



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470  
**Minutes of the  
Selectmen Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 13, 2020

**Board members present:** Ben Kilanski, Jack Marsh, Herbert Stephens, James Rokes Sr. and Gloria Leustek. Also, present Amy and Rick Meleski.

**First order of business: Minutes**

The Chairman opens the meeting at 7:00 pm.

The board reviews the minutes for 5/6/20. Selectman Leustek makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

**Second order of business: New Business**

Selectman Stephens made a motion to approve and sign the Solar agreement & PILOT's with New England Solar Garden. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. Mark Tigan thanked the board and gave an update on the Stone Mt Project. The bids for the project came in 20% under budget. The Bid Bonds are good until the end of May. EDA will be reviewing bids and the recommendations of WEDC & SVE and they hope to be able to award the project by the end of the month. WEDC is working with NH Community Loan Fund on closing the \$444,000 loan soon.

Kevin Bazan updated the status of the Pickle Festival. At this time the festival is moving forward for September 26, 2020. Kevin said that he has been watching similar events in the area to see whether or not they cancel or hold the event. They are having an issue with finding an Insurance Company they will insure the event. Kevin is still working on it but could be canceled because no one will insure the event. Kevin did inform the board that the committee will be asking for the \$800 for pickles even if the event is canceled. They will use the money for the following year and this year's warrant article they place on the ballot will be for \$1.

E.L.M.M.C.C. sent the board a letter updating them on how the Community Center has been running since COVID-19 had started and what their plans are moving forward. They are working with ACCESS to determine if the 2020 summer camp will be able happen this year. At this time no youth programming is allowed but are hoping to have some guidelines from the State as to whether or not any activities will be allowed. The board stated that the Community Center has their support to move forward as they see fit and understands that COVID-19 has interrupted how the Center would normally operate.

The Board approved that the undrivable 2008 Crown Vic can stay at Mountainside Auto to be used for parts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Crown Vic.

Conant Library sent a letter to the board from their Insurance Company. They had a risk assessment done. Utica National recommended that the "electrical distribution system" be inspected by a licensed electrician.

Karey asked if the board was in favor of having Tim Pelkey to inspect the Library. The board agrees to have it inspected.

Cheshire County will be having a Zoom meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm and May 19<sup>th</sup> @5pm to discuss grant opportunities on funding due to COVID-19.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve Land Use Tax for map 11 lot 22-6 & 22-8. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

The Town has been approved for the Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant. The State will be on site to survey the waterbody 3 weeks before the scheduled herbicide treatment.

Tata & Howard sent the Board their recommendation on the bid award for the Richmond Project. Tata & Howard recommended Haluch Water Contracting-\$921,021.07. Selectman Marsh makes a motion to award the bid to Haluch. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0. Start date looks to be August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the water warrant-\$121, 276.65 and the sewer warrant-\$91,090.50. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the Tax Warrant- \$4,856,773. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh made a motion to approve the Veterans Credit for map 37 lot 4-7. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh made a motion to approve a prorated assessment for damaged building for map 8 lot 81-2 and map 28 lot 66. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 4-0-1.

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

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the request from the DARE account in the amount of \$475. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve the payment to Scully Architects from the Charter Trust account in the amount of \$3,212.50. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Leustek makes the motion to reimburse the Cemetery operating budget form Evergreen Cemetery General Care Fund in the amount of \$9,782.25. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Amy requested the board to make a policy to go to Direct Deposit for all employees. Most all of the employees do have direct deposit already. Amy doesn't want to purchase checks for \$1,000 just for a handful of employees. There is a cost savings on the checks but also on paper & postage. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to go to Direct Deposit for all employees. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 2-3. The motion fails.

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve water capital reserve payment to Leonard Lawrence Excavating for sand in the amount of \$6,000.00. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve water capital reserve payment to EJP for materials for the end of Richmond Rd. repair in the amount of \$33,890.52. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

**Third order of business Board comment:**

Selectman Kilanski said he dropped off the materials that the Fire dept. purchased to install the ladder to the church. Steve Bracket will install the ladder on Thursday.

Selectman Leustek have an update on RED Committee. The Farmers Market looks like they will start back up in the beginning of June. For Music in the park, RED is still working on ideas of how/when they can start. 2 bands have cancelled and so they are looking alternative opinions, one thought was to live stream the concert. Dinner on the Bridge is still scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup>. RED is waiting for State guidelines.

Selectman Rokes wanted to discuss the green fencing in Ashuelot. It's pointless to spend \$5,000 to repair the fence when the rest of it is in poor condition. The whole fence needs to be repaired. Selectman Marsh said for the small section to be fixed it is a lot of money. It has been patched it many times over the years. Selectman Rokes said that he and Dale talked about just removing it. Kim Gordon stated that it's well over 100-years old and has some historic value. Selectman Marsh stated that last year when we talked about the fence there was the concern of the historic value. Kim said near the jersey barriers there is the same kind of fencing, what if we used it to replace what's there now. Selectman Marsh said he was thinking the same thing, but do we know who put the fencing there, the Town or the State? Selectman Kilanski stated that it in the state right of way and it a guardrail on a state highway. Selectman Rokes said that part of the reason is road salt. It's all rotted around the ground level.

Amy added that the town received an insurance check for \$4,293.80, Northfield Fab gave a quote for \$3,800, but if Highway digs the holes, they would do the repairs for \$2,800. That would leave \$1,493.80, if you decide to move forward with repairing it lets try and fix the whole fence. The fence is weak in other areas and is a liability if someone gets hurt in it. Selectman Stephens & Selectman Rokes will go and look at the fence and update the board.

Amy asked the board if they plan on calling back the lifeguards. Selectman Kilanski stated that the Beach Committee has a meeting Thursday at 6pm to go over how to open the beach during COVID-19. The board agreed to call back the 6 guards and the 2 on call guards.

Amy said that last week Karey let the board know about the Hazardous pay for the 1<sup>st</sup> responders. It is up to the board on how they would like to pay it, weekly, monthly or one lump sum. Amy would request that we wait until the State sends the town the money before we start making payments. The board agrees with waiting until the funds are received from the State and doing a lump sum payment.

Lindseigh Picard asked what the best way is to contact the board to ask questions. Selectman Kilanski stated to call or email Karey.

Selectman Marah would like to ask Conservation Commission to look at possibly putting in some pavilions over the picnic tables out at Musterfield Park. Also, would like to see the RED Committee fix all the banners that are on the telephone poles before they are damaged. Selectman Leustek stated that RED is working on it and waiting for a sample bracket from a new vendor to see how it compares to what is being used now.

Selectman Marsh asked if we have heard from any of the companies for installing an ADA ramp at the beach. Karey stated no not yet.

Selectman Marsh made a motion no cells phones at the selectman's table during meetings. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Lindseigh stated that the School Board will be starting early on reviewing their budget and on a quarterly basis invite the Budget Committee & the Select Board to attend these meetings. The School Board would encourage the Selectmen to do the same. Lindseigh would like the board to have a conversation on using some type of electronic meeting. The School Board has been doing it for some time now and this past week had their 1<sup>st</sup> Zoom meeting. The town should be offering something that will let the public be involved.

**Fourth order of business Public comment:**

N/A

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

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under b. Selectman Marsh 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 7:55pm.

**Sixth order of business: Adjournment**

The board reconvenes in public session at 8:30pm.

The Select Board hired Adam Howard to the Police Dept as a full time Officer.

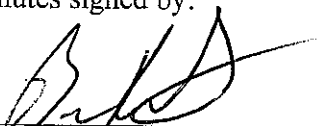
Karey asked the board if they would allow signs for the graduating seniors lined up on Main St. Selectman Kilanski made a motion to allow the signs on Main St. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.


Selectman Stephens makes a motion to adjourn at 8:40pm. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Karey Miner, Administrator

Minutes signed by:

  
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Ben Kilanski, Chairman

  
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Karey Miner, Administrator