

(Continued from page 13)

However, Community Lawyer Charlene LaVoie questioned the contribution, citing Section 1703 of the town charter, which says the board can't make contributions to organizations unless a selectmen-appointed representative sits on the board. "The purpose is to be able to monitor where taxpayers' money is going," she said.

Miller, who fought the idea of additional day-care spending, said he voted against the funds transfer because of how the motion was made. Miller complained that it was made in the absence of selectmen Brian W. Sullivan and John F. Gauger Jr.

Day care given \$12K

By MARLA A. GOLDBERG
Register Citizen Staff

WINSTED — The Winsted Area Public Day Care Center appears to be out of danger of closing next fall because last night the Board of Selectmen voted to grant it an additional \$12,000.

The motion to transfer \$5,000 in existing funds from an account for revision of the town charter and \$7,000 from an account for claims settlement was made by Selectman Nancy P. Habbal, who has long argued the town must not skimp on day-care spending. The motion was seconded by Selectman Francis J. O'Neill and passed 4-1. Mayor William H. McCabe, Habbal, O'Neill and James A. Pettit supported the measure.

Selectman Walter D. Miller, head of the Winchester Taxpayers Association, which claims some 200 members, was the only selectman to vote against it.

The decision comes just six days after the town voted 958-823 in support of the \$19.7 million 1992-93 town budget, and last night, the town also adopted the tax rate of 39 mills, unchanged from last year.

The issue of the day-care center, which requested \$49,000 in aid from the town and initially received only \$30,000, was prevalent throughout the budget process, as day-care center administrators said the center faced closure without the additional money.

The center, which provides services on a sliding scale to low-income families, lost about \$28,000 in grant money this year. But Pamela Corey, chairman of the center's board of directors, said she believes the additional \$12,000 will put the center out of danger. "I'm so happy," she said. "We can let our parents know that everything is fine."

Theodore H.J. Veling, chairman of the center's finance committee, called the \$12,000 a "tremendous boost."

See SELECTMEN, page 16