

Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting

Monday October 6, 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)

Absent Excused Candy Perez (Selectwoman)

Staff Members Paul Harrington (Town Manager)
Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)
Geoff Green (Land Use)

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

Item 3 **Agenda Review** - Sel. Groppo noted that the Approval of Minutes for Sept. 15 were incorrectly labeled as from a "Special" Meeting

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

* Minutes of Regular Meeting on September 15, 2025

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item 5 **Citizens Comments** - The following people addressed the Board

* Mike Connoles - Spoke on multiple topics

* Peter Marchand - Spoke against the Batcheller School Tax Abatement Request

* Deb Jablonski - Spoke against the Batcheller School Tax Abatement Request

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

* Attended the "Active Aging Center's" 59th Anniversary Luncheon

* Visited the Hubbell plant and met with their Management team to discuss pending plant investments

* Toured Fairchild Industries and noted that their recent addition of air conditioning has made a huge improvement of factory working conditions.

* EDC held it's annual Job Fair which was well attended by both employers and job seekers.

* The Town has hired Novus Insight as it's new IT Service Provider. This change will net the Town nearly \$85,000 savings over the next 3 years.

* The Town's website has undergone a "decluttering" refresh designed to help users find information a little more easily and quicker.

* Negotiations continue with (DDS) Department of Developmental Services to equitably cover their continued use of space at the Senior Center.

* The first meeting of (SS4A) Safe Streets for All will occur on October 7th. A consultant will be hired and ultimately put in charge of establishing local priorities and implementation planning.

* The painted lines for the proposed redesign of the Bridge Street intersection have been removed. The amount spent so far from the \$829,604.00 Grant currently sits at \$12,589.49. The project has been sent back to DOT Engineers to draft alternate designs.

- * The School Safety Committee has been reconvened. It's mission is to improve channels of communications if and when emergency situations arise. The Fire Marshall and Everbridge will play key roles in this initiative.
- * Marshall's will hold a ribbon cutting event at 7:30am on October 23 just before it's Grand Opening at 8am.
- * October is Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Item 7 **Correspondence** -

A) 52 White Street 824 Referral

- * The Town's Land Use Consultant- Jeremy Di Carli submitted a positive referral from Planning & Zoning should the Board decide to move the property to the Town hired Realtor for a sale listing.

A motion for the Town Manager to act on this referral was offered.

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item 8 **Boards and Commissions** - The following actions were taken

- * Adam Quagliaroli (G) is submitted for approval for a Re-appointment seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission with a term to expire October 2030.

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Marino

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

- * Thomas Cook (R) is submitted for Consideration to a Alternate Seat on the Zoning Bd of Appeals

- * Janet Perry (D) is submitted for Appointment to an Alternate Seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission with a term to end October 2030.

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item 9 **Unfinished Business** - None

Item 10 **New Business** -

A) *Winsted Housing Partners - Tax Abatement Request*

Dierdra DiCara and David McCarthy offered a brief overview of the Batcheller School Housing Initiative and the reasons for the Tax Abatement Appeal. Board members scrutinized the request, asked many questions and deliberated amongst themselves before the following motion was made.

Motion Statement - "I'd like to make a motion to deny the Winchester Housing Partners their tax abatement request."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Yes (6) / Abstain (1) Sel. Groppo

B) *25-05 Resolution for Winchester to join the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority*

Town Manager Harrington offered Resolution 25-05 for approval, thus allowing Winchester to join the CT Municipal Development Authority. This Association gives it's members access to critical municipal funding.

A motion to approve Resolution 25-05 was offered.

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

C) 25-33 Police Revolving Fund

Town Manager Harrington explained to the Board how the "PRF" came to be. More importantly he detailed the recent road projects that had built up the Fund to nearly \$82,000.00. The Police had recently identified a new cruiser as a Capital priority. With a cost just shy of \$65,000 this purchase will be covered and leave a balance of approximately \$17,000.

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the purchase of a Police vehicle using the Police Revolving Fund, once the Account Receivables have been received."

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

D) 25-34 Cancellation of November Town Meeting

The Board was informed that both of the Town Owned Land Sales up for approval at a November 3rd 2025 Town Meeting were requesting delays. Buyers of 19 Hill Street and 48 Bridge Street needed more time to prepare their contracts.

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen cancel the Town Meeting that was scheduled for November 3, 2025."

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the line item appropriation transfer of \$4,500.00 from Highways, Gas and Diesel (1-311-820-0000) to Police, Gas and Diesel (1-210-820-0000) in the amount of \$4,500.00."

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

F) Refunds as recommended by the Collector of Revenue

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the refunds recommended by the Collector of Revenue in the amount of \$3051.99."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item 11 **Citizens Comments** - The following people addressed the Board

* Matt Smith - Offered thoughts on the valuation of Batcheller School

* Kevin Higgins - Spoke on several topics

* Kim Higgins - Offered her opinion on the valuation of her home compared to Batcheller School

* Frank Oliveri - Warned that dealing with the new Ct Municipal Development Authority may be difficult

* Deb Jablonski - Spoke against the sale of Batcheller School to Winsted Housing Partners

Item 12 **Executive Session**

A) Discussion regarding selection of a site, or the Lease or Purchase of Real Estate (CGA § 1-200 (6) (D)

Motion to enter Executive Session at 9:10pm taking the Town Manager, Paul Harrington and Land Use Official Geoff Green.

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

The Board returned at 9:33pm with no action taken.

Item13

Selectmen's Comments -

Sel. Arcelaschi	Reminded everyone about the EDC Video Screening at LRB on Wed. Oct 8th
Sel. Hester	Suggested moving Selectmen's Reports to an earlier position on future agenda's
Sel. Pozzo	Asked for donations to the upcoming Trunk or Treat event.

Item 14

Adjournment

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

ATTEST:

Glenn Albanesi, 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.