

Approved: 1-22-2024

TOWN OF WINCHENDON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024
Town Hall, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
RCUD JAN 23 2024 PM2:32

Board of Selectmen Present:

Audrey LaBrie, Chair
Rick Ward, Vice-Chair
Danielle LaPointe
Melissa Blanchard
Barbara Anderson

William McKinney, Interim Town Manager
Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant
Debra Dennis, Administrative Assistant

List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Letter of Interest-Michael Fitzgerald-Board of Health Appointment
- Retirement Citation-Sheila Bettro
- Special One Day Wine & Malt Only Permit-Winchendon Community Action Committee
- Updated Vacancy List dated December 2023
- First Right of Refusal-Cummings Road Parcel
- Sponsorship –Toy Town Kids Stop \$150, Stone Farm Real Estate \$250, and Ryan Woodard Contracting \$250 to Parks & Recreation
- Town Managers Report dated January 8, 2024
- Minutes November 13, 2023

6:30 P.M. Chair LaBrie called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was taken for Fire Fighter Jim Bevilacqua who passed away. Chair LaBrie asked if anyone would be audio or video recording this meeting tonight to which there was no response heard.

1. **SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Ward said nomination papers will be available on January 16th and they must be returned by March 18th. Chair LaBrie said there is a link to the positions open on the town webpage or if interested reach out to town hall.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Thomas Bayoush-matter that involves him. He said it is to do with Building codes. Chair LaBrie said she would reach out to him.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING:** There are no public hearings scheduled for this evening.

6:30 pm

JOINT MEETING WITH BOARD OF HEALTH

4. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS:

- 4.1 Board of Health Vacancy (1) – Recommendations on 1 - Appointment (Term until next Town Election) for Board of Health member – (Joint Meeting Decision)-Board of Health Chair Santos said we had a quorum upstairs but was told no quorum needed here. Mary Calandrella it was a joint meeting last time because we had two candidates. Tina Santos said Michael Fitzgerald could not make it tonight. Ward said state law does not mention a joint meeting is needed. The Board of Health has voted and tonight we can vote. **Anderson made a motion to appoint Michael Fitzgerald to the Board of Health until the next Town Election. LaPointe seconded. All aye.**
- 4.2 Retirement Announcement-COA Director-Sheila Bettro-Chair LaBrie read the certificate of retirement for Sheila Bettro. Chair LaBrie thanked Sheila for all she has done.

5. PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS:

5.1 Winchendon Community Action Committee –Special One Day Wine & Malt only-Ward said they are going to hold events that will attract big crowds. He said he wishes them all the best of luck. **Ward moved to approve the one-day license application for wine and malt only for the dates discussed. LaPointe seconded all aye.**

6. BOARDS/COMMITTEE COMMISSIONS: Chair LaBrie went over the board and committee vacancies. If interested contact the Town Manager's department. She thanked all the volunteers.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 First Right of Refusal-Cummings Road Parcel-Mary Calandrella said this has been sent to the Planning Board, Conservation Commission. No information at this time.

7.2 Accept Sponsorship- Anderson moved to accept \$150 from the Toy Town Kids Stop, \$250 from Stone Farm Real Estate, and \$250 from Ryan Woodard Contracting for Parks & Recreation. LaPointe seconded. All aye.

8. OLD BUSINESS-There was no old business at this time.

9. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Financial Updates: Meeting with department heads to discuss budgets. Working to set up meeting with Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Capital Planning, and School Committee to discuss plans for FY25 budget. The Auditors here this week to perform the FY23 audit.
- Personnel Updates: Sheila Bettro has resigned as the Council on Aging Director and Miranda Jennings has been appointed.
- Miscellaneous Updates: The Town was awarded the Digital Equity Planning Grant from the Mass Broadband Institute. Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is assisting the Town with implementing the study.

Ward asked about status of free cash and Robinson Broadhurst requests. Bill McKinney said they are working with the Department of Revenue on free cash and the Robinson Broadhurst requests have been sent out. Chair LaBrie asked about Capital Requests. Bill McKinney said he has scheduled a meeting with the Chair of Capital Planning this week.

10. MINUTES:

Selectwoman Anderson moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2023. Selectman Ward seconded.
Vote: All aye.

11. COMMUNICATIONS: Next meeting January 23, 2024.

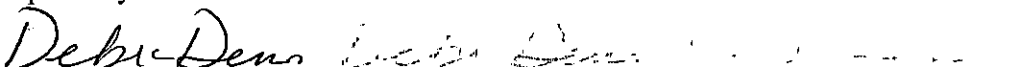
12. AGENDA ITEMS: There were no agenda items discussed.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: There are no executive sessions scheduled tonight.

14. ADJOURNMENT-Anderson motion to adjourn and Ward seconded. All aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Respectfully submitted


Debra Dennis, Administrative Assistant