

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019 6:30 P.M.  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium  
109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.**

Present:

Audrey LaBrie, Chairwoman  
Barbara Anderson  
Michael Barbaro

Keith R. Hickey, Town Manager  
Lindsay, Kuchta, Recording Secretary

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*LaBrie called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.*

No one announced they were audio recording the meeting this evening.

1. **SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Anderson reminded everyone that the Town Scarf Bombing was taking place this coming weekend in front of Town Hall; anyone in need of hats, gloves, and scarves are welcome to come and help themselves.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were none this evening.
3. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** There were none this evening.
4. **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:** LaBrie noted she received a letter of resignation from Selectman Cyganiewicz on Friday, February 1, 2019.

Anderson read the letter which, in part, stated he was unable to fully and properly commit to his duties on the Boards and Committees he was part of, and he thanked the Town for his opportunity to serve the community.

*Barbaro moved with regret to approve Austin Cyganiewicz's resignation from the Monty Tech School Committee and the Board of Selectmen seconded by Anderson, with a vote of all ayes.*

5. **PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS:** There were none this evening.
6. **BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENTS:** There were none this evening.
7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 7.1. Discussion of Holding Special Election for Two Open Selectman Seats- LaBrie stated a discussion was had when Charles Husselbee resigned from the Board regarding a special election. The Board decided they did not want to hold the election at the time. As a five member Board, a quorum is three members, even with Mr. Cyganiewicz's resignation. At this point, if a Board member is unable to attend a meeting, the meeting cannot happen.

Hickey added to LaBrie's statement, noting that if any Board member is unable to sign a warrant, then the Board can go to the Town Clerk for approval. The challenge in front of us is how we would like to address meetings and how the Board would like to move forward.

After continued discussion of the pros and cons of a Special Election, LaBrie asked what the cost of a Special Election would be for the Town, to which Ms. LaJoie replied \$7,600 for a 12 hour

day, and \$5,800 for a 7 hour day of voting. She does not recommend a Special Election; there is already only one person taking out papers and with a Special Election you could have a late ballot and anyone with two write in votes could be elected. It could be confusing for the voters.

*Barbaro moved to take no action at this time, seconded by Anderson for discussion.*

LaBrie stated she is conflicted; she is fine with moving forward as the Board sits and doing the best they can for the five months until new members are elected, as long as the Board understands, for whatever reason, meeting dates may need to flex to get a quorum. She also noted that nomination papers are due March 15, 2019.

*With a vote of all ayes, the motion carried.*

LaBrie noted that Cyganiewicz was Vice Chair of the Board; a new vice Chair will need to be chosen. Additionally, LaBrie asked that Hickey look into what other Boards and Committees Cyganiewicz was on.

The Board decided to wait until their next meeting to select a Vice Chair.

- 7.2. Discussion on Filling Winchendon Seat on the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School- Hickey stated the opening to this seat has been posted, and the Town should wait ten days before appointing someone. There is a School Committee meeting scheduled for February 14, 2019; Hickey spoke with the Superintendent and made her aware that this position needed to be filled, and the Board Members, along with the Town Moderator will be in attendance at the meeting February 14<sup>th</sup> to appoint a representative for the Monty Tech School Committee, whose term will end June 30, 2021.

Anderson noted this is a very important position, and it is imperative that we have anyone who is interested to send a letter of interest in.

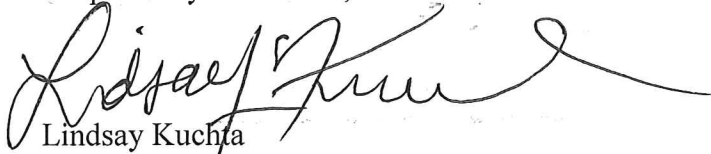
Barbaro made the Board aware that he would be sending his letter of interest in for the seat; he previously served on the School Committee for several years and knows the importance of having a representative who understands the business.

8. **OLD BUSINESS:** There were none this evening.
9. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:** There were none this evening.
10. **MINUTES:** There were none this evening.
11. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Town Clerk, Judy LaJoie, came forward and noted that only one person has taken out papers to run to be a Selectman. She added that anyone who is interested in running for an open position should reach out to the Board or Mr. Hickey and ask any questions they may have regarding the openings.  
  
Barbaro gave thanks to Mr. Cyganiewicz as he was the youngest serving Selectman in the State when he was elected at the age of 19. He served one full term and just short of another full term. Cyganiewicz served on several other committees which can take a lot of time, and sometimes life gets in the way. He thanked Cyganiewicz again for serving his community and wishes him the best on his latest endeavor.
12. **AGENDA ITEMS:** There were none discussed this evening.
13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no Executive Session held this evening.

**14. ADJOURNMENT:**

*Barbaro moved to adjourn, seconded by Anderson. With a vote of all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 6:56PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lindsay Kuchta", written in dark ink.

Lindsay Kuchta  
Recording Secretary

