



Town of Winchester
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

Minutes of the
Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Board members present for the meeting: Ben Kilanski, Lindseigh Picard, James Rokes and Theresa Sepe. Also, present Rick Meleski, Jenny Rhodes & Amy Bond.

First order of business: Minutes

The Chairman opens the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The board reviews the minutes of 9/15/21 for approval. Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Second order of business: New Business

Selectman Picard makes a motion to approve phone service as an allowable expense in the amount of \$46 as part of the Welfare application. Selectman Sepe seconds the motion. Motion carries 3-0-1.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a water abatement for map 28 lot 85-2 in the amount of \$100.00. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the Bob's Fuel water/sewer connections on Warwick Rd. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Picard makes a motion to approve the Gary Rokes water connections on Manning Hill. Selectman Sepe seconds the motion. Motion carries 3-0-1.

'State of NH-DOT will be having a public hearing on October 5th @7pm at the Keene Rec Center on the 10-year plan.

SFC Engineering will be presenting the Town Beach study on Oct 6th @6pm.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to accept the additional ARPS funds from Cheshire County in the amount of \$36,586.79. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Karey reminded the board of the ARPA work session on Monday, Sept 27th at 6pm.

MCVP-Monadnock Crisis & Prevention Center is having an award celebration on October 4th @4:30. Lt Fisher will be receiving an award.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the amendment to the PPA for the Wastewater Solar project. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

The board agrees to no BOS meeting on Wednesday, Sept 29th. Selectman Sepe did ask the board about adding nonpublic to Monday night's meeting. The board agreed.

The board reviews and approves the following financial documents:

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the highway purchase in the amount of \$4,000 from Fuzzy Brothers. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Picard makes a motion to approve the road maintenance capital reserve request in the amount of \$22,245.37 to All State. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to accept the Primex payout for the Elm St. fire in the amount of \$26,581.25 and pay the cost of the demo & cleanup in the amount of \$10,986.30. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the payment from the Ashuelot Rail Trail capital reserve in the amount of \$101.45 to Town of Winchester-Land Use. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve the line transfer for PD salary increase in the amount of \$1,560. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Amy Bond was asked to get information on an employee health insurance buy out incentive. Amy received some information from Swanzey on how they offer this incentive. Swanzey offers \$500 monthly payout which is a taxable fringe benefit (\$6,000 annual). Amy presented the board with the numbers of current employees and the cost for Health/dental insurance. Selectman Picard stated that thought behind the incentive was to also help with recruitment. Amy asked the board to consider the employees that currently working for the town as well and discuss going back to the FSA. Last year the board voted to go the HRA plan and give \$1500 towards an employee's copay of \$3000. FSA gives \$500 to each employee a year and if not used it goes back to the Town. The County has FSA of \$500 and if they don't receive the health/dental insurance it increases to \$1000 to be used for copay's, prescriptions etc. Selectman Rokes said that the insurance buyout is help with retention and recruitment. The board would like to have Amy take a pole on FSA vs HRA and health insurance buy out incentive. Amy let the board know that any changes made will need to be done by Dec 1st. Selectman Picard asked if any of the ARPA funds could be used towards health insurance. Karey doesn't think so but will take a look.

Selectman Sepe had a few questions on the budget for Amy. We should be at 76.8% and we are at 69.6%. Amy said that we pay all of your contracted services in July. Building and grounds is at 39.9%, why so low. Amy stated because we paid our yearly contract to Worldwide Computers. Ambulance is at 64% but the board can approve a transfer from the Ambulance billing account to cover the payroll. Fire dept is at 36% because of the encumbered funds and the Scott air paks. Selectman Kilanski stated that the Scott air paks are in but won't be in service until everyone has been trained.

Karey asked the board about scheduling a few work sessions to start reviewing the budgets 10/6 and 10/13 at 6pm. The board agreed. Karey also asked the board to discuss merit or cola's. the board discussed have both merit & cola. Selectman Sepe made a motion to have a 2% cola and up to 2% merit. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 3-1.

DUN's number. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Third order of business Other:

Selectman Kilanski thanked Bruce Lawrence and Dana's Container Services for their help on the Elm St Fire and thanked Dana for the donation of a dumpster for the Picklefest & the Ashuelot River clean up.

Selectman Picard has an updated list for the livestreaming equipment. Dave from Cheshire TV gave a detailed list & pricing. Restream is a good option for streaming. 1 camera/tripod & 1 windows laptop. The 2nd page has additional items if needed. The cost doesn't include training, but Dave said he could help. The total is \$2700. Selectman Sepe made a motion to spend up to \$3000 and purchase the equipment. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. Motion carries 3-1.

Selectman Rokes stated that he had reached out to Mark Tigan-WEDC on an article he read on a local company called PLP and they are looking to expand by 2023. Also Mark asked if the board would like an update. The board agreed to an update.

Selectman Sepe stated there is a youth night at the ELMMCC and Saturday is Picklefest.

Kevin Bazan-Picklefest committee asked who owned Mr. Mikes. Selectman Kilanski stated that Global is the owner. Kevin just wants to let the board know that he wasn't responsible for any parking on that property. Kevin also asked to close a few roads the day of picklefest, Michigan, Mechanic, Chapel and High St and asked if Dale could drop off road closed signs. Selectman Kilanski made a motion to close the roads. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Rick Meleski gave an update on the Water/Sewer Dept. The South Dr water main is completed. Next week they will repair the gate valve on Michigan St, start manhole restoration & replace fire hydrants. Lawrence Excavating will starting the Water/Sewer connections on Warwick Rd.

Selectman Picard asked if the board could get an update from Dale on the paving projects. Karey stated that with the all the rain it has pushed back until late next week. Rick informed the board he spoke to All State it is now pushed out to Oct 15th.

Fourth order of business public comment:

Natalie Quevedo stated that ARLAC wanted to inform everyone not to go into the Ashuelot River starting from Wastewater north to Ashuelot. There was bacteria found in the river and it was not caused by the wastewater plant. Natalie thanked Kathryn's Florist and Dana Containers for their help on the clean up. Natalie asked if the board appointed a Selectman's Rep to Conservation. The board said no but will talk to Selectman Stephens. ACCESS did offer the Directors position to one of the candidates and ACCESS should start back up in a week. The Broadband Committee will be meeting on Oct 4th @6pm to review the 2 RFP's.

Mike Coope said that he told the Karey the 2 streaming platform, Restream.io or Streamyard.com. You can download them and save them as well. Mike also offered the board storage unit equipment. Selectman Picard wanted to clear up any confusion. The \$250 fee was for both the equipment & the service. The Board thanked Mike.

The Board recessed for 5 minutes and then will enter into non-public.

~~November 7, 2024 01:30 PM~~

Selectman Sepe makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under "a, b, & c". Selectman Picard seconds the motion. The motion carries 4-0. A roll call vote was taken, and members vote "yes" individually, and the board convenes in non-public at 8:06pm.

Adjournment:

The board reconvenes in public session at 9:27pm.

Selectman Picard makes a motion to seal the minutes under "a, b & c". Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to adjourn at 9:29pm. Selectman Picard seconds the motion. The motion carries 4-0.

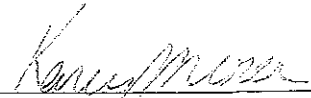
Minutes respectfully submitted:

Karey Miner, Town Administrator

Minutes signed by:



Ben Kilanski, Chairman



Karey Miner