



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

**Minutes of the  
Selectmen Meeting**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

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

**First order of business: Minutes**

The board reviews the minutes for 9/9/20. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

**Second order of business: New Business**

Mike Kowalczyk of Monadnock Regional Rail Trail Collaborative gave a presentation on improving the rail trail through NH, VT & MA. There are 7 trails throughout the 3 states and 13 Municipalities collaborating on the trail system. The plan is to have 7 trails connect. Winchester, Hinsdale & Brattleboro are working together and have submitted an intent letter for funding. Mike stated that there was a Greenway's study done showing why the rail trail system is important to communities. Increases property values, tourism, health and environmental benefits. Margaret Sharra said the studies show improving the trails are economic engines for towns and bring in thousands of dollars a year. Hinsdale's board has confirmed they are in support of working with Winchester and the Monadnock Regional Rail Trail Collaborative to improve the trails. Selectman Kilanski said that he supports improving the trails. What type of commitment is the town looking at for this project. Margaret said getting people together to work on the trails and some funding. Mike said that he is planning on looking for other funding sources, do some fundraising and ask for donations. Margaret added that Mike has created a brochure showing the trails and Mike has shared that with the towns. Selectman Kilanski asked Dean Beaman if the ATV registrations fees go towards trails. Dean stated no.

Mike Duke-Steeple keeper updated the board that all 8 finials are damaged and need to be replaced. The initial cost was \$375 each. The guy he used is deceased, so Mike had to find a new person, which he did but the cost is now \$550 each. Mike stated that he will do 2 at no charge. Also, Mike had talked to Selectman Kilanski replacing the roof with cooper and he quoted the cooper roof at \$9500. The capital reserve account for the church steeple has \$79,366.12, Selectman Stephens makes a motion to repair the finials and replace the roof with cooper. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0. Selectman Kilanski said that the solution they used to clean the steeple was not working so they would be using soap & water. Also, the 3 clock faces are in good shape so only 1 needs to be replaced.

The solar contract for the sewer plant was reviewed by the attorney and is suitable for its intended purpose. Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve the solar contract with Revision Energy. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

The Budget Committee met Tuesday night to schedule meetings for the 2021-2022 budget. Tuesday, October 13, 2020 @6pm and Tuesday, October 27, 2020 @6pm (if needed) the committee will discuss the town's budget. Tuesday, November 17, 2020 @6pm the committee will meet with the Health Agencies and Saturday, November 21, 2020 @9am the committee will meet with the Department Heads. Tuesday, December 1, 2020 @

6pm and Tuesday, December 8, 2020 @ 6pm the committee will discuss the schools' budget at the school. The School's Deliberative Session will be held Saturday, January 30, 2021 @ 9am. Selectman Marsh made a motion to hole the Towns Deliberative Session February 6, 2021 @ 9am. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to adopt the Land Trust Standards and Practices for the LCHIP Grant. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Aqualogic sent in an update on the milfoil clean-up at Forest Lake. The diver harvested 30 gallons the areas marked by NHDES and surveyed the boat launch and the public beach down to the campground; no milfoil was found.

The board tabled the approving the Housing Standards Ordinance until next week. No public hearing is required.

Oath of office for Mike Coope-Clock Custodian was signed by the board.

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

Selectman Marsh makes a motion to approve a TD Bank credit card limit of \$2000 for Jim Tetreault. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a payment from the sewer Capital Reserve account to the Xylem Solutions USA in the amount of \$5,248.21. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a payment to Jason Koerber-\$300 and the Town of Winchester-\$100 from the RED checking acct. Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve payment from the Invasive Plant capital reserve account to the Aqualogic in the amount of \$206.00. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a payment to TD Bank in the amount \$452.00 from the Cemetery Building Donation Acct. Selectman Leustek seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

**Third order of business Board comment:**

Selectman Marsh asked if Selectman Stephens had received a quote from Patnode to brush hog AC Lawrence. Selectman Stephens had not heard back yet.

Selectman Stephens thanked everyone that worked the Elections.

Selectman Rokes stated that the Transfer Station is a mess again and would like to have MDS come in to speak to the board.

**Fourth order of business Public comment:**

Lindseigh Picard thanked the board for working with the school by adding a request for reimbursement to the GOFERR Grant for items purchase by the school that FEMA will not cover. You had stated that you had reached out to the board to inform them about cleaning the steeple. This happen quit innocently when you speak to one member then the another and another. That is still a meeting. So when those conversations happen please remember to come to the board and announce it as part of the public meeting. I understand that they have to happen in real time, and it can't wait. Selectman Kilanski said that why he brought it up and there was no decision made. It was informational no motion was made. Lindseigh stated that is was still communication and there doesn't necessarily have to be a decision made. Its still a quorum when you talked to all the members.

Lindseigh ask about the policy the board adopted for land use. Selectman Kilanski said it was not for land use. It is the Land Trust Standards and Practices. Lindseigh asked if It is a template that came from the Municipality Association. Karey stated that the LCHIP Grant requires us to follow rules and guidelines. Lindseigh asked if this would be adopted as part of your policy book. Karey stated no just for this LCHIP Grant.

Kevin Bazan stated that the Pickle Festival would have been in 2 weeks but due to COVID it was canceled. September 25, 2021 has been scheduled for next year's Pickle Festival. The Pickle Festival Committee will be decorating the Main St for Fall with mums and the picklefest flags.

Mike Coope said he spoke to Mike Duke-Steeple keeper about the clock faces. They will be cleaning, sanding and put number decals on. Mike asked the board to repair a few boards on the floor by the clock that are rotted due to the leaking. Selectman Stephens said he had some boards that Mike could have.

Natalie Quevedo said after last week's meeting, she had asked the board to put Mike Coope on the agenda when he is speaking on the clock.

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

Selectman Leustek makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under a, c & e. Selectman Rokes 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 7:57pm.

**Sixth order of business: Adjournment**

The board reconvenes in public session at 9:55pm.

Selectman Kilanski makes a motion to seal the minutes under c & e. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

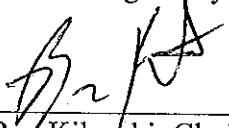
The board accepted Merri Rayno-PD Admin Assist resignation.


Selectman Stephens makes a motion to adjourn at 10:00pm. Selectman Leustek 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