

TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, 109 Front St., Winchendon, Mass.

Present: Rick Ward, Chair  
Andrew Beauvais, Vice Chair  
Audrey LaBrie  
Melissa Blanchard  
Erika Eitland

William McKinney, Town Manager  
Debra Dennis, Executive Assistant

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List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Letter of Interest-Commission on Disabilities-Renee Eldredge, Susan Kuchta, and Pam Smit
- Letter of Interest-Parks & Recreation Commission-Jennifer Phelps
- Letter of Interest-Cultural Council-Dani Cutler
- Letter of Interest-Youth Ad Hoc Commission-Bonnie Veilleux
- Entertainment Permit-Winchendon CAC, Winchenstock Annual Benefit Concert, August 10, 2024 @ Winchendon Amphitheater 12-9PM (Rain date is August 11, 2024)
- Special One Day Liquor License-Stacey Kazinska, Moonhill Brewing, June 28, 2024
- Discussion of Approval Process for Town Sponsored Entertainment Permits
- Process adoption for Alteration of Premises Outdoor Alcoholic Beverage Service
- Letter of Resignation-School Committee-David LaPointe
- Draft June 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes

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6:30 PM Chair Ward called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Ward 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:** Selectwoman Blanchard thanked everyone involved in the Summer Solstice. Selectman Beauvais thanked Inanna Arthen for carrying on the torch of The Winchendon Courier. Chair Ward said the Communications Committee that consists of seven members only has three members. If interested send an email or letter of interest to Debra Dennis at Town Hall. This committee is very important. The Food Truck Festival/Battle of the Bands is this Friday from 4-9 at GAR Park. He thanked Keith Kent for the many years of writing stories for the Winchendon Courier. He said Mr. Kent wasn't paid to do this, he wrote as a volunteer. Selectwoman Eitland said there is a need to pass an override to keep the quality in the school that we need.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There was no public comments or announcements this evening.
3. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** There was no scheduled public hearings this evening.
4. **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**
  - 4.1 Approval of Commission on Disabilities Potential Members- Renee Eldredge, Susan Kuchta, and Pam Smit. Renee Eldredge came forward and explained why she wanted to be on the committee. **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint Renee Eldredge, Susan Kuchta, and Pam Smit to the Commission on Disabilities. Selectwoman Eitland seconded the motion. Vote: All aye.**
  - 4.2 Appointment-Jennifer Phelps-Parks & Recreation Commission- Jennifer Phelps came forward and explained why she wants to serve on the Parks & Recreation Commission. She said she wants to get

involved and offer other ideas. Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint Jennifer Phelps to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term expiration of June 30, 2027. Selectman Beauvais seconded the motion. Vote: All aye.

4.3 Appointment-Dani Cutler-Cultural Council- The Chair of the Cultural Council recommend this appointment. Dani Cutler came forward and explained she wants to get involved. **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint Dani Cutler to the Cultural Council with a term expiration of June 30, 2027. Selectman Beauvais seconded the motion.** Vote: All aye.

4.4 Appointment-Bonnie Veilleux-Youth Ad Hoc Commission- **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint Bonnie Veillux to the Winchendon Youth Ad-Hoc Commission as an advisory member with a term expiration of when the Youth Commission gets established.** Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.

## 5. PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS:

5.1. Entertainment Permit-Winchendon CAC, Winchenstock Annual Benefit Concert, August 10, 2024 @ Winchendon Amphitheater 12-8 PM (Rain date is August 11, 2024)- Miranda Jennings said the LaPointe Law Offices put this on as a benefit for the Winchendon CAC. **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to approve the Entertainment Permit for Winchendon CAC, Winchendstock Annual Benefit Concert on August 10, 2024 from 12-8pm and waive the fee.** Selectman Beauvais seconded the motion. Vote: All aye.

5.2. Special One Day Liquor License-Stacey Kazinska, Moonhill Brewing, June 28, 2024- Stacey Kazinska, Moonhill Brewing came forward and said they are looking for a Special One Day Wine and Malt Only License for Friday June 28, 2024 for the Food Truck Festival.

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved to approve the Special One Day Wine and Malt Beverage License for Stacey Kazinska, Moonhill Brewing for the Food Truck Festival on Friday June 28, 2024 from 4pm-9pm.** Selectman Beauvais seconded the motion. Vote: All aye.

5.3 **Discussion of Approval Process for Town Sponsored Entertainment Permits-** Brian Croteau came forward and requested the Board authorize the Town Manager to sign off/approve all Entertainment Permits submitted by the Town for use on Town property. **Selectwoman LaBrie moved that all entertainment permits only submitted by any town department/committee be approved at the Town Managers office level and a list of all approved be presented at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.** Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.

**5.4 Process adoption for Alteration of Premises Outdoor Alcoholic Beverage Service** – Linda Daigle came forward and explained that the General Court recently enacted two statutory amendments that affect the service of alcoholic beverages by on-premises license holders. The changes make permanent certain emergency legislation enacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. One of them is for the continuation of the sale of mixed drinks with food for take-out and the other is allowing for approval of expanding service to outdoor areas without the approval of the ABCC. A draft application for approval from the Board is requested this evening. She said she knows of at least two businesses interested in this at this time. Chair Ward said this takes some of the roadblocks out of the way.

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved the Board of Selectmen adopt the process for an Alteration of Premises for Outdoor Alcoholic Beverages Services as presented this evening.** Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.

## 6. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS:

6.1 Presentation Cultural Council-Results of Community Survey on Cultural Interests in Town-Jill Sackett came forward and presented a Power Point presentation. She said the Massachusetts Cultural Council is funded by appropriations from State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. Funds are distributed to the Local Cultural Councils to distribute to individuals and organizations in their communities. The Winchendon Cultural Council meets yearly to review and award these funds to cultural programs town-wide. Our FY24

Priorities- Applicants that have secured a venue in Winchendon. Projects that serve youth or the elderly. Projects that align with Winchendon's Master Plan. Applications from LGBTQ+ organizations and organizations that center BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) individuals and communities. Community support and involvement. Ability to address the diverse cultural needs of a community's underserved populations or support diverse forms of cultural activities. The members of the Winchendon Cultural Council would like to thank all of the nearly 100 people who completed our 2023 community survey. The survey was conducted to give the council insight into how Winchendon residents feel about the wide variety of events offered throughout the year, which offerings were enjoyed the most or least, and which had the best attendance. We also learned by what means people became aware of our cultural activities. Most importantly, perhaps, the Council heard your compliments, opinions, and suggestions for improving our service to you, your family, your friends, and your community. Suggested Priorities for Future Funding-1. Community Wide Festivals, 2. Musical Concerts/Performances, 3. Programs Centered around Nature, Science, and the environment, 4. Arts Education in schools, 5. Children's Programming-Field Trips for students to museums, and local history projects. How do we move forward? Share information about funded projects, fund projects based on community input, and be mindful of all the demographic in town. Chair Ward discussed the Winchendon Winds Concert he attended and was very impressed. These events are free. The last one is this Sunday.

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

7.1 Building Commissioner-Geoff Newton-Geoff Newton came forward and read his resignation letter. He said he enjoyed working as the Building Commissioner. He commented about the vacant buildings in the town. He was thanked by the Board.

7.2 School Committee Vacancy- Chair Ward explained the procedure to follow pertaining to appointment of a new School Committee member due to the vacancy since David LaPointe has resigned from the School Committee. This reappointment will be a joint appointment with the School Committee. The appointment will be until the May Election. He asked the Board members if they were available for a joint meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm which the Board members said they were available. July 9<sup>th</sup> joint meeting with the Finance Committee to do end of year transfers.

**8. OLD BUSINESS:**

**9. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:** William McKinney said Linda Daigle is retiring. Enjoyed the Parade, and Strawberry Festival. On Friday went to DCR and we received a Mass Trail Event Grant in the amount of \$321,000. Miranda Jennings named a Commonwealth Heroine.

**10. MINUTES:**

10.1 April 29, 2024 Executive Session Minutes-These were tabled until the next meeting.

10.2 June 18, 2024 Special Meeting Prior to Town Meeting-Selectwoman LaBrie moved to approve the June 18, 2024 as presented. Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.

**11. COMMUNICATIONS:** There was no communications this evening.

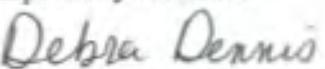
**12. AGENDA ITEMS:** There was no agenda items this evening.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no scheduled executive sessions this evening.

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** Selectwoman Eitland moved to adjourn. Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted

  
Debra Dennis, Executive Assistant