

DRAFT



Town of Winchester 1 Richmond Road Winchester, NH 03470

**MINUTES of the
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**
Wednesday
January 10, 2007

Board Members Present: Gustave Ruth (Chairman), Susan Newell, Gerald Hastings, Sherman Tedford and Theodore Whipple. Also present: Town Manager John Stetser, secretary Roberta Fraser
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

1st Order of Business: Acceptance of minutes of January 3, 2007

Sue makes a *motion* to approve the minutes of January 3, 2007

Ted seconds it

Motion carries

2nd Order of Business: Announcements

None tonight

3rd Order of Business: Open to the Floor

Ken Berthiame informs the board that Neil Mackay has resigned from the Trustee of Trust funds for the town due to health reasons. The trustees will be meeting next week to discuss appointing someone to replace him and are asking for suggestions for appointees.

4th Order of Business: Town Manager's report

- < John reads the monthly report from Bob Gray from the assessing department and from Gary Puffer from the water department.
- < Hoyle, Tanner and Associates has announced that the Verry Brook Bridge is complete and the final payment to the contractor is due.

5th Order of Business: Old Business

None Tonight

6th Order of Business: New Business

Public hearing for acceptance of the RERP grant:

Sue makes a *motion* to recess the public session and enter a public hearing per RSA 31:95b, to accept a grant from the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department from the State of NH Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services

Sherm seconds it

Motion carries

Sue makes a *motion* to apply for, accept and expend funds in the amount of \$22,360.00 granted to the Town of Winchester Emergency Management Department from the State of NH Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services. Said funds will be used as listed:

- < Planning and administration: \$2500.00
- < Training: \$5400.00
- < Miscellaneous: \$500.00
- < Current Expense: \$12460.00
- < Replacement Equipment: \$1500.00-radio

Ted seconds it

Discussion: Sherm asks what this is for and if the town receives it every year and Sue explains the grant to him.

Motion is called and carries

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to close the public hearing and reenter public session

Sue seconds it

Motion carries

The board discusses the possibility of selling tax-deeded property the town now owns. Sherm would like a list of the properties and would like to see whatever parcels can be put back on the tax role.

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to have a list of tax-deeded properties for next week's meeting

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

7th Order of Business: Open to the Floor

None tonight

8th Order of Business: Office Documents

Jerry makes a ***motion*** to approve the tax collector's check request for a refund for overpayment on taxes for M 17 L 24

Ted seconds it

Motion carries

Jerry makes a ***motion*** to approve the rebate of \$100.00 for overpayment of taxes for M 28 L 12, 13,18,27 and m 30 L 11, 12

Sherm seconds it

Motion carries

Jerry makes a ***motion*** to approve the elderly tax exemption for M 12 L 36-6

Sherm seconds it

Motion carries

Jerry makes a ***motion*** to approve the junkyard license permit renewal for Wallock's- M 3 1 1-1

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

There is discussion about the junkyard permit renewal application from Bechard's & Sons. The renewal application was not approved last year and there is discussion about whether it is still a valid junkyard, since the license has lapsed for one year. After further discussion, the board concurs that they would like further information. Jerry makes a ***motion*** to table the application until further research is done. Sherm seconds it. Sue asks for an ***amendment*** to also get a written recommendation and report from the code enforcer regarding this junkyard. Jerry accepts the amendment and Sherm seconds it. ***Motion carries.***

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to approve the abatement in the amount of \$2,361.00 for M 33 L 37

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to approve the abatement in the amount of \$1,357.00 for M 15 L 8

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

Gus reads a letter from the Winchester Trail riders thanking the town for the use of town land for the snowmobile trails

John reads a letter from Hoyle & Tanner Associates with their recommendation that the town pay Bayview Construction Corp what is owed them for construction of the Verry Brook bridge.
Sherm makes a ***motion*** to approve the payment to Bayview Construction Corp. in the amount of \$225,910.00 for the Verry Brook bridge project
Jerry seconds it
Motion carries with Sue voting No

Sue makes a ***motion*** to approve the payment to Diluzio Ambulance services in the amount of \$4851.00 from the ambulance special fund account
Jerry seconds it
Motion carries

Sue makes a ***motion*** to go into non -public per RSA 91-A: 3 II (c)

Ted seconds it

Roll call vote:

Ted Whippie: Aye

Sherman Tedford: Aye

Gustave Ruth: Aye

Gerald Hastings: Aye

Susan Newell: Aye

Discussion: Sherm would like to do the warrant articles discussion first. Sue ***amends*** her motion to go into non-public session right after warrant article discussion and Ted seconds it.

Motion carries

Non-Public is entered at 8:25 pm

Public session is reconvened at 8:43 pm

Gus announces that the minutes have been sealed

Work session:

The board holds a work session to discuss warrant articles- non-petitioned and petitioned:

Sue makes a ***motion*** to change warrant article #6, change the words *to lapse* to *will lapse*

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

Sue makes a ***motion*** to change warrant articles # 8 & 9 to ***as approved***, not ***and approved***

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries

Sherm informs the board that the budget committee met last night to approve the town's warrants articles and they had some questions and decided not to recommend some of them.

The budget committee feels that a lesser amount than \$25,000.00 may be more appropriate at this time for the town hall fund since there is not a plan in place as to what is going to be done with it and what needs to be repaired.

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to reconsider article warrant # 5

Jerry seconds it

Discussion: Jerry wants to know why nothing has been done with the \$25,000.00 that was approved last year for the town hall fund. Ted asks how much is included in the capital improvement plan for the town hall. John lets him know it is \$25,000.00 over four years.

Motion is called and carries with Sue voting No

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to raise the some of \$10,000.00 for article #5

Jerry seconds it

Discussion: Ted would like to see it be \$15,000.00. Gus would like it to stay at \$25,000.00. He feels a lot needs to be done in the building. Jerry believes that may be so, but the town manager isn't doing anything about it and has not given the board any information on what needs to be done or any cost estimates, so it's hard to approve appropriating the money. After further discussion, the ***motion is called and carries with Ted and Gus voting No***

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to reconsider warrant article #2

Sue seconds it

Motion carries

Discussion on warrant #2: Trevor Croteau explains to the board that the budget committee does not recommend the article for the fire truck because they would rather see \$75,000.00 put in the capital reserve fund towards the purchase of a new truck. They would like further information on the cost of the truck and the cost of the lease payments. Sherm would like to see some specifications on the truck. Sue would like to see \$75,000.00 in the capital reserve fund this year and then ask for \$100,000.00 next year. There is further discussion about the truck and the warrant article and then Sue makes a ***motion*** to change article #2 to: "*Shall our town vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$75,000.00 to be deposited in the capital reserve fund approved in 2005.*" Sherm seconds it. ***Motion carries with Jerry abstaining and Gus voting No.*** Sherm asks John to draw up the warrant article with the proper wording and approval by the DRA and to have it for next week and the board concurs.

Petitioned articles:

Sue makes a ***motion*** to approve \$2500.00 for the purpose of putting names on the war memorial

Sherm seconds it

Motion carries

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to recommend \$6000.00 for the WLC.

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries with Ted abstaining

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to recommend the \$24,500.00 payment for the highway truck

Sue seconds it

Motion carries

After the last warrant article is discussed, the board immediately goes into non- public session

Public session is reconvened at 8:43 and Gus announces the minutes are sealed

There is a discussion about holding five meetings this month and Sherm makes a ***motion*** to hold five meetings this month. Jerry seconds it. ***Motion carries***

9th Order of Business: Adjournment

Sherm makes a ***motion*** to adjourn

Jerry seconds it

Motion carries unanimously

Meeting is adjourned at 8:45 pm

January 10, 2007 BOS Minutes approved by:

Date Signed:

Gustave Ruth, Chairman

Gerald Hastings, Selectman

Susan Newell, Selectman

Sherman Tedford, Selectman

Theodore Whippie, Selectman

R. Fraser 01/12/07