

Winchester, NH Budget Committee Meeting Minutes for Thursday November 5, 2020

This meeting was held online through committee member email.

Members Present: Chester Lapointe- Chair, Tiffany Melanson, Theresa Sepe, Ben Kilanski (Selectman Representative) Lindseigh Picard (School Board Representative)

Also: Karey Miner, Kevin Bazan

Chester sent an email to the Budget Committee Members on Thursday November 5th at 3:58PM. The email read as follows:

Hello all. We are having issues with civic organizations sending reps due to an issue centered around masks. It is my opinion that any organization that doesn't send a rep should be zeroed out. However in all fairness if we mandate masks it is believed some of this groups unwilling to come may. Therefore im asking this committee if they would back a choice to mandate masks at our meeting for the remainder of the season. I am in favor of masks at our meetings. If for no other reason then getting people at our meetings and respecting their rational desire to stay safe. Please let me know everyone's thoughts. Kevin and Karey your input will be appreciated so please let me know your thoughts as well.

Kevin, Karey, Ben, Tiffany and Lindseigh all responded as being in favor.

Lindseigh made a motion in an email on Friday November 6th at 5:55PM that said the following:

I will make a motion that the Budget Committee have a mask mandate for attendees at all meetings. As long as someone seconds the motion, I also vote 'Yes'. I agree, keeping ours and other communities safe should be a priority.

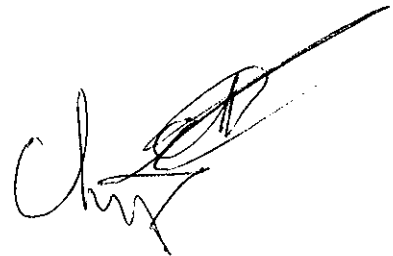
Chester seconded the motion in an email reply.

Chester then called the motion in the same email.

There was no response until Monday November 16th when Lindseigh emailed that there was motion on the table.

Chester responded with the following:

All but Teresa said yes. I apologize for not accepting the majority. Formally. I have already responded to Karey to let the social services know masks are required. We can codify the rule tomorrow night.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Karey Miner

From: Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointesmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Theresa Sepe
Cc: Lindseigh Picard; Ben Kilanski; Karey Miner
Subject: Re: Mask requirements

So noted.

On Mon, Nov 16, 2020, 10:15 AM Theresa Sepe <tsepe0529@hotmail.com> wrote:
I always wear a mask but I want it on record/recorded that a vote was taken on the mask via email, no meeting posted and I did not vote for any issue voted via computer...thanksL TheresaT

From: Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointesmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:33 AM
To: Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org>
Cc: Tiffany Melanson <tnmelanson@yahoo.com>; Ben Kilanski <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov>; kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com <kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com>; Theresa Sepe <tsepe0529@hotmail.com>; Karey Miner <kminer@winchester.nh.gov>
Subject: Re: Mask requirements

All but Teresa said yes. I apologize for not accepting the majority. Formally. I have already responded to Karey to let the social services know masks are required. We can codify the rule tomorrow night.

On Mon, Nov 16, 2020, 9:13 AM Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org> wrote:
Good Morning,

I think there is still a motion on the table regarding the mask mandate at all budget committee meetings. Given we have a meeting tomorrow, it seems important we make a decision so the health agencies (and anyone else in attendance) are assured we are being serious in protecting our communities health. We owe it to the public to be transparent about this process and I would feel much better if the vote was confirmed and this email chain posted to minutes.

Lindseigh

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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From: Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointesmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 6:34:47 PM
To: Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org>
Cc: tnmelanson@yahoo.com <tnmelanson@yahoo.com>; Ben Kilanski <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov>; kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com <kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com>; Theresa Sepe <tsepe0529@hotmail.com>; Karey Miner <kminer@winchester.nh.gov>
Subject: Re: Mask requirements

Ad chair ill second your motion Lindseigh and will call the question. Ill vote yes as well.

On Fri, Nov 6, 2020, 5:55 PM Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org> wrote:

Good Evening All,

Since we're now basically in a virtual meeting given the discussion, I will make a motion that the Budget Committee have a mask mandate for attendees at all meetings. As long as someone seconds the motion, I also vote 'Yes'. I agree, keeping ours and other communities safe should be a priority.

I recommend Kevin provide minutes with this email chain and we may want to consider posting them along with the meeting posting so that people see the history of the decision. Just trying to keep it transparent.

Have a great night!

Lindseigh

Lindseigh Picard
Chair, Winchester School Board

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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From: Tiffany Melanson <tnmelanson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 12:20:26 PM
To: bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov>; Ben Kilanski <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov>; kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com <kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com>; Theresa Sepe <tsepe0529@hotmail.com>; Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org>; Karey Miner <kminer@winchester.nh.gov>; Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointesmc@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Mask requirements

Agreed, I am on board with masking.

-Tiffany

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Fri, Nov 6, 2020 at 12:14 PM, Ben Kilanski <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov> wrote:

I also don't mind wearing one when it is necessary. I always have one with me just in case.

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From: Kevin Bazan <kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 12:08:08 PM
To: Tiffany Melanson <tnmelanson@yahoo.com>; Theresa Sepe <tsepe0529@hotmail.com>; Ben Kilanski <bkilanski@winchester.nh.gov>; Lindseigh Picard <lpicard@wnhsd.org>; Karey Miner <kminer@winchester.nh.gov>; Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointesmc@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Mask requirements

People should feel safe in our Town Hall. I certainly don't mind wearing a mask.

Kevin Bazan
kevinbazan1972@yahoo.com
kevin@bear953.com

On Thursday, November 5, 2020, 03:58:41 PM EST, Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointepsmc@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello all. We are having issues with civic organizations sending reps due to an issue centered around masks. It is my opinion that ny organization that doesn't send a rep should be zeroed out. However in all fairness if we mandate masks it is believed some of this groups unwilling to come may. Therefore im asking this committee if they would back a choice to mandate masks at our meeting for the remainder of the season. I am in favor of masks at our meetings. If for no other reason then getting people at our meetings and respecting their rational desire to stay safe. Please let me know everyone's thoughts. Kevin and Karey your input will be appreciated so please let me know your thoughts as well.

Karey Miner

From: Chester Lapointe <chesterlapointepsmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:28 AM
To: Karey Miner
Subject: Re: BC Meeting

Yes, confirmed.

On Mon, Nov 16, 2020, 7:47 AM Karey Miner <kminer@winchester.nh.gov> wrote:

Good morning Chester,

I want to confirm that masks will be mandatory for tomorrow's meeting with the health agencies.

If so I can notify them today.

Thank you

Karey Miner

Town Administrator

Town of Winchester

603-239-4951 x1

kminer@winchester.nh.gov