

Approved: November 12, 2024

TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Meeting Minutes  
MONDAY, October 28, 2024-6:30pm  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, 109 Front Street, Winchendon, Mass.

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

William McKinney, Town Manager  
Debra Dennis, Executive Assistant

Absent: Melissa Blanchard

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List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Resignation Letter- Burton Gould-Planning Board
  - Letter of Interest-James Hardy-Planning Board
  - Letter of Interest- Bonnie Veilleux-Parks & Recreation
  - Certificate of Appreciation-Alexis Chanthachack
  - Change of Manager Application-Alexis Curry-Little Anthony's
  - Christmas Tree Sale-Willie Trees-Michelle Guevin @ Murdock Farm November 26-December 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Christmas Tree Sale-Joshua Laprise@467 Glenallen Street November 1-December 23rd-
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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 Eitland said early voting is tomorrow and the last day to request mail in ballots. There are steps voting process to make sure votes go where they have to go. Fall Fest was great. She said she created papers on different departments to hand out at Fall Fest. Selectwoman LaBrie-put one up on bulletin boards/dollar tree board/library. Trick or Treat will be this Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm. Chair Ward thanked Selectwoman Eitland for doing the flyers. Early voting three days left town hall second floor 8am-5pm. Nov 5<sup>th</sup> ribbon cutting this Saturday 2pm to celebrate the new playground. Dedication a new bench at Grout Park.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: None**  
Selectwoman LaBrie moved to take #4 Appointments/Resignations out of order. Selectman Beauvais seconded. Vote: All aye.
- 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**  
**3.1 Change of Manager-Little Anthony's Seafood-Alexis Curry**

Selectman Beauvais read the following into the record The Winchendon Board of Selectmen acting as the Local Licensing Authority, will hold a public hearing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor auditorium of Town Hall, 109 Front Street on Monday, October 28, 2024, beginning at 6:40pm on the petition of Alexis Curry, Owner of Little Anthony's Seafood, 678 Spring Street on the application of Change of Manager. Anyone wishing to make comments is encouraged to attend.

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved to open the public hearing. Selectwoman Eitland seconded.  
Vote: All aye.**

Alexis Curry, owner came forward and explained why she is requesting the change in Manager.

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved to close the public hearing. Selectman Beauvais seconded.  
Vote: All aye.**

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved to approve the change in manager to Alexis Curry.  
Selectwoman Eitland seconded. Vote: All aye.**

**4. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**

4.1 Resignation-Burton Gould-Planning Board – Chair Ward thanked Burton Gould for all the work he has done for the town. Selectwoman LaBrie thanked him for all he has done.

**Selectwoman LaBrie moved to accept the resignation with regret of Burton Gould from the Planning Board and thank him for his years of service. Selectwoman Eitland seconded.  
Vote: All aye.**

4.2 Appointment –James Hardy,-Planning Board- **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint James Hardy to the Planning Board with a term expiration date of June 30, 2026. Selectwoman Eitland seconded. Vote: All aye.**

4.3 Appointment-Bonnie Veilleux-Parks & Recreation Commission- **Selectwoman LaBrie moved to appoint Bonnie Veilleux to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term expiration date of June 30, 2027. Selectwoman Eitland seconded. Vote: All aye.**

**5. PERMIT/LICENSE APPLICATIONS:**

5.1 Christmas Tree Sale-Willie Trees-Michelle Guevin @ Murdock Farm November 26-December 24<sup>th</sup>-Chair Ward said there are no issue with the Fire Department. **Selectwoman LaBrie move to approve the Christmas Tree Sale permit for Michelle Guevin at Murdock Farm from November 26-December 24th. Selectwoman Eitland seconded.  
Vote: All aye.**

5.2 Christmas Tree Sale-Joshua Laprise@467 Glenallen Street November 1-December23rd-**Selectwoman LaBrie move to approve the Christmas Tree Sale permit for Joshua LaPrise from November 1st-December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 467 Glenallen Street with the hours of operation from 9am-11pm. Selectwoman Eitland seconded. Vote: All aye.**

**6. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS:**

6.1 Library Board of Trustees-Sue Rader-Updates & Events through year end-Alexis Chanthachack, Manuel King, Sue Rader, and Robert Courtemanche a member toy town tree festival. Manuel King talked about the Toy Town Tree Festival. Beal's Library needs help business, organizations, or families to decorate trees. All donated trees on display will be part of

the silent auction. Vote on best overall tree. December 14<sup>th</sup> holiday open house. Santa will make a visit. At 2pm Boston Jazz voices will present a concert. The deadline to enter the tree festival is Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Alexis Chanthachack talked about the sensory friendly Santa event. She said Beal's Memorial Library is certified Autism Friendly. First in the state. Robert Courtemanche said this is a great community event and a fun way to celebrate the holiday season. Selectwoman LaBrie asked requirement size of the tree? Robert Courtemanche said they will provide all. Selectwoman Eitland said the work you do at the library is phenomenal. Alexis Chanthachack was recognized by the Board of Selectmen with a certificate of Appreciation for her work in getting Beals Memorial Library designated an Autism Welcoming Library. He read the letters received by the Library Director and the staff.

**6.2 Presentation Digital Equity Plan-Tracy Murphy MRPC-**This was tabled until a future meeting.

**7. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business this evening.

**8. OLD BUSINESS:**

**8.1 Update Camelot Farms-Chair Ward** explained the Board met in March and since we approved the lodging permit and this is an update. Selectwoman LaBrie requested this to be placed on the agenda with an update. Bill McKinney said currently they owe FY23 and 24 over \$8,000. There are other issues with the Board of Health, Veterans Services and the Building Inspector. The owner is difficult to get ahold of. It will be up to the Board if they want to reissue the permit in December. Chair Ward said they had a meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The concern is we have been kicking it down the road for years because we didn't want to move the Veterans out of there. The Veterans representatives are only concerned with the Veterans. There are safety issues and health issues. We will meet in December and have the Health Agent, Building Inspector, and someone from Camelot Farms attend. Selectwoman LaBrie said the safety and health of our veterans comes first. Bring it back first meeting in December.

**9. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:** Bill McKinney congratulated Alexis Chanthachack. He said he attended the Fall Fest and it was a lot of fun.

- Playground ribbon cutting,
- Dollar Tree opens this Thursday.
- What's up Winchendon with the Fire Chief
- Robinson Broadhurst Grant Application-working on the submissions
- Fire Department Trick or Treating at the fire station.
- Working on park on Beech Street.

Selectwoman LaBrie asked about Robinson Broadhurst submissions-not just town department-can be submitted by organizations. She said to reach out to the Town Managers office if you need information. She said she is excited about the Dollar Tree opening but is saddened it's not a grocery store. But it's a sign of good things to come.

Selectman Beauvais asked about the progress in the Collector/Treasurers office. Bill McKinney discussed things in the management letter.

- Reconciliation of cash-she has placed it in/he's going through bank statement reconciled up to July 2024.
- Vendor Account-everything we pay-hadn't been done in a long time. That account is reconciled through March 2024 new account started in July 2024.
- Receivables-hasn't started yet will start July 2023 which should start next week.

- Issues Band management-rolled over most into a bond rate. Insurance appropriation-one time issue.
- Interest Revenues-contacted banks and they have raised our interest rates except for the vendor accounts.
- AARPA spend by December.
- Grants get list and funding not started yet.

Selectwoman Eitland wants to know what AARPA was spent on. IT security Don working on. Receivable Collections-no tax title work in three years. Tailing-uncashed checks-will public \$54,000 closed out in FY24 as additional revenue. Ambulance receivables-third party billing-working on that. Chair Ward thanked Donna Spellman for coming back and helping. She has made a great difference.

**10. TOWN MANAGER FINANCIAL UPDATE:** This will be on the first meeting of the month.

**11. MINUTES:**

- 10.1 September 9, 2024 Regular Meeting-Tabled
- 10.2 September 10, 2024 Tri-Board Meeting-Tabled
- 10.3 October 7, 2024 Regular Meeting-Tabled

**12. COMMUNICATIONS:** Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

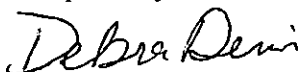
**13. AGENDA ITEMS:**

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**15. ADJOURNMENT:** Selectwoman LaBrie moved to adjourn. Selectwoman Eitland seconded.  
Vote: All aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29pm.

Respectfully submitted



Debra Dennis  
Executive Assistant