



Town of Winchester  
1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

**Minutes of the  
Selectmen Meeting**  
Wednesday, September 8, 2021

**Board members present for the meeting:** Ben Kilanski, Herbert Stephens, Lindseigh Picard, James Rokes and Theresa Sepe. Also, present LT Fisher & Rick Meleski.

**First order of business: Minutes**

The Vice Chairman opens the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The board reviews the minutes of 8/20/21 for approval. Selectman Picard makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Sepe seconds the motion. Motion carries 3-0-2.

The board reviews the minutes of 9/1/21 for approval. Selectman Sepe makes a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

**Second order of business: New Business**

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a raffle permit for the VFW. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to approve a timber tax for map 9 lot 54 in the amount of \$1,053.19. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Stephens makes a motion to approve the DES Asset Management grant reimbursement request in the amount of \$18,037.50. Selectman Rokes seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Selectman Picard asked the board how they would like to proceed with livestreaming equipment. The previous discussion was purchasing the equipment or use a vendor. Then the intent of the article came into question whether we could use a vendor because the article clearly states purchase equipment. Doing nothing is going against the article and what the people wanted. Selectman Kilanski asked what equipment would be needed and the total cost. Selectman Picard listed the items needed and the cost of \$7,300 dollars. Selectman Kilanski said he had a concern with using an Apple product due to the fact that we currently have Microsoft products. If we use the YouTube channel that was created isn't in the towns name so the town would need to look at setting up a new YouTube channel. Mike Coope had some concerns & questions on the equipment that we might use. Selectman Kilanski said he would like to look at other options for the laptop. Selectman Picard will give the equipment list for Selectman Kilanski to use.

N/A

**Third order of business Other:**

Selectman Stephens announced that Emergency Management had a meeting with the Department Heads Tuesday night and there was a good discussion.

Selectman Rokes asked now that the Governor has approved 5MW solar net metering, does the board want to look at AC Lawrence site again for a solar project. Karey stated that she has been in contact with SWRPC to see if the last solar company-Encore would be willing to take another look at the site. Or if there maybe another company. SWRPC will make some calls.

Selectman Rokes asked if we have any talks with Savings Bank of Walpole. Karey stated that Amy Bond & Margaret Curtiss are finishing closing 2020-2021 and will setting up an appoint to speak to the Bank.

Karey would like the board to schedule a work session to discuss how the Town will be using ARPA Funds (American Rescue Plan Act). All of the Department Heads, Organization & Committee's will be invited to the work session. The work session will be scheduled for Monday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.

Karey let the board know we are currently working on the budgets and asked the board to discuss whether the board will be giving a COLA or Merit raises.

Rick Meleski gave an update on the Water/Sewer Dept. The wells are up and operating with the new chemical analyzers. Rick wanted the board, and the residents know they may smell chlorine depending on the location. These levels meet the States standards. Michigan St gate valves will be completed next week. The PSNH pole has been installed and is ready for the solar project to start in a few weeks.

Selectman Picard asked when the Budget Committee will be meeting and will there a discussion on the vacant seat. Karey stated the next meeting is Sept 14<sup>th</sup> @6pm. Selectman Kilanski stated that they will discuss the vacant seat.

**Fourth order of business public comment:**

Kelly Kilanski asked how many officers does the PD have. Lt Fisher stated 3 fulltime and 1 parttime. Kelly had a comment on the livestreaming equipment. The board should think about how and where the livestreaming will be streamed and its security. Currently on the livestream there are people posting negative comments and there are arguments on the livestream. If people have question or concerns, they should come to a meeting. It is disruptive to town.

Natalie Quevedo had a few updates for the board from several of the committees she is on. The river clean-up will be Sept 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and will meet in the Town Hall parking lot, If anyone has a small boat or canoe, they are willing to let someone use that would be helpful. The clean-up is sponsored by ARLAC and Winchester Conservation. The State of NH has 1million in funding for broadband from the Federal Government. These funds are for unserved communities and will help will not having to take out a bond. Also there are fund from the Infrastructure Bill that will help with broadband for unserved communities. With all the funding opportunities there is a possibility that we won't need a bond. ACCESS has received 3 applications for a director. Monday the board will review the application and they hope to have ACCESS up and running soon. Cheshire County Conservation has a veteran's program at the Keene Farmers Market (Sat 9-1) and Hinsdale Farmers Market (Sun 9-1) any vet can receive a free \$20 voucher to use at either of the Farmers Markets.

Sheena Bushee asked the board where they are on interviewing & hiring a Police Chief. The hiring committee gave the board 2 recommendations. Selectman Kilanski stated that the 2 candidates have been notified and the board is in the hiring process.

**Nonpublic under RSA 91-A:3II**

Selectman Picard makes a motion to enter nonpublic session under "b, 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 7:18pm.

**Adjournment:**

The board reconvenes in public session at 8:15pm.

Selectman Sepe makes a motion to seal the minutes under "b, c & e". Selectman Picard seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

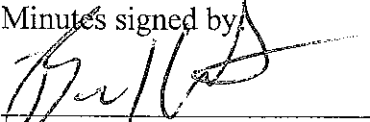
The board discussed the Monadnock Disposal contract.

Selectman Rokes makes a motion to adjourn at 8:19pm. Selectman Stephens seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Karey Miner, Town Administrator

Minutes signed by



Ben Kilanski, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karey Miner