

Winsted selectmen stand by town ma

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Manager will undoubtedly be a key factor in the court's decision," Sullivan wrote.

Therefore, a vote against Dove by O'Neill, and other members of the board, serves to discredit the former town manager in the eyes of the court, according to Sullivan. And a discredited former employee will be easier to beat in court than an acting town manager, Sullivan argues.

If the Ethics Commission agrees with Sullivan and rules that O'Neill gained economically through his vote, the motion to

fire Dove would fail.

What was a 4-3 vote on Monday would be reduced to a 3-3 tie, and a split board means the motion fails.

"With the lack of ethics this board has proceeded with so far, hopefully this agency will take it upon itself to bring back some credence to the government of Winchester," Sullivan said.

Other efforts by the public include a petition being drawn up by resident Alan DiCara asking for a recall of board members.

In addition, a petition demanding that the board revoke its de-

cision to fire Dove was being circulated by about 100 residents.

Audrey Kelsey, one of the organizers of the petition drive, said all of the people she has approached have been happy to sign.

Organizers said they hope to present about 1,000 signatures to selectmen when the issue is aired again on Dec. 3 at a public hearing on the firing of Dove.

However, selectmen who voted against Dove downplay the effort.

Selectman James A. Pettit said he had "made up" his mind and did not expect the public hearing