

Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting

Monday April 6, 2026

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 7pm

Attending Members	Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)	William Pozzo (Selectman)
	William Hester (Selectman)	Kevin Bishop (Selectman)
	Troy Lamere (Selectman)	Cheryl Heffernan McGlynn (Selectwoman)

Absent Excused Paul Marino (Selectman)

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 March 16, 2026

Motion - Sel. Hester/ Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

* Minutes of Special Meeting on March 17, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Yes (4) - Abstain (2) Sel. Heffernan McGlynn & Sel. Bishop

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

* Terry Tanner - Thanked the Town for their efforts to rehome all the Smolak dogs in stable environments

* Christine Rylander - Read by Sel. Heffernan McGlynn supporting the Bd of Ed proposed budget

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

* All 11 dogs associated with the Sara Smolek case are officially adopted. Special thanks went out to "LUCKY DOG REFUGE" in Stamford for their extraordinary efforts to find safe and loving homes for each of the dogs involved. Our own Detective Crean won recognition for helping to transport 2 of the dogs to their new residences.

* The FY2027 Budget has moved to Board of Selectmen review. Efforts to uncover additional savings are ongoing. Several Budget Workshop meetings will be scheduled. These will give the Selectmen opportunities to ask questions, evaluate data and make any changes they see fit. Extra effort is planned this year to communicate the Budget Process in hopes of improving community engagement and voter turnout.

* The new "**Safe Streets for All**" survey is posted on the Town's website. The data gathered will play a key role in funding road and infrastructure improvements. It is critical that as many residents as possible share their thoughts and participate in this initiative.

* JH Architects submitted their feasibility study of 44 Elm Street as a potential Police Department Headquarters. The cost is estimated at \$12.8 million dollars.

* The Town closed its RFP for an upgraded payroll system. A new vendor will be chosen soon.

Item 7 **Correspondence** - None

Item 8 **Boards and Commissions** - The following action was taken

1) Deb Jablonski (U) is submitted for Re-appointment to a Member seat on the Cultural District Commission with a term to expire April 2028.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

2) A Letter of Resignation was received and accepted from the following volunteer.

Ben Davis (Resident) from the Winchester Housing Authority

Ben's time and service to the Town is acknowledged with gratitude.

3) Annie Trepanier (U) is submitted for Nomination and Appointment to the Cultural District Commission with a term to expire April 2028.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

4) Steven Larson (U) is submitted for Nomination and Appointment to the Cultural District Commission with a term to expire April 2028.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

5) Lara Green-Kazlauskas (D) is submitted for Nomination and Appointment to the Cultural District Commission with a term to expire April 2029.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

6) John Noone (D) is submitted for Nomination and Appointment to the Cultural District Commission with a term to expire April 2029.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Note - Selectman Bishop asked the Board if he could act at the Liaison to the Cultural District Commission. No objections were registered.

Item 9 **Unfinished Business** - None

Item 10 **New Business** -

A) *Pearson Roof Project, Building Committee, Resolutions*

Town Manager Harrington introduced Roger LaFleur from PM Resources as the hired consultant to help guide and manage the State Reimbursement process for the Referendum approved Pearson Roof replacement project. Roger explained that 5 separate Resolutions were required to begin the process. The Board read the following Resolutions and voted as follows.

"Resolved, The Board of Selectmen authorizes the Winchester Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the Roof Project at the Isabelle M. Pearson School."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo Vote to Approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

"Resolved, The Board of Selectmen authorizes the establishment of a Building Committee for the Roof Project at the Isabelle M. Pearson School."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn Vote to Approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

"Resolved, The Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Roof Project at the Isabelle M. Pearson School."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo Vote to Approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

"Resolved, The Winchester Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the expenditure of 100% of the project revenues or \$2,898,670.00 to complete the Isabelle M. Pearson School Project."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo Vote to Approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

"Resolved, The Winchester Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the financing of the local share of \$807,569.00 of the Isabelle M. Pearson School Project Roof Project."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo Vote to Approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

B) Board of Selectmen - Public Hearing FY2026-2027 Town Budget

After the Town Manager went thru a very detailed Power Point presentation of his recommended Budget the floor was opened up for Public Comment. The following people spoke.

* David Woodward

* Frank Oliveri

* Candy Perez

* Nora Mocarski

C) Board of Selectmen - Discussion of FY2026-2027 Town Budget

Each attending Selectman shared their thoughts and concerns regarding the critical elements the Budget needed to address and the challenges of finding an acceptable affordability balance for the taxpayers.

D) Budget Workshop dates

The Board agreed to schedule 3 Budget Workshop dates to review and fine tune the Budget by April 24th.

Monday April 13th at 7pm

Wednesday April 15th at 7 pm

Monday April 20th at 7pm

E) 26-11 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve Action Step 26-11, a budget transfer totaling \$20,000.00."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

F) 26-12 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve Action Step 26-12, a budget transfer totaling \$5,500.00."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

G) 26-13 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve Action Step 26-13, a budget transfer totaling \$1000.00."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

H) 26-14 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve Action Step 26-14, a budget transfer totaling \$5000.00."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

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

* Jim Rollins spoke about the SS4A Initiative

Item 12

Executive Session

A) Discussion, Strategy and Negotiations regarding Emergency Services pursuant to CT General Statute § 1-200 (6)

Motion to enter Executive Session taking the Town Manager Paul Harrington at 8:54pm

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

A motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:08pm with NO ACTION TAKEN was offered.

Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item13

New Business - None

Item14

Selectmen's Comments - None

Item 15

Adjournment

To adjourn the meeting at 9:09pm

Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Sel. Bishop

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 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.