

Town of Winterport
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 5th

Call to Order- Chairperson Stephen Cooper called meeting to order at 7:00pm

Consent Agenda (items marked with an asterisk *)- Ann Ronco made a motion and Peter Rioux seconded to accept the consent agenda. MOTION UNANIMOUS

Adopt Agenda- Peter Rioux made a motion and Margaret English Flanagan seconded to adopt the agenda meeting. MOTION UNANIMOUS

Financial Reports:

May 5, 2020	May 19, 2020
Expenditures/revenue & budget bal. Monthly (Regular Format) Quarterly	Gen Fund Cash Position, Reserves, Trusts, and Investments YTD
Current Year Property Tax	Gen.Fund Gen. Ledger Summary (Detail New)
Liens & Foreclosures Status	

Payroll and Invoice Warrants

A. Payroll through Sunday, May 3, 2020- Motion was made by Margaret English Flanagan and seconded by Ann Ronco to pay Payroll through Sunday, May 3, 2020. MOTION UNANIMOUS

B. Invoices through Monday, May 4, 2020- Motion was made by Margaret English Flanagan and seconded by Peter Rioux to pay invoice warrants through Monday, May 4, 2020

Guest Speakers & Committee Reports- None

Input from Citizens on Unscheduled Items-

Town Manager Presentation- No presentation scheduled.

Schedule of Meetings

A. Regular meetings of May 19th and June 2nd, 2020*

Accept Minutes

A. Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 21st, 2020- Motion was made by Ann Ronco and second by Margaret English Flanagan to accept the minutes. MOTION UNANIMOUS.

Scheduled Items:

Old Business

A. Ready for Consideration- No items

B. Pending further action- No items

C. New Business

1. Annual Town Meeting & Election Warrant Items- Town Manager addressed the council about the upcoming Election and Annual Town Meeting. He stated that before the Governor presented plans for reopen, there was discussion among office staff how to comply with the Governor's orders. As of right now there can be no more than 10 people in a gathering with 6 feet social distancing and at least until August, there can be no more than 50 people in a gathering. This has not been a regular normal year. The health crisis may keep people away, however there is less work so more people could potentially show up. MMA legal stated that there is more leeway putting items on a ballot, it comes

down to whether or not the Town Charter allows it. There has been a letter to the Governor for direction. Town Manager stated that other questions arise, such as the options if more than 50 people show up to the Town Meeting. Do we because of all the issues scale back the warrants or chance it and if too many people show up, adjourn the meeting and the council puts it off until another time. If warrant is put on a ballot, then counters would be required to count 30 or more questions. Then, if there is a no vote on any article then what if any part of or the whole budget does not pass? Therefore, we need to devise a plan. Do we have the meeting and set up a secondary room or do we change warrants to a yes, no format and put them on a ballot? Ann Ronco asked if the 50 people depend on the area or is it just a set number of people. Town Manager stated that it is a set number of people. Ann Ronco asked if there can be votes on one day and count on a different day. Town Manager stated that no, the ballots need to be counted the day of voting and ballots then need to be secured. Peter Rioux stated that he thinks the town should keep controversial items off the warrants. Open a side door to the outdoors with a loudspeaker out there if need to. Margaret English Flanagan stated that due to weather we should try to have an additional room for people to go into. Margaret English Flanagan then asked if they could watch the meeting on zoom but no participate. Town Manager stated that we are already looking into using the gym. Zoom cannot be used for the Town Meeting. However, could have something set up to view the meeting and have one person, a ballot clerk, to listen and relay questions and comments. Stephen Cooper stated that he is okay with not putting the land that Town considered selling on the warrant because it has already started a lot of controversy. It was noted that the ambulance discussion could be controversial as well. Peter Rioux asked what was going on with the ambulance? Stephen Cooper stated that the ambulance set a request to the town asking for \$75,000 dollars to help bail them out. There was minor discussion among the council on the subject. Peter Rioux stated that this was off topic but would like to continue discussing this at a later time. He stated that he thought the initial request was going to be a lot smaller, he stated that there must be another way for the ambulance to acquire funds. Ann Ronco stated that she agrees with Peter Rioux. Margaret English Flanagan stated that she agrees with both Ann and Peter that it sets a precedent. Town Manager stated that the Agency put forth the request and it is up to the Town Council to decide if it makes it on the warrant. Peter Rioux asked if they could survive another year? Stephen Cooper stated that they can operate another 2 years before going broke. There was further discussion among council on this issue. The council consensus is to go ahead with the Town Meeting and open an additional room, if necessary. Margaret English Flanagan made a motion and Peter Rioux second.

MOTION UNANIMOUS.

2. Budget Meeting Schedule- Town Manager stated that he needs to finish pulling together the budget and present it to the Town Council & Budget Committee. He stated that he is hoping to present the budget at the next meeting. It would have to be through Zoom. Town Manager suggests the Budget Committee and the Town Council meet every Tuesday until the budget and warrant is finalized. Things are changing daily. The biggest discrepancy this year will likely be due to the lack of revenue coming in due to the pandemic. Peter Rioux asked if it is a necessity to have the budget committee present. He stated that they complicate things and mostly support the Council in everything. Town Manager stated that they do not necessarily have to be present but there will have to be two different meetings and then a reconciliation since they ultimately do have to give recommendations per the Town's Charter. Town Manager stated that he has not been in contact with any one from the budget committee other than Mary Ann Royal because she emailed the Manager. Council asked if the books will be ready? Town Manager stated that yes, they would be ready. Budget Committee meeting was set for 6:00 p.m. next Tuesday May 12, 2020. Town Manager stated that he needs to make sure that all persons involved know how to use Zoom.

Legal: None

Appointments/Resignations:

- A. Resignations- None
- B. Appointments- None

Correspondence/Significant Items

Outgoing

- 1. None

Incoming

- 1. DM&J Metal Payments Check #3477*

Minutes/Agendas:

- 1. Waldo County Commissioners Agenda May 6, 2020

Communications:

- A. Town Manager’s Report- MDOT has sent out a request asking if any towns want to be involved in their bidding process for winter salt. The Town does not have to be involved. Sometimes the cost is cheaper. The Town would just have to let them know how much the Town would want to buy. If the Town accepts the bid price of the successful bidder then the Town would have to buy at least a minimum of 75% of the tonnage the Town indicated it would buy. Council consents to have the town participate. Next item on the Manager’s report is Ray Porter’s sister stated that Ray Porter’s Family would like to plant a tree near the Town Office Fire Station complex in Ray’s honor. They would pay for everything; they want the town to decide on a type of tree. Ann Ronco asked if it was Patty making the request, and that Ray always wanted a Flagpole in front of Town Office. Ann asked if a Flagpole with a plaque would be more appropriate. Town Manager stated that the Town already has a flagpole, Scott Preston is donating the one from the old fire station. The Town just did not have the money for the flagpole base. Peter Rioux stated that unless it is a miniature tree he does not see where it could go. Town Manager stated that they reached out to area businesses for pricing on the base for the flagpole, but no one could commit and there was no money in the budget.
- B. Response to Council Questions
- C. Council Comments- Peter Rioux stated that he will not be seeking re-election. Town Manager reminded everyone to come in and sign required papers.

Signatures:

Executive Sessions: None Scheduled

Adjourn: Motion was made by Margaret English Flanagan, and Ann Ronco seconded to Adjourn at 7:52 p.m.

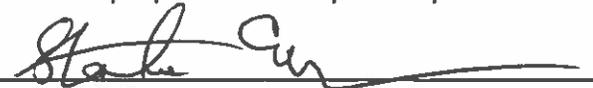
NOTE:

Meetings:

Dates & Time of other meetings between May 5th & May 18th, 2020
Wednesday, May 13th, Board of Assessors

Training & Days Off:

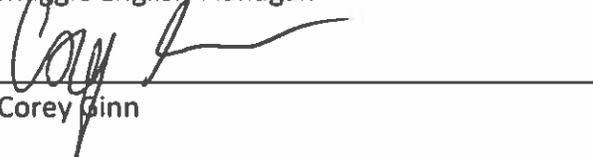
Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Brittany Whittlesey.



Stephen Cooper



Maggie English-Flanagan



Corey Ginn

Peter Rioux


Ann Ronco