

# Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting

Tuesday September 2, 2025

Winchester Town Hall - Hicks Room

Noticed in Town Clerks Office and on Towns Website

Item 1 **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Todd Arcelaschi at 7:00pm

Attending Members	Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)	William Hester (Selectman)
	Troy Lamere (Selectman)	William Pozzo (Selectman)
	Paul Marino (Selectmen)	Linda Groppo (Selectwoman)
	Candy Perez (Selectwoman)	

Staff Members	Paul Harrington (Town Manager)
	Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)

Item 2 **Pledge of Allegiance** The Pledge was recited by all

Item 3 **Agenda Review** - No Changes

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

\* Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 18, 2025

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 5 **Citizens Comments** - None

Item 6 **Town Manager's Report** - Town Manager Paul Harrington reported on the following topics.

- \* All Highland Lake swim advisories have been cancelled. Test results are pending but swimming alerts have been lifted.
- \* EDC's new Winchester promotional video was debuted this afternoon. A formal showing will be scheduled for the next BOS meeting.
- \* Eversource's Gas Line Project is progressing as planned. With only about 700 feet yet to finish, reconnections will begin at the end of this week. Final wrap up is expected in October
- \* Eversource did award "Friends of Main Street" a \$2500 Grant to help replace two trees that were recently removed on Main Street.
- \* On September 11th, an informational meeting has been scheduled to review and discuss the Bridge Street Intersection Redesign project. Resident attendance, feedback and input is greatly encouraged.
- \* The "Safe Streets for All" initiative is actively looking for volunteers to join the group. The goal is to draft a vision plan for improving street safety.
- \* The Town has posted 3 Bids and RFP's for the following.  
(Municipal IT Services / Town Owned Equipment Auction / Sue Grossman Trail Engineering)
- \* Winchester has applied to SOCT DEEP for \$42,000 of "Trees for Communities Grant Funding to start combating the invasive spread of Japanese Knotweed. This Grant requires no local match.
- \* We are working on an application for monies to bolster our Residents Assistance Fund.  
This Fund helps residents with housing items not covered by State or Federal programs.
- \* Marshall's is scheduled to open mid to end of October.
- \* Town Manager Harrington urged everyone to exercise extra caution and patience with students and transportation services as they head back to school.

Item 7     **Correspondence** -     None

Item 8     **Boards and Commissions** - No action to be taken

Item 9     **Unfinished Business** -     None

Item 10    **New Business** -

*A) Winsted Health Center - Tax Abatement*

Representatives from the Winsted Health Center repurposing venture gave a summary of the projects background and vision. Kevin Gremes from Grow America provided a concise report of the financial component; focusing on the network of investment commitments tethered to the project. He stressed that approving the Tax abatement request would greatly help prove the Town was in support of their plan. Board members asked pointed questions related to both the housing and Maker Space elements. Concerns were voiced regarding the housing application process, potential impact on local services, schools and lost tax revenue. Assuaged doubts led to the following motion.

Motion Statement - "I'll move that we move forward with the abatement for 30 years as described in the project." Town Manager Harrington articulated the steps necessary to create the formal Abatement Agreement which Sel. Marino agreed to with a "so moved" remark.

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Yes (5) - Abstain (2) Sel. Hester and Sel. Perez

*B) Speed Camera Bid Review*

The Board was given a spreadsheet comparing 4 firms that offer automated speed tracking and citation generation services. Discussion led to a request that the Town Manager choose 2 options that exposed the Town to the least financial liability and prepare a more detailed analysis. The Selectmen did request this second comparison be done as quickly as possible.

Item 11    **Citizens Comments** - None

Item 12    **Executive Session**

*A) Discussion regarding 508 Main Street and 48 Bridge Street Sale of Real Estate*

Motion to enter Executive Session at 9:43pm taking the Town Manager, Paul Harrington.

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

The Board returned at 10:03pm

Item13    **New Business**

*A) Discussion and possible action on 508 Main Street and 48 Bridge Street*

No formal action was taken.

Item 14    **Selectmen's Comments** - None

Item 15    **Adjournment**

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

To adjourn the meeting at 10:03pm

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

ATTEST:

Glenn Albanesius, Town Clerk

These Minutes are subject to formal approval at the next scheduled meeting. Any amendments, corrections or revisions will be noted in the next Meeting Minutes.