

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, January 9, 2023  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.**

Present:

Audrey LaBrie, Chair-arrived 6:34pm  
Rick Ward, Vice-Chair  
Barbara Anderson  
Amy Salter  
Danielle LaPointe

Justin Sultzbach, Town Manager  
Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant  
Debra Dennis, Administrative Assistant

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List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Notice of Vacancies dated January 5, 2023
- Entertainment Permit-HEAL-Taste of Winchendon-May 13, 2023
- Entertainment Permit-Recreation Department-Amphitheater Grand Opening June 10, 2023
- Entertainment Permit-Recreation Department-2023 Programming
- Donation & Sponsorship Form-Tenney Remodeling
- Memo from Town Manager-Town/School Revenue/Cost Sharing Discussion dated Sept 26, 2022
- Memo from Town Manager-Community Preservation Act Exploratory Committee Recommendation
- Memo from Town Manager-Proposed Monday, March 13, 2023 Special Town Meeting Schedule
- Memo from Town Manager-Broadcast Equipment Upgrade Update
- Memo from Town Manager-Special Municipal Employee Update
- Memo from Town Manager-Old Murdock Update
- Town Manager's Report (attached)
- Minutes for Approval:
  - November 28, 2022 Regular Meeting
  - December 19, 2022 Special Meeting

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**6:30 P.M.** Vice Chair Ward called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Ward asked if anyone would be audio or video recording this meeting tonight. Edward Ford Jr. said he would be recording the meeting. Chair LaBrie arrived at 6:34pm.

- 1. SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** -LaPointe thanked everyone for the flowers that were sent. Ward said there is a Special Town Election is January 13, 2023 at Old Murdock Senior Center and get nomination papers if you want to run for office.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Lucier questioned why is the comment section on the agenda at the beginning. It doesn't give the general public a chance to speak about each agenda item. He commented that there is no need to make Town Employees Special Municipal Employees. He questioned who will be paying for the water and upkeep of the sprinkler system at the Amphitheater. He commented that some people don't want to be on Boards since there are the same people on Boards pushing their agenda.

Edward Ford Jr. said he spoke to the Town Manager concerning right to use town property since he is an artist. He discussed getting a permit to have a camping event.

- 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** There were no scheduled public hearings this evening.

4. **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:** LaBrie read Board of Selectmen Appointed Committee list of vacancies.

5. **PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1. **Heal-Entertainment Permit- Taste of Winchendon** Beals Library -Sat 5/13/2023 12-4pm-Ward moved to approve the entertainment permit for Taste of Winchendon as presented this evening and LaPointe seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson yes, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.
- 5.2. **Recreation Department-Amphitheater Grand Opening June 10, 2023**-Tiffany Newton, Recreation Director discussed the Amphitheater Grand Opening. LaBrie commented she wants to see the entire application. Ward moved to approve the entertainment permit for the Amphitheater Grand Opening on June 10 as presented this evening and LaPointe seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson no, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.
- 5.3. **Recreation Department-2023 Programming**-Tiffany Newton, Recreation Director went over the proposed three events which will be in July, August and September. July-Old Fashion American Cookout, August is the Lazy Hazy Days of Summer, and September will be Back to School Blow Out. This was tabled due to not having all the documentation pertaining to this application this evening.

6. **BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENTS**

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 7.1. **Beal's Library's Town wide Book Project- "Hey Kiddo" Update**-Patty Stanko explained they are doing an all town read. She said there is a book that is available for anyone who would like to read it. She said they will be having panels on related issues on January 11<sup>th</sup> on domestic abuse from 11-1, in February the panel will be on trauma, March panel is on mental health, April 15 panel is on substance abuse. The author Jarrett Krosoczka will be speaking in town on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 7.2. **Accept Sponsorship Donations for Amphitheater Grand Opening**-Tiffany Newton went over the process they followed to ask for sponsorship donations for the Amphitheater. The park has a gift fund where these funds will be placed. Ward wanted to wait until they have the full list to accept the sponsorship donations received so far. Sultzbach said we can have a complete list at the next meeting.
- 7.3. **Town /School Cost/Revenue Sharing Process Discussion**-Sultzbach explained creating a working group comprised of two members of the Board of Selectmen, two members of the School Committee, and one member of the Finance Committee. This group of five would meet with Superintendent King and Town Manager over the coming months to hash out a draft agreement. Ward commented that all Solar funds need to go into a Capital Stabilization Fund per a vote at Town Meeting. LaBrie said we need to do some research. **LaBrie made a motion to nominate Danielle LaPointe and Barbara Anderson as the representatives for the Board of Selectmen for the Town/School Revenue/Cost Sharing Group (TSRCSG) with the understanding that said committee will be dissolved following the implementation of an agreement between the Board of Selectmen and School Committee and Salter seconded the motion. All aye.**

8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 8.1. **Review CPAEC Proposal**- Marc Dorwart came forward to answer questions. LaBrie read the proposal. The Board members discussed how the funds could be used.
- 8.2. **STM 3/13/2023**-Ward questioned why we can't hold it in May when a town meeting and election will be scheduled. The cost of having this Special Town Meeting will be four thousand dollars for one article. Sultzbach said the Town meeting vote is to put it on the ballot in May when more residents will be here. **LaPointe moved the Board schedule a Special Town Meeting for Monday, March 13, 2023 at 7:00pm to be held at the Murdock Middle High School and to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 8:00am and to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at noon and Anderson seconded the motion for discussion.** Anderson said she would like to

see other articles on the warrant. **Roll Call Vote: LaPointe aye, Anderson aye, Salter no, Ward no, LaBrie yes.**

8.3. **Update on Broadcasting Equipment**-Sultzbach went over the memo supplied by Linda Daigle pertaining to the Broadcasting Equipment. Anderson said we need this equipment. LaBrie said she agrees. She said she is fine putting it on the special town warrant.

8.4. **Update Special Municipal Employee list and vote for Approval**-Sultzbach pointed out the part time police officers and part time officers of fire department was added. The 1984 list overrides the 1963 list. LaBrie asked Sultzbach to explain the process. He said this is a review. Creating the monitored legal avenue for individuals who hold multiple roles. Anderson said this should be on the Special Town Warrant and let the residents decide. Marc Dorwart commented this is an exemption to the Conflict of Interest Law. Sultzbach said this is us working with the Inspector General's Office. **Ward moved that the Board vote to designate those listed above as "Special Municipal Employees" as permitted in MGL Chapter 268A (The Massachusetts Conflict of Interest Law) with the understanding that School Employees are already not permitted to serve on the School Committee by law, superseding previous lists submitted in 1963 and 1984, and further direct the Town Manager to notify the Town Clerk of this updated list and Salter seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson no, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.**

8.5. **Old Murdock Update**-Sultzbach went over the update. Timeline through the upcoming year as well. Russo Barr Associates is going through a merger with Socotec US which is the same parent company as CBI Consulting, our OPM firm. He confirmed that the design for Phase I will be completed by early March. This will immediately go out to bid.

9. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**-Sultzbach went over the list of Robinson Broadhurst requests and also his report (see attached). We received a grant \$494,000 to replace sewer and water pipes. Anderson left at 9:30pm.

**10. MINUTES:**

10.1. Monday, November 28, 2022-Regular Meeting-**LaBrie made a motion to approve as presented and Salter seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, LaPointe abstained, and LaBrie aye.**

10.2. Monday, December 19, 2022-Regular Meeting-**LaPointe made a motion to approve as presented and Ward seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie abstained.**

11. **COMMUNICATIONS:** There was no discussion this evening on this subject.

12. **AGENDA ITEMS:** Next meeting is Tri Board meeting on 1-17 at 7pm and Regular Meeting is 1-23 at 6:30pm.

13. **LaBrie moved to enter into Executive Session - M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a): Subsection 2: To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Town Accountant Search Discussion) and LaPointe seconded. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.**

14. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Board went into executive session at 9:40pm. **Salter made a motion to adjourn from the regular session at 9:49pm and LaPointe seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.**

Respectfully submitted;

Debra Dennis, Administrative Assistant