

**Windham Recreation Committee**  
**Wednesday, August 23, 2006**  
**Special Meeting – Tokanel Field**

**Members Present:** Ralph Valentine, Brian Carne, Glen Yergeau, Beth Lippold, Dennis Senibaldi, Lynn Goldman, Barry Goldman, Michele Langlois. Also present: Recreation Coordinator Cheryl Haas.

**Members Absent:** Earl Bartlett

**Members Excused:** Mags Adamcheck

Chairman Ralph Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:01.

Mr. Valentine explained to the Committee that the Board of Selectmen on August 21, 2006 awarded the Tokanel Field bid to Fisette Excavation from Pelham for the cost of \$24,500 (option A and removal of the infield, excluding the backstop.) He reported that the funding source is \$23,794 from the \$25,000 Warrant Article and the remainder of \$706 from the Field Maintenance budget (Tokanel.) The Board of Selectmen approved this contingent upon the Recreation Committee supporting this expenditure.

Mr. Valentine explained that Windham Soccer Association and Windham Baseball Softball League are each donating \$5,000 for the project. Because of Town procedure, a public hearing accepting these donations has to be held prior to the monies being used. So there will be a public hearing on September 11, 2006 to accept these donations. It is then the intention of the Committee to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to accept the fence bid from B-Line Fence and use the donations for this part of the project and for the fence to be completed this fall. The donation from soccer does have a few stipulations – such as the field being ready for softball in spring 2007 and for soccer in the fall of 2007.;

Mrs. Lippold reminded the Committee of all the meetings that Tokanel was discussed. Meeting after meeting after meeting she noted that the Committee only wanted to spend up to \$15,000 on this project. She was concerned about the other projects not being completed now that the warrant article fund is depleted. Mrs. Lippold also mentioned that she feels that this is going against the voters of Windham. She said how the Michael Hatem warrant article for \$30,000 for Tokanel was not approved by the voters, so how can this Committee do what the voters didn't want? She also noted that all this money is going into one field for 21 girls who play softball. Mrs. Lippold noted for the record that she is not against softball or any sport for the youth, she is just concerned about the perception of the Committee. Selectman Roger Hohenberger agreed with Mrs. Lippold and felt that it sends a bad message to the voters to go ahead and fix a field when the voters rejected the warrant article.

Mr. Yergeau felt that it was a good idea to pick a project, finish it, then move on to the next project.

Chairman Valentine read Articles 15 and 25 from the 2005 Town Report to remind the Committee what they said. Mr. Valentine and Mr. Senibaldi explained that Article 15 (Recreation's \$25,000) was to be used at the discretion of the Recreation Committee, as approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Dennis Senibaldi made a motion to expend \$23,794 from the \$25,000 warrant article and \$706 from the regular field maintenance budget for Tokanel Field and to complete this project in 2006; Lynn Goldman seconded; the vote carried 6-1 (Beth Lippold opposed.)

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cheryl S. Haas  
Recreation Coordinator