

TOWN OF WINSLOW, MAINE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of Meeting
August 11 2008

REGULAR MEETING

1. Roll call attendance was taken with seven (7) members present:

James Byrne, Brad Grant, Paul Manson, Roland Michaud, Catherine Nadeau, Steve Russell and Gerald Saint Amand.

Michael Heavener, Town Manager and John Giroux, Public Works Director were present along with several members of Save our Seabasticook.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Motion by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Byrne that the minutes of the meeting held on July 30 be approved. Motion Carried. Unanimous.

3. Communications

- a. Legislative Update

Mr. Fletcher discussed the State's Budget and this year's excess revenue of \$43.4 million with the council.

- b. Other

1. Copy of Minutes from Kennebec Water District July 3 meeting.
2. Copy of School Committee agenda for August 4.
3. Copy of Minutes from Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District June 17 meeting.
4. Elected Officials to be voted on in the November 4, 2008 Election.

4. Legislative Recognition

Ken Fletcher presented Lee Breton with a plaque to recognize his years of service working for our Parks & Recreation Department.

5. Reports of Committees and Commissions

- a. Town Manager Report

Public Works Foreman Passes Away

As you know, Public Works Foreman Bruce Waldron passed away unexpectedly on Friday, August 1,

2008. He had worked for the town for 36 years. Bruce's never ending smile and infectious positive attitude will be missed. The Town Office was closed for a brief period of time on Tuesday, August 5th, to allow his coworkers to attend his memorial service.

Halifax Dam Removal Project Updates

Daily updates on the status of the Halifax Dam Removal Project can be obtained by going to the Town's website (www.winslowmaine.org) and clicking on the appropriate link. The status is updated each day following a 3:30 pm staff briefing.

Attached to this report is a letter from A.E. Hodsdon that provides an update on the sewer line.

School Committee Rejects the RPC's School Consolidation Plan

At their meeting on Monday, August 4th, the School Committee rejected the proposed School Consolidation Plan proposed by the Regional Planning Committee (RPC). The RPC plan would have consolidated the schools in Winslow, Vassalboro, China and SAD 47.

The School Committee has decided to pursue the submission of a reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education to form an "Alternate Organizational Structure" ("AOS") (see attached handout) as an alternative to forming a Regional School Unit (RSU). The School Committee directed the School Superintendent to explore forming an AOS with the City of Waterville or with the towns of Vassalboro and China.

An AOS plan must be approved by the Commissioner of Education and implemented by July of 2009. If we are unsuccessful in doing so, then the state will fine the Winslow School System \$210,000 annually until a plan is approved and implemented.

During the School Committee's discussion of the RPC's proposed RSU plan a question arose about the transfer of property to the proposed RSU. The only property the plan proposed to be transferred to the RSU was property mandated by the school consolidation law. The plan did not propose transferring additional property, such as the Town's Parks and Rec Fields.

KRDA TIF Payment Received

We have received our annual TIF payment in the amount of \$24,643.37 from the Kennebec Regional Development Authority (KRDA) or otherwise known as First Park. To date we have received \$63,052.67 in TIF payments. Our total investment to date is \$413,495.61.

Heating Fuel Vendor Selected

The significant increase in heating fuel costs has posed some challenges in locking-in a price for heating fuel for the coming heating season.

When I began the process of exploring our options this past spring most heating fuel vendors refused to offer any options because of the volatility in the market.

Our first round of bids conducted through the Maine Power Options produced only a few options with the lowest offer being \$4.63 per gallon.

In July we partnered with the School Department in conducting a second round of bids, which resulted in us selecting Webber Fuel for this coming heating season. Webber Fuel will provide us with #2 fuel oil at .15 cents mark-up over Portland OPIS. At the time the bid was accepted the cost per gallon would have been \$4.15.

Our diesel and gasoline needs will continue to be met by J&S Oil.

Freedom of Access Training

In your packet is a Freedom of Access Act FAQ sheet related to public records and proceedings, as

well as, a Certification of Completion Form. Before November 1, 2008 you must thoroughly review the FAQ sheet and complete the certification document or you must attend an approved training course and complete the certification document. I can answer any questions you may have about this requirement at your council meeting on August 11th.

Combined Sewer Overflows Need To Be Addressed

In the Public Works Director's report to the Council he has provided information about combined sewer overflows (CSOs). CSOs result when clean water, such as rain run-off is disposed of through our sewer system. The best example of this is when a basement sump pump is pumped into the sewer system.

John Giroux will be taking a few minutes at your Council meeting to explain his concerns about this issue and possible remedies.

Pattee Pond Watershed Grant

At your May 12th meeting you approved Resolution #8-2008, which authorized me to submit a Federal grant application requesting \$60,300 in Federal funds to assist us in addressing issues that negatively impact the Pattee Pond Watershed. The grant was the result of collaboration between the Town, the Pattee Pond Association and the Soil & Water District.

Unfortunately, our grant request was **DENIED**.

Old Town Garage Update

Sometime ago I asked the Planning Board to make a recommendation regarding potential uses of the old Town Garage on Halifax Street.

On June 12th the Planning Board conducted a site visit and they have also notified abutters of the site to attend their August 6th meeting in an effort to obtain public comment.

When I receive a recommendation from the Planning Board I will be presenting that recommendation to the Town Council for a decision on the site's final disposition.

Public Transit Bus Schedule

Attached to the report is a bus schedule for our new transit bus route. KVCAP expects the route to be fully functioning by the end of August.

Fire Chief Contract

In your packet is Resolution 12-2008, which will authorize me to sign the new and revised Fire Chief contract with the City of Waterville. The major change to the contract is the result of the Fire Chief now being an employee of Waterville.

Library Code

The Town's Library Director has asked that the Library Code Ordinance be tabled until the next Council meeting in September to allow the Library Trustees an opportunity to review proposed changes to the code and to provide comment.

Mr. Heavener offered an update on the Dallaire Street/Dam Removal issue. Chairman Saint Amand aloud questions and comments from the public. John Giroux explained his concerns about combined sewer overflows in areas of town. The council asked that he and Mr. Heavener explore the solutions and bring recommendations to next months meeting.

b. Department Reports

Reports were received from the Fire Department, Public Works, Assessor, Police Department, Library, Code Enforcement and Parks & Recreation.

c. Treasurer’s warrants approved and signed by the Finance Committee during the Month of July.

No. 1.....	\$ 1,409,820.98
No. 2.....	\$ <u>194,670.81</u>
Total	\$ 1,604,491.79

d. Financial Report

Motion by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Manson to approve all reports.
Motion Carried. Unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Order No. 8-2008: Providing for the purchase of a Plow Unit and a Refuse Collection Unit to replace existing units. (First Reading) Sponsored by Gerald Saint Amand

Motion by Mr. Michaud and seconded by Mr. Byrne to accept the first reading of Order No. 8-2008. A roll call vote was taken.

Paul Manson—Yes	Steve Russell—Yes
Brad Grant—Yes	James Byrne—Yes
Roland Michaud—Yes	Catherine Nadeau—Yes
Gerald Saint Amand—Yes	

Motion passed. 7-0

2. Resolution No. 11-2008: Providing for Pole Location Permit – Central Maine Power Company and Fairpoint New England – Project 1-228502. (One Reading) Sponsored by Gerald Saint Amand.

Motion by Mr. Russell and seconded by Mr. Byrne to approve Resolution No. 11-2008. Motion Carried. Unanimous.

3. Resolution No. 12-2008: Authorization for the Town Manager to enter into a contract with the City of Waterville to share Fire Department

Personnel. (One Reading) Sponsored by Gerald Saint Amand.

Motion by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Byrne to adopt Resolution No. 12-2008.

Motion by Mr. Michaud to strike *shared personnel* and replace it with *sharing Fire Department Personnel*. After a lengthy discussion a motion by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Russell to change the wording to *share Fire Chief services*. The amendment passed, 5-2.

Motion Carried. 5-2

4. Resolution No. 13-2008: Providing for a Restaurant (Class I, II, III, IV) Liquor License (beer and wine only) by Noudee Noke Syboun (Noudees Asian Café Inc) d/b/a Asian Café, 53 Bay St. (One Reading) Sponsored by Gerald Saint Amand.

Motion by Mr. Byrne and seconded by Mr. Russell to adopt Resolution No. 12-2008.
Motion Carried. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Byrne to adjourn the meeting.
Motion Carried. Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Town Clerk of Winslow, Maine