of \$398.94 from the Ambulance billing fund. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

Selectman Heinonen makes a motion to approve RED Committee's request to pay Zach Dafeldecker-\$50, Sebastian Smith-\$100 & Jason Koerber-\$144. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0

The Employee Christmas Lunch will be 12/18/18. Selectman Stephens would like to close the town from 12-2pm. The board agreed.

**Third order of business Board comment:**

Selectman Marsh had asked Amy to research time clocks. The clocks would be for Highway, W/S, Police & Town Hall buildings. The cost is \$5,500 for the system, setup & training. Selectman Heinonen would like to review the information Amy has received.

**Fourth order of business Public comment:**

Mike Coope stated that Selectman Marsh is right on the time clocks and making sure they are in a controlled climate. Also, asked Karey to update the HDC on the website.

Mike Doherty asked the board where they were on the Police Chief position. Selectman Kilanski stated that it is moving forward and near the end.

Ken Cole asked if the board was considering taking over the Richmond PD. Selectman Marsh stated that Richmond came to us and to the Cheshire County Sheriffs Dept asking for a proposal. It is in its very beginning stages. Also, Richmond would need a warrant article and to have it voted on, 1. To disband Richmond PD & 2. Asking the voters to hire Winchester/Sheriffs Dept.

**Fifth order of business: Nonpublic under RSA 91-A:3II (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)**

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under (c & e). Selectman Heinonen seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. A roll call vote was taken, and members vote "yes" individually and the board convenes in non-public at 7:50pm.

**Sixth order of business: Adjournment**

The board reconvenes in public session at 8:26pm.

Selectman Leustek made a motion to seal the minutes under "e". Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the sewer abatement for map 5 lot 105-1a in the amount of \$620.59. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Kilanski would like to have a work session next Wednesday Dec 12<sup>th</sup> @6pm on the Personnel Policy.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to adjourn at 8:35 pm. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

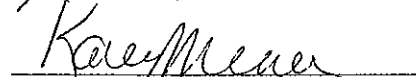
Minutes respectfully submitted:

Karey Miner, Administrator

Minutes signed by:



Ben Kilanski, Chairman



Karey Miner, Administrator