



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

**Minutes of the  
Selectmen Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 19, 2021

**Board members present:** Ben Kilanski, Herbert Stephens, James Rokes Sr., Lindseigh Picard, and Theresa Sepe. Also, present Dale Gray, Chief Kellom and Rick Meleski.

**First order of business: Minutes**

The Chairman opens the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The board reviews the minutes of 5-12-21 for approval. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 3-0.

**Second order of business: New Business**

Selectman Kilanski stated that the boards need to elect Selectmen Rep's to several town boards and committees. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to have Selectman Kilanski stay Chair of the Select Board. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. Selectman Stephens makes a motion to have Selectman Sepe become Vice Chair of the Select Board. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/0/1. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to have Selectman Kilanski stay on the Budget Committee. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. Selectman Stephens makes a motion to have Selectman Picard sit on the Planning Board and Selectman Kilanski as the Alternate. Selectman Sepe seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/0/1. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to have Selectman Kilanski stay on the Beach Committee. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/0/1. Selectman Sepe makes a motion to have Selectman Picard sit on the RED Committee. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/0/1. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to have Selectman Stephens sit on the Historic District Commission. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to have Selectman Kilanski & Selectman Stephens stay on the Solid Waste Management Dist. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0. Selectman Sepe makes a motion to have Selectman Rokes sit on the Broadband Committee. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Kilanski stated that the RFQ for feasibility study for the ADA ramp at the Town Beach is available.

Winchester Economic Development Corp. updated the Board on the marketing of Stone Mt Business Park.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a raffle permit for Santa's Helpers to be help on May 22<sup>nd</sup> @VFW. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the Forest Fire Truck lease agreement with the Winchester Fire Assoc. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> @6:30 Rick Meleski has scheduled the presentation and outreach of the water departments 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Asset Management.

The Water Department will be flushing hydrants the week of May 24<sup>th</sup> to May 28<sup>th</sup> from 7-3:30pm.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the contract with Richard Drew to survey map 5 lot 106 for the new water tank. Selectman Sepe seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve the updated letter to NHMA for authorizing personnel to contact NHMA for legal questions. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

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

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve and sign the DRA MS-232. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Sepe makes a motion to approve the purchase for a new dump body from HP Fairfield's in the amount of \$22,700. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes thanked the Highway, Chan & Paul Morehouse Sr for cleaning up the property on Elm St.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the purchase of calcium chloride from All States in the amount of \$9,000. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0. Dales stated that that amount is for 2 truckloads but will only purchase 1 truck at a time.

Dale let the board know Mitchell will be paving Combs Bridge Rd on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Worldwide Computers have to reschedule the moving of the computer downstairs until June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Selectman Picard asked why Land Use was being moved. Selectman Rokes said so that the Building Inspector and the Land Use are together.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a firework permit for 253 Back Ashuelot Rd on 5/29 from 8:30-11pm. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

**Third order of business Board comment:**

Selectman Rokes asked if the 4 properties that were granted RSA-79E that have expired who removes the exemption. Karey stated that she had spoke to Avitar and had them remove the 79E.

Selectman Rokes stated that there is 1 more week of accepting volunteer interest forms for the Police Chief hiring committee. The board will review them the following week. Selectman Sepe stated that the committee should come up with question to ask the candidates and the same questions should be asked of candidates. Also there should be a 1 to 5 rating scale for each question.

Selectman Picard stated that this week is National 1<sup>st</sup> responder's week and thanked all of the 1<sup>st</sup> responders. Last week there was multiple warrant articles that passed which added money to capital reserve account for different departments. It would be a good idea to look at the Capital Improvement Plan and what our long-term needs are. Start having the Department Heads come in once a month to update the board on the budget, projects, issues, equipment etc. Lindseigh asked Dale if the sidewalk machine was fixed. Dale stated it was. After looking at the options we decided to put a new motor in it. Selectman Picard stated she has concerns with the Welfare Director and Deputy Director position not being posted. Did the board post the positions for interested party that might want to apply. Selectman Kilanski stated no that appointments do not have to be posted. Selectman Picard asked if there was a formal announcement that the process changed. Selectman Kilanski said no but there was a formal announcement that the board filled the positions. Selectman Picard said moving

forward in the effort of being transparent even if it is in your legal purview, it should be said at this table. Selectman Picard asked what is the current Police Dept. structure. There is an item in the non-public that I believe is not non-public. Selectman Kilanski stated that it is non-public because of the names. Selectman Picard said the names are specific to salary. There is discussion a eliminating a position. Selectman Kilanski said there was a discussion 3 weeks ago and it is a correction that needs to be made on the discussion. Selectman Picard asked how many police positions are there and it seems that we are accommodating for those salary increase by eliminating a position. Selectman Kilanski stated 8 officers. Selectman Picard said the budget shows 5 fulltime for the current 20-21 budget. There is a Lieutenant, Detective, Police Chief, 4 part-time officers, Administrator Asst., and part-time Administrator Asst. Selectman Sepe said the department has 8 full-time and 4 part-time officers. Selectman Kilanski said correct. Selectman Picard asked if we are eliminating the LT position to accommodate salaries and has there been a conversation. My concern is that we are in the middle of hiring a Chief and we are changing how the department looks. Selectman Kilanski said we are not eliminating the LT, Jim Fisher is the LT. We are eliminating a FT officer that has not been used. The discussion was done in nonpublic because names were being used along with their salaries. Selectman Lindseigh said I am going to ask just like it has been asked of me, so you have padded the budget by an additional employee when you did not need to. Selectman Sepe asked where the money went. Selectman Kilanski said that some of the money was used to increase salaries and some was left to use towards hiring a new Chief if needed. Selectman Sepe stated that the Officer in Charge should come in to speak on this. There have been Officers working overtime since there has been no Chief. Now they want to eliminate a full-time officer. Selectman Kilanski said we did not get rid of an officer it was a position that was budgeted for and never filled. Selectman Sepe said that she is not voting on anything until she hears from the Officer in charge. Selectman Kilanski said we are not voting on anything tonight it was updating the 2 new board members. Selectman Sepe asked if this were brought to the Budget Committee on possible salary increases so it could be budgeted for the July 1<sup>st</sup> budget. Selectman Kilanski said no, it was not discussed last year at budget time. This just started to be discussed in the last couple of months. Lindseigh asked if there will be a conversation on salaries because we do not have to speak on specific people but if there is a recommendation for increase that can be done in public or if we eliminate a position. Selectman Stephens said that LT Fisher should be here to speak on it. The board agreed.

Rick Meleski let the board know they will be working on Richmond Rd and cleaning up the lawns from the water main project. The Water/Sewer Dept. is continuously working on capital improvements. The asset management presentation next week will show all the work that needs to be upgraded and work that has been completed. We have also completed a Bio Solid Study for the wastewater treatment plant. Update on the water tank placement near the existing tank on Michigan St. The inspections of wells are complete, and they are all in good shape. The solar project is moving forward and working with PSNH on outside switch device.

**Fourth order of business Public comment:**

Mike Coope said he would donate a computer switch if we find out one is needed during the move. The current one is maxed out.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion take a 5-minute recess @8:03. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

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

Selectman Sepe makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under "c". Selectman Picard 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 8:14pm.

Adjournment:

The board reconvenes in public session at 8:34pm.

Land Use will look into a code violation and the board tabled a tax payment agreement.

Selectman Sepe makes a motion to adjourn at 8:36pm. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

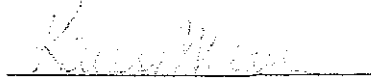
Minutes respectfully submitted:

Karey Miner, Town Administrator

Minutes signed by:



Beh Kilanski, Chairman



Karey Miner