

Approved: February 27, 2023

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, February 6, 2023**

Town Hall, 2nd Floor Auditorium, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.

Present:

Audrey LaBrie, Chair
Rick Ward, Vice-Chair
Danielle LaPointe
Barbara Anderson
Amy Salter

Justin Sultzbach, Town Manager
Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant

List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Final Draft Special Town Meeting Warrant of March 13, 2023 (attached)
- Minutes-January 17, 2023 Quad Board meeting

6:00 P.M. Chair LaBrie called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. LaBrie asked if anyone would be audio or video recording this meeting tonight.

- 1. SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** LaPointe said the cast and crew who performed Matilda at the school did an excellent job. Anderson thanked the DPW for all the work they did over the last storm and everything they do. She commented at the last meeting the sound quality of the broadcasting was unclear. Salter thanked the water department that helped residents over the weekend with frozen pipes.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was no Public comments this evening.

- 3. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 3.1. Special Town Meeting of March 13, 2023-Discussion and Vote Final Warrant**- Sultzbach said there are six articles on the draft. He read each article. He discussed the letter written by the CPAEC concerning the guidelines of implementing. The committee would consist of nine members, four elected members and five members appointed by certain boards or committees, no funds would be used the first year, borrowing by CPA funds would not be considered for any project, 5% of the funds would be untouched, and 5% total funds administrated for oversight. They are asking the Board to give support of the guidelines only by endorsing this letter.

Ward had issues with article 5 not asking for a certain amount such as the 3%. Sultzbach said the language provided there is activating the Preservation Act in town. He said we can get the motion out and highlight what we are asking for. The vote concerning the letter was tabled until the next meeting.

Ward moved to approve the March 13, 2023 Special Town Meeting Warrant as presented this evening and LaPointe seconded the motion. Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.

- 4. MINUTES:**

- 4.1 Monday, January 17, 2023-Quad Board Meeting-Ward moved to approve the January 17, 2023 Quad Board meeting minutes as presented and LaPointe seconded the motion. Vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.

- 5. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- 5.1 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 Manager FY24 contract

and reconvene in open session for the sole purpose of adjournment and Ward seconded the motion.
Roll call vote: Salter aye, Ward aye, Anderson aye, LaPointe aye, and LaBrie aye.

6. ADJOURNMENT: The Board went into executive session at 6:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Dennis

Debra Dennis
Administrative Assistant



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023
7:00pm – Murdock High School**

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SUMMARY SHEET

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, February 7th, 2023
7:00 PM
Town Hall, 2nd Floor Auditorium, 109 Front Street

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 13th, 2023**

Worcester, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the MURDOCK MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 3 Memorial Drive, off Elmwood Road in said Winchendon on

**MONDAY, MARCH 13th, 2023
AT 7:00 P.M.**

then and there to act on the following articles:

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the reports of the Finance Committee, and any other Board or Committee, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 0-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 0-0

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,394.86 for payment of prior fiscal year bills as follows:

Fiscal Year	Name	Invoice Amount
FY2022	To Each His Own Design	\$747.62
FY2022	KP Law	\$647.24
Total		\$1,394.86

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Nine Tents Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 0-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 0-0

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 3 - CAPITAL PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000 for Broadcasting Equipment Upgrades and staff support in Town Hall, or to take any other action related thereto.

(submitted by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 0-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 0-0

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 0-0

OTHER ARTICLES

ARTICLE 4 - GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENT

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as recommended by the Recreation Commission and Winchendon Community Park Committee as shown below with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted crossed out:

ARTICLE 24 PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

1. A) There shall be a Parks & Recreation Commission [the Commission] consisting of nine (9) ~~seven (7)~~ members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Commission shall consist of not more than two (2) Middle or High School students who reside in Winchendon. One (1) member shall be a Winchendon middle school student in good standing, and one (1) member shall be a Winchendon high school student in good standing.
- (B) Accept as provided in subsection 1(D), the terms shall be for three (3) years and so arranged that the term of as nearly an equal number as is possible shall expire each year.
- (C) Upon the completion of these original terms, each member shall serve for three years, accept as provided in subsection 1(D).
- (D) Middle or High School Student members, if any, shall be appointed annually.
2. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to public recreation, The Commission shall makes annual budget recommendations and assists in creating policy and planning a recreation program to stimulate public interest and community wide engagement, including the planning of park and recreation facility maintenance.
3. The stated primary function of the Commission is to expand and enhance the recreation opportunities for the residents of Winchendon as well as to help beautify & maintain the parks and recreation areas within Winchendon.

4. The Commission may make recommendations for the establishment of reasonable fees for use of any recreation facilities and Programs as it deems to be consistent with established Recreation Policy and Bylaws.

The Commission shall submit to the Town Manager its recommendation for an annual budget.

or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Recreation Commission and Winchendon Community Park Committee) (Majority Vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 0-0 RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 0-0 RECOMMEND
RECREATION COMMISSION: 0-0 RECOMMEND WCPC: 0-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 5 - COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

To see if the Town will accept Sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by approving a surcharge on real property for the purposes permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources, the acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; to determine the amount of such surcharge on real property as a percentage of the annual real estate tax levy against real property and the fiscal year in which such surcharge shall commence; to determine whether the Town will accept any of the exemptions from such surcharge permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by Community Preservation Act Exploratory Committee) (Majority Vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:	0-0 RECOMMEND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE:	0-0 RECOMMEND
FINANCE COMMITTEE:	0-0 RECOMMEND
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE:	0-0 RECOMMEND
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:	0-0 RECOMMEND
PLANNING BOARD:	0-0 RECOMMEND
CONSERVATION COMMISSION:	0-0 RECOMMEND
HISTORIC COMMISSION:	0-0 RECOMMEND
RECREATION COMMISSION:	0-0 RECOMMEND
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION:	0-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 6 - WHITNEY POND DAM NON-BINDING REFERENDUM

To see if the Town will vote to recommend the Board of Selectmen seek grant and other available funds for the purpose of making certain improvements to the Whitney Pond Dam such that water levels in the Whitney Pond will be higher and restored to the levels obtained when the Dam was originally installed, rather than proceeding with a more cost effective repair of the existing Dam with available funds that would keep the water level at its current, lower level but permit the Dam to continue functioning as needed for the foreseeable future; or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 0-0 RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 0-0 RECOMMEND

DRAFT Special Town Meeting Warrant
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the several places designated by the bylaws of the Town of Winchendon fourteen days at least before the time of holding such meeting and by mailing a notice with information on how and where a copy of the warrant can be obtained and where it can be viewed (electronically and/or in person) to be mailed to each household owned or occupied by a registered voter of the Town. Immediately upon posting of the warrant, copies shall be provided to citizens on request and the warrant shall be posted on any Town electronic bulletin board and on the Town website as required by said bylaws.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 6th day of February 2023.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Audrey LaBrie, Chair

Rick Ward, Vice-Chair

Barbara Anderson

Danielle LaPointe

Amy Salter

I have this day posted the within warrant as therein directed:

PRINT CONSTABLE NAME

SIGN CONSTABLE NAME

DATE:

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, February 7th, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Town Hall, 2nd Floor Auditorium, 109 Front St.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. To file a complaint of Discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9410