

WINCHESTER COMMON COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2009
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ROUSS CITY HALL
MINUTES

- PRESENT:** President Jeff Buettner; Vice-Mayor Michael Butler; Councilor Evan Clark, John Hill, Milt McInturff, Les Veach and John Willingham; Vice-President Art Major (8)
- ABSENT:** Mayor Elizabeth Minor (1)

President Buettner called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

- Public Hearing: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ADOPT SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 31 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE PERTAINING TO TAXICABS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR CONSISTENCY THROUGHOUT CHAPTER 31

No citizens came forward to address Council concerning this issue and the President declared the public hearing closed at 7:56 p.m.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

3-1 PUBLIC SERVICES

- Second Reading, by title, for adoption: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ADOPT SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 31 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE PERTAINING TO TAXICABS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR CONSISTENCY THROUGHOUT CHAPTER 31.

Councilor Clark moved to amend the ordinance to strike the phrase “taxi service operation” and to make sure the phrase is called “public convenience and necessity” throughout the document. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham them unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

The motion was adopted by the affirmative roll-call vote of a majority of all members of the Common Council, the ayes and nays being recorded as shown below:

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Vice-Mayor Butler	Aye
Councilor Clark	Aye
Councilor Hill	Aye
Vice-President Major	Aye
Councilor McInturff	Aye
Mayor Minor	Absent

Councilor Veach	Aye
Councilor Willingham	Aye
President Buettner	Aye

3-2 HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE

- Motion to appoint Sharion Poston (Ward 3) and re-appointment of N. Randolph Bryant (Ward 1) and Melvin D. Thomas (Ward 4) to the City School Board for four year terms expiring June 30, 2013.

Councilor Willingham moved to approve the appointments. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Major.

Councilor Veach stated he thinks the candidates are well qualified but he is concerned about having a balance of representation on the board.

Vice-Mayor Butler agreed with Councilor Veach. He stated as a representative of the fourth ward, the ward has been under represented on the School Board for more than 10 years. However, he did not want to vote against the whole slate to accomplish that. He could not support the motion.

Councilor Clark stated he agrees that representation is needed from all parts of the city and he cannot support the slate in its entirety.

President Buettner stated he understood the concerns of representation and thinks Council was fortunate to have 6 very strong candidates to choose from. The school system is not divided the way the political system is divided. The wards that Council is elected from are not the same as the school system. He understands the concerns but he does not share them. The School Board members serve all of the students in the city. Any concerns should have come forward at the committee level. No concerns were voiced when the candidates were first nominated on July 7th or at the public hearing on July 21st. If the candidates are not approved, it will put the school system in a bind.

Vice-President Major stated he agrees with President Buettner. The biggest concern is there will not be a board in place when school starts. Half of the city will have zero representation for as long as it takes to go through the process again.

City Attorney Anthony Williams explained that Council could amend the motion and vote on the candidates individually or reject the slate as a whole and go through the process again.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to amend the motion to vote on each member individually. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark.

President Buettner stated he will be voting against the amendment because this body agreed to put forth the slate.

The motion to amend was defeated 4/4 with President Buettner, Vice-President Major and Councilors McInturff and Willingham voting in the negative.

The motion to approve the appointments passed 5/3 with Vice-Mayor Butler and Councilors Clark and Hill voting in the negative.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Major moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

Kari J. Van Diest
Deputy Clerk of Council