



Town of Winchester
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

**Minutes of the
Selectmen Meeting**
Wednesday, April 7, 2021

Board members present: Ben Kilanski, Jack Marsh, Herbert Stephens, Gloria Leustek and James Rokes Sr. Also, present Sherry Willard, Chief Kellom & Rick Meleski.

First order of business: Minutes

The Chairman opens the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The board reviews the minutes of 3-31-21 for approval. Selectman Leustek makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Second order of business: New Business

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the Broadband Committees letter of support to SWRPC for grant funding. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. The board approved a letter of support to be sent from the BOS to SWRPC.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve posting the open Police Chiefs position. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the support letter to State and Tribal Assistance Grant for the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the gravel tax for map 12 lot 23 in the amount of \$129.60. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Intent to cut for map 15 lot 18&20.
Intent to Excavate for map 12 lot 23.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a raffle permit from the VFW for cash prizes for the month of June. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Savings Bank of Walpole would like to set up meeting with the board. The board agreed, either Friday or Thursday next week.

The board reviews and approves the following financial documents:

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the deposit in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the Cemetery Archway rebuild. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the Winchester School payment in the amount of \$406,720.60. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve payment from the Cemetery donation acct. in the amount of \$22.98. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve payment from the Ambulance billing fund to CAG in the amount of \$908.34. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Rob Diluzio from Diluzio Ambulance Service and Chief Kellom are here to discuss the new contract for the Ambulance Dept. Rob stated that were a few changes with the contract, the intercept rate went from \$250 to \$300. This rate has not increased in 10 years. Operational update- officers and command structure guidelines of the Incident Command System. New provisions for data sharing and new formats to assist with dispatch and mutual aid. Selectman Kilanski asked if there is a way to change that the town is not responsible for paying a bill that Diluzio Ambulance billed the patient but was never paid. Rob said no that they are providing a service by helping to cover the town when needed. Selectman Marsh asked if there was anyway to provide the patients info to the town so we can try and collect. Rob said by the time the town is billed from Diluzio they have exhausted all the avenues. Because of HIPAA laws he is unaware if the info can be given to the town but will ask their attorney. If Medicaid does pay after the town has already paid, Diluzio will reimburse the town. Rob stated after 90 days their billing company closed out the account. Theresa Sepe said that the board should look at CAG and the percentage that we pay them for collection payment from patients. Selectman Kilanski stated that we do not pay CAG if they do not collect payment. Selectman Kilanski asked Rob to look at making the changes the board requested and the board will review the contract again.

Third order of business Board comment:

Selectman Kilanski asked the board how they felt about the Town taking over the mowing at the Thayer Library. The Library no longer can do it and we already have someone that mows the triangle next to the Library. The board agrees.

Selectman Kilanski thanked everyone who came to the town deliberative and everyone who helped set-up & clean up. Reminder School Deliberative is April 10th @ 9am at the Winchester School and Elections are May 11th @ the School.

Rick let the board know that they will be cleaning up Richmond Rd from the water main project last fall in the next 2 weeks.

Fourth order of business Public comment:

Jenn Howe thanked the board for signing the Broadband support letter. Jenn let the board know that the Broadband Committee has 2 vacant seats they would like to fill. Lastly, they would like the boards permission to create a Facebook page for information and surveys about broadband.

Lindseigh Picard asked about the minutes of 3/24/21. The board reconvenes in public at 7:51 and adjourn at 8:20pm but there are no minutes on the conversation. Karey stated that was a typo on the time. The board post a non-public meeting for 4/1/21 were they approved or sealed. Lindseigh asked for more information on what the board is looking for when hiring for the Police Chief position. Selectman Kilanski stated that the board is looking for a fulltime Police Chief. There have been no changes to the job description. The board will be discussing whether or not they will hire MRI to do the background & interviews. Applications & Resumes are due April 26th.

Natalie Quevedo stated that the social media policy is not being followed. There have been defamatory comments. Selectman Kilanski stated that we looked at turning the comments off, but we cannot. Natalie said that was correct. There is a difference between FB page and a group page and you can always use filters. Maybe having a social media committee would be helpful and Natalie offered her help. Natalie stated that residents are concerned with the Welfare Dept and how it is being run. The board should do a review of the dept.

Felisha Howard-Ambulance LT-The Ambulance Dept. sent a letter to the board last week recommending LT Howard be promoted to Captain. They have not heard back. She has been doing the job for over a year and is the one making sure the department is running smoothly.

Natalie Quevedo said thank you for advertising the Chief position. What is the protocol for if the police dept is not available and we need to ask for help? Selectman Kilanski stated the town has the full capability to help if asked. It's not just the Police Chief. Natalie asked if there was a protocol or timeline when the Town of Winchester says we can handle this and we need to contact X,Y,Z. Selectman Kilanski said there is a mutual aid agreement with surrounding towns that was put together by the Cheshire County Attorney. Natalie said that we are understaffed and no Police Chief, the acting LT said at the last meeting that we are backed up on paperwork and that's why people do not see us patrolling and we need help. How are we helping the PD and get people here to help us. Selectman Kilanski stated Gary Phillips was hired as parttime officer and with his knowledge to help with administrative paperwork.

Nonpublic under RSA 91-A:3II (a)(b)(c)(d)(e)

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under "b, c & e". Selectman Leustek 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 7:23pm.

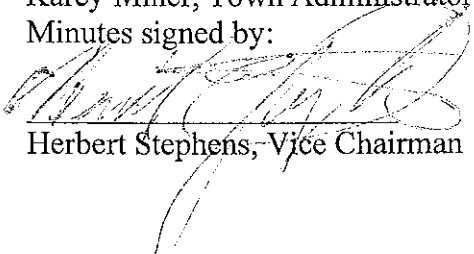
Adjournment:


The board reconvenes in public session at 8:00pm.

The board hired Chris Longe to the water/sewer dept. and Cheryl Laraba as deputy welfare director.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to adjourn at 8:02pm. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted:
Karey Miner, Town Administrator
Minutes signed by:


Herbert Stephens, Vice Chairman


Karey Miner