



TOWN OF WINTHROP OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, 1 Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA 02152 Telephone: 617-846-1742

10-3-19

Please see the attached, certified copy of the Town Council Minutes of September 17, 2019 along with the Text of the original motion that the Town Council authorizes the Massachusetts General Court to Amend House Bill 3909.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Denise Quist
Council Clerk

A True Copy Attest:

Town Clerk

Date: OCT - 3 2019



TOWN OF WINTHROP

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Hall, 1 Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA 02152 Telephone: 617-846-1742

MOTION

Submitted by: Austin Faison, Town Manager

Date: 9/17/2019

TEXT OF MOTION

MOTION: I move that the Winthrop Town Council issue the following order authorizing the Massachusetts General Court to amend House Bill 3909, *An Act authorizing the town of Winthrop to continue the employment of Fire Chief, Paul E. Flanagan*:

ORDER:

The Winthrop Town Council hereby authorizes the Massachusetts General Court to amend House Bill 3909, *An Act authorizing the town of Winthrop to continue the employment of Fire Chief, Paul E. Flanagan*, by inserting after the word "subsequent", in line 9, the following words:- "to his reaching the age of 65 and upon retirement Paul E. Flanagan shall receive a superannuation".

It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the Winthrop Town Council hereby declares this amendment to be within the scope of the general public objectives of the filed petition.

9-17-19

Motion by Council President Vecchia

2nd by Vice President Letterie

Discussion

ROLL CALL

Councilor Engman-	Absent
Councilor Calla-	Yes
Councilor Christopher-	Yes
Councilor Boncore	Yes
Councilor DeMarco	Yes
Councilor Ferrino	Yes
Councilor LoConte-	Yes
Council Vice President Letterie-	Yes
Council President Vecchia	Yes

Passed Unanimously

A True Copy Attest:

Carla Vitale

Town Clerk

Date:

OCT - 3 2019

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Under the Rules and Procedures of the Winthrop Town Council, Council President Vecchia called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00 in the Harvey Hearing Room

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Boncore leads the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Councilor Engman-	Present
Councilor Calla-	Present
Councilor Christopher-	Present
Councilor Boncore-	Present
Councilor Ferrino-	Present
Councilor LoConte-	Present
Council Vice President Letterie-	Present
Council President Vecchia	Present

MINUTES

Motion by Vice President Letterie to accept the minutes of September 3, 2019
2nd by Councilor Ferrino
Passed (Councilor Engman abstains)

CITATION

Officer David Lessard-39 years a Winthrop Police Officer

PUBLIC COMMENT

Suzanne Bryan (P3)-Supports Ban of Plastic Bags
 Maryellen Sharkey (P1)-Supports Ban of Plastic Bags
 Kathleen Cappuccio (P2)-Addresses the Arthur T. Cummings Playground and thanks for the people that have fought for repairs and maintenance. Comments on Winthrop Foundation not funding any of these costs.
 Clarification on Bike Lane Feasibility Study, where is money coming from?
 Town Manager Evaluation, 7 of 9 Councilors responded, comments on Councilor DeMarco being new to the Council and not responding but has question on the other Councilor that did not respond.
 Requests Charter and criteria on Town Manager Bonus.
 Thomas Ross –Firefighter –VP Professional Firefighters of Mass, not a resident of Winthrop
 Motion by Councilor Boncore to suspend rules and allow a non-citizen to address Public Comment
 2nd by Councilor Ferrino
 Passed Unanimously
 Mr. Ross continues regarding the Winthrop Fire Chief Mandatory Retirement age of 65 and the request of the Fire Chief to continue past the age of 65. He reflects MGL of different health levels and danger as start to age. Fearful that Fire Chief would not be protected under these laws. Requests Town Council consider not passing this Bill.
 Betty Peabody (P4)-Comments on the High School Tennis Courts being refurbished and should stay there.
 Cynthia LeBee (P4)- Supports Ban of Plastic Bags
 Michael DiMento (P2)-Requests Town Council table all votes that would affect the Town longer than tenor of current Council until after the election, that especially no votes be taken on the CBD. Requests Town Council President Vecchia to make a motion to this effect.
Public Comment Closed

GENERAL INFORMATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Board of Health-
Board of Health Chair William Schmidt ,Susan Maguire & Astrid Weins discuss the Banning of Plastic Bags in the Town of Winthrop..(See Board of Health Website for further information on this regulation of Banning Plastic Bags)

Councilor Boncore agrees with the banning of the plastic bags but questions the enforcement and penalties and if the BOH has the actual authority and who will enforce.
Mr. Schmidt replies that the BOH have inspectors and agents to carry on these enforcement and fines.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing Opened

Vice President Letterie discusses the following motion coming from the Finance Committee Meeting with a positive recommendation 2-1 along with DPW Director Steve Calla- Motions will be discussed in Old Business
 1. Town Council transfer \$175,000 from General Stabilization Fund/ Special Article General Fund-Yard Waste Haul Out
 Vice President Letterie requested a decrease to \$125,000 but Finance Committee voted 2-1 to approve \$175,000

No Comment from Public
Public Hearing Closed

Carla Vitale
Town Clerk

Public Hearing Opened

Vice President Letterie discusses the following motion coming from the Finance Committee with a positive recommendation 3-0 and request of invoice from CFO Anna Freedman with total breakdown of costs.

2. Town Council transfer \$61,000 from the Cemetery Sale of Lots Fund / Special Article General Fund-Cemetery Bldg. Demolition

Public Comment

John Munson asks if there will be more cemetery lots available for sale with this down?

Council President comments there will be more lots and there has been discussion of a mausoleum.

Public Hearing Closed

Public Hearing Opened

Councilor Boncore discusses the following motions coming from the Rules & Ordinance and will be discussed in Old Business:

3. Town Council review Ordinance(s)- 12-28.020-Use of Launch Ramp

Councilor Boncore reads the ratification of the Ordinance

Public Hearing Closed

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Finance Committee-

Vice President Letterie reports on the Finance Committee Meeting 9-3-19 , discusses the motions referred to in Public Hearing.

Miller Field Committee

Vice President Letterie gives update on Miller Field, Field House and it's hope to have it open by Thanksgiving, also under budget. Discusses funding put aside for either the refurbishment of Tennis Courts or tearing down.

Appointment, Committees, Commission

Vice President Letterie reports on Town Manager Evaluation. Discusses previous subcommittee meeting that "leg work" and process has been done but there was a question that was removed from the Town Manager Evaluation Questionnaire. Discusses Town Manager Evaluation(s), strengths and weaknesses, the calculations of the scoring 1-5, (5) being the highest Seven out of Nine Town Councilor completed evaluation for scoring issues. Scoring came in under 3 (2.98%) , committee discussed whether or not bonus would be warranted. Committee voted a score of 3.0 or higher would be acceptable and warrant a bonus.

Rules & Ordinance

Councilor Boncore reports on meeting and will address in Old Business, the new Ordinance to approve Launch Ramp use and Fee

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Utilize goals set forth in budget to bring clarity to information that may not have been clarified as well as should have been

1 - Begin Center Business District infrastructure project

- Contractor selected. Will start construction CY20.
- CFO-Anna Freedman gives financial breakdown
- DPW Director explains French Sq. being used for parking during construction.

2 - Reengage Center Business District master planning process

- Planning Board has a proposed map. Joint meeting 10/01/19.

3 - Bring clarity to zoning

- MAPC is going to help with Win2030. Then the Town can enter into a longer term master planning process, which then will result in updated zoning across Town.
- Town was granted MVP money from the state for resilient zoning. Will engage with MAPC to set regional best practices.

4 - Facilitate proposal for Middle School Site

- Items in the building have been surplused. Need clarification on the title. Site needs updated zoning before going out to bid.

5 - Facilitate development of long-term

- strategic planning document (Winthrop2030/Win2030)
- See above.

6 - Prioritize improvements to Town technology to increase operational efficiencies and service delivery

- NextRequest, public information request software, was recently launched.
- Granicus, agenda and minute management software, is going to be piloted in October and November.
- OpenGov, budget management software, is an ongoing project.

- Viewpoint, web based permitting platform, we are currently being on boarded. Should be in place for CY20.
- See ClickFix, work order management system, working to bring in board.

7 - Enhance focus on Community Development

- Exploration of solutions for bike infrastructure.
- Reintroduce Winthrop Farmers Market.
- Research the Main Streets program.

8 - Facilitate development of enhanced Fiscal Policies to improve long-term sustainability of Town

- Have draft policies from Division of Local Services. Working on them to introduce the language to the Council.

9 - Improve management of legal expenses

- Have worked to limit the exposure of the Town (through our insurer and with our legal advice)

10 - Obtain funding to enhance climate change preparedness

- Have requested the release of Environmental Bond Bill funding for the Ingleside Park water storage solution.
- Received a MVP Grant for the development of resilient zoning.
- Will apply for any and all potential climate focused funding (on our own, or jointly with other communities)

11 - Maintain strong intergovernmental relationships

- Meet monthly with Metro Mayors Coalition.
- Trying to maintain constructive relationships with MassPort and MWRA.
- Frequent and open dialogue with our state level Representatives.

12 - Facilitate development of a more sustainable community

- Ongoing

13 - Develop and implement Capital Improvement Plan

- Will be fully developed in the FY21 financial plan.

Discussion Vice President Letterie

Requests where Farmers Market may be located?

Town Manager Faison reports that he is looking at the Landing for location.

Asks about underground utilities in CBD

DPW Director reports not in this project.

Discusses the overage in the Chapter 70 funds and would like to see on Agenda for our 10-1-19 TC Meeting as to address this issue.

Requests update on Ins. Funds received towards the repair of the Ferry

Town Manager reports that Check for \$44,000 was received

Lead Water Testing

DEP Permit, DPW must sample twice a year, anyone that has Tier 1 service qualifies for this lead testing. If you do not want to be on the roster, please call and you will be deleted.

Councilor Christopher requests is Middle School will be discussed in the CBD

Town Manager Faison replies that there is a lack of zoning for the Middle School but we must bring clarity to a scope of a project that might be requested.

Vice President Letterie asks that the parcels be separate, he recused himself from the CBD Projects but will vote on the Middle School

SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

- Honored Frank DeMarco, long time head baseball coach
- Students Gabby & Joseph Shea, recognized for their involvement in School Supply Fundraiser
- Superintendent reported that working with the WPD and WFD there has been a complete security and safety review
- ALICE training completed
- Pre School up and running in HS
- School Handbook and School Improvement Plan approved by School Committee

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by the Finance Committee with a Positive Recommendation that the Town Council transfer \$175,000 from General Stabilization Fund/ Special Article General Fund-Yard Waste Haul Out...(See Attached Motion)

No 2nd Needed coming from Committee

Discussion

Motion to Amend by Vice President Letterie to decrease the amount to \$125,000 in hopes that the Winthrop Foundation could reimburse the remaining \$50,000

2nd by Councilor DeMarco

Council Christopher opposes this amendment as this work should be done as soon as possible and does not want the funding to slow this down.

Councilor Boncore agrees, this project needs to be started. If it less, the money will be returned .

Councilor Calla reminds all, we are 3 years behind without giving funding.

Councilor Ferrino wants all appropriated.

Vice President Letterie clarifies that the \$125,000 will open this and he also wants open as soon as possible

Roll Call for Amendment to reduce amount of motion to \$125,000

- Councilor Engman- Absent
- Councilor Calla- No
- Councilor Christopher- No
- Councilor Boncore- No
- Councilor Demarco- No
- Councilor Ferrino- No
- Councilor LoConte- Yes
- Council Vice President Letterie- Yes
- Council President Vecchia- No

Amendment does not Pass

Main Motion

- Councilor Engman- Absent
- Councilor Calla- Yes
- Councilor Christopher- Yes
- Councilor Boncore- Yes
- Councilor Demarco- Yes
- Councilor Ferrino- Yes
- Councilor LoConte- No
- Council Vice President Letterie- Yes
- Council President Vecchia- Yes

Main Motion Passes

Motion by the Finance Committee with a Positive Recommendation that the Town Council transfer \$61,000 from the Cemetery Sale of Lots Fund / Special Article General Fund-Cemetery Bldg. Demolition...(See Attached Motion)

No 2nd Needed coming from Committee

Roll Call Vote

- Councilor Engman- Absent
- Councilor Calla- Yes
- Councilor Christopher- Yes
- Councilor Boncore- Yes
- Councilor Demarco- Yes
- Councilor Ferrino- Yes
- Councilor LoConte- No
- Council Vice President Letterie- Yes
- Council President Vecchia- Yes

Motion Passes

Motion by the Rules & Ordinance with a Positive Recommendation that the Town Council amend the Town by Laws And the Town Council Adopt Ordinance(s)- 12-28.020-Use of Launch Ramp...(See Attached Motion/Ordinance)
No 2nd Neede1 coming from Committee

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Engman-	Absent
Councilor Calla-	Yes
Councilor Christopher-	Yes
Councilor Boncore-	Yes
Councilor Demarco-	No
Councilor Ferrino-	Yes
Councilor LoConte-	Yes
Council Vice President Letterie-	Yes
Council President Vecchia-	Yes

Motion Passes (7-1)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council President Vecchia that the Winthrop Town Council issue the following order authorizing the Massachusetts General Court to amend House Bill 3909, *An Act authorizing the town of Winthrop to continue the employment of Fire Chief, Paul Flanagan...*

ORDER:

The Winthrop Town Council hereby authorizes the Massachusetts General Court to amend House Bill 3909, *An Act authorizing the town of Winthrop to continue the employment of Fire Chief, Paul E. Flanagan*, by inserting after the word “subsequent”, in line 9, the following words:- “to his reaching the age of 65 and upon retirement Paul E. Flanagan shall receive a superannuation”.

It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the Winthrop Town Council hereby declares this amendment to be within the scope of the general public objectives of the filed petition.

2nd by Vice President Letterie

Discussion

Chief Flanagan thanks the Town Council for their previous approval of this Bill and looks forward to working with the Winthrop Fire Department and stabilizing it as best he can with continuing to work with the Fire Department.

This motion is for a technical change only.....

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Engman-	Absent
Councilor Calla-	Yes
Councilor Christopher-	Yes
Councilor Boncore-	Yes
Councilor Demarco-	Yes
Councilor Ferrino-	Yes
Councilor LoConte-	Yes
Council Vice President Letterie-	Yes
Council President Vecchia-	Yes

Motion Passes

Motion by Council President Vecchia that the Town Council authorize the Miller Field Committee to undertake the refurbishing of the High School tennis Courts and replacement of the Golf Course Shed...

2nd by Councilor Ferrino

Discussion

Councilor LoConte requests financial costs

Vice President Letterie reiterates that the Miller Field Committee had set aside an amount of \$400,000 for the project.

The Golf Course Shed had to be taken down and the Town is in discussion with the Golf Course as to the amount & bidding of the Shed.

Received recommendation from our Town Counsel that this can be used for the Tennis Courts and the Shed

Council President Vecchia feels this funding is well worth the refurbishment of the Tennis Courts.

Motion Passes

Motion by Council President Vecchia that the Town Council approve the naming of the portion of Winthrop Street in Metcalf Sq. , adjacent to the First Church of Winthrop United Methodist, “Harry’s Way”.....(Please see attached motion)

2nd by Councilor Boncore

Passed Unanimously

Motion by Councilor Ferrino that the Town Council vote to transfer \$150,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the General Fund Special Article for Arthur T. Cummings School Playground Equipment and Repairs

Motion by Councilor Boncore to consider this and Emergency motion
2nd by Councilor Ferrino
Passed Unanimously

Main Motion as Discussed

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Engman-	Absent
Councilor Calla-	Yes
Councilor Christopher-	Yes
Councilor Boncore-	Yes
Councilor Demarco-	Yes
Councilor Ferrino-	Yes
Councilor LoConte-	Yes
Council Vice President Letterie-	Yes
Council President Vecchia-	Yes

Motion Passes

Town Manager Faison discusses that the School Committee and Superintendent requested quotes. Hoping time table by October. The Superintendent is exploring options if we cannot construct prior to winter what will be necessary to make safe. There are several options to make sure safe.

Motion by Councilor Boncore to refer to the Public Safety Committee that the Town Council instruct the Town Manager's office to place a bicycle lane on the North Running Side of Veterans Rd....(See Attached Motion)

2nd by Councilor Ferrino

Motion Passes 6-2 (Councilor LoConte-No / Councilor DeMarco-No)

Motion by Town Council President Vecchia that the Town Council accepts his appointment of Karla Murphy to the Winthrop Disabilities Committee for a term until June 30, 2022

2nd by Councilor Ferrino

Passed Unanimously

Motion by Town Council President Vecchia that the Town Council accepts his appointment of Josephine Fatta to the Airport Hazards Committee for a term until June 30, 2022

2nd by Councilor LoConte

Passed Unanimously

Motion by Town Council President Vecchia that the Town Council accepts his appointment of Alycia Santoro to the Parks Committee for a term until June 30, 2022

2nd by Councilor DeMarco

Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dawn Manning (P3)-Comments on article in the Winthrop Transcript on the ATC Playground, can this project begin immediately now that funding has been issued?

Town Manager Faison responses that this project will begin as soon as possible. He is trying his hardest to alleviate all concerns.

Jack Dowd (P3)-Comments on the water storage facility on Ingleside Park, requests a progress report to be made available to the public. Discusses Tennis Courts cost estimates were done by contractor that did Ingleside Park , and how construct should be analyzed.

School Building Committee member recalls that never were the Tennis Courts to be paved over.

The Golf Course Shed was supposed to be taken down by the Golf Course, Winthrop had to remove and he does not recollect that we were responsible for rebuilding.

Karin Chavis (P1)-Looking for information on CBD Project Contractor Name and Funding to be made public.

Michael DiMento (P2)-Asks the Town Manager and members of the Council to consider reviewing other engineers for this project.

PUBLIC RELATIONS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Councilor Christopher comments that Tino Capobianco been chosen Mass Assoc. School Committee Member of the Year
Suffolk District Attorney Rollins will be at the Winthrop High School having an open house Thursday 9-26-19 at WHS Auditorium
9-21-19 –I Love Winthrop Festival-French Sq. 12:00PM
10-1-19-Joint Public Hearing/ Town Council & Planning Board for Amended CBD Zoning Map- Sr. Center 6:00 PM
Local election 11-5-19 and register 9-24-19 at Public Library

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor LoConte
2nd By Councilor Ferrino
Passed Unanimously
Meeting Adjourned at 9:25PM

A DVD of this meeting is available from WCAT / www.youtube.com
Public Documents used in the meeting are available at Town Managers Office.

Documents Used in this Meeting:

Hand Written Notes / Committee Openings Documents
Roll Call Log
Written Motions / Verbal Motions

Respectfully submitted,
Town Council Clerk
Denise Quist