

# Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting

Monday May 4, 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** - The Town Manager requested the following changes to the Agenda

\* Delete Item's 11 and 12 ( Executive Session and Related New Business)

Motion - Sel. Hester/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Add Discussion/Possible Action related to Additional State Aid to FY2627 Budget

Motion - Sel. Hester/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Change to Item 10B (Historic Commission Update). Scheduled presenter Hamish Lutris unable to attend so Town Manager Harrington will take his place.

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

\* Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 6, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Minutes of Special Meeting - Budget Workshop on April 13, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Minutes of Special Meeting - Budget Workshop on April 15, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Minutes of Special Meeting - Budget Workshop on April 20, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

\* Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 20, 2026

Motion - Sel. Lamere/ Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

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

- 1) Steve Robinson
- 2) Aubrey English
- 3) Blaine O'Meara

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

- \* A recent resident inquiry about sidewalk replacement around the schools yielded the following update. The contractor who won the bid for the work has stopped corresponding with the Town so the decision has been made to rebid the project and hope that contractors will respond.
- \* The Town has been awarded \$17,450 in the form of a Building Healthier Communities Grant from Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation. The funds will support development and maintenance of guidebooks for the Winsted Fire Department.
- \* Winchester is poised to receive \$457,054 in additional State aid funding. The Town will get \$136,056 in supplemental Pequot Mohegan Grant monies while the Board of Ed will get \$320,998 in supplemental Education Aid.
- \* The Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on Monday May 11, 2026. The start time is 7pm and will be held at the Gilbert School auditorium.
- \* A reminder for everyone who hasn't taken the time to complete the Safe Streets 4 All Survey to please take a couple minutes and share their feedback. This exercise is critical to secure future Federal Funds to ensure our streets and roads are safe for travel.
- \* A request has been submitted to the Charter Revision Commission requesting consideration for a revised Town Budget timeline that would allow for twice as many referendums before the start of the new fiscal year.
- \* The Town will host its first Main Street Momentum Workshop on May 27th. This project is intended to encourage collaboration between, residents, business owners, commercial property owners and community leaders to strengthen and revitalize our downtown space.
- \* The Town is actively winding down any unfinished ARPA Funded projects. Making certain we meet reporting timelines will ensure that we avoid any post initiative audit penalties.
- \* A "May the 4th be with you" salutation was offered in memory of the famous Star War's series.

Item 7 **Correspondence** -

A) Planning and Zoning Commission 8-24 referral for 32 Hubbard Street, 82-84 Rockwell Street, 17 Birdsall Street, 132 Florence Street

\* A formal letter was received by the Board of Selectmen documenting a unanimous vote by the Planning and Zoning Commission in favor of selling the aforementioned Town Owned Properties.

B) Planning and Zoning Commission 8-24 referral for 281 Walnut Street

\* A formal letter was received by the Board of Selectmen documenting a unanimous vote by the Planning and Zoning Commission in favor of selling the aforementioned Town Owned Properties. Town Manager Harrington asked the Board if they would consider an offer by Habitat for Humanity to purchase part of the property and construct one of their homes. The Board agreed to have this opportunity added to a future Agenda for review and discussion.

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

- 1) Alan Colacecchio (R) is submitted for Re-appointment to a Member seat on the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire April 2031.  
Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere  
Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

2) Beth Whitney (R) is submitted for Re-appointment to a Member seat on the Recreation Board with a term to expire April 2032.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

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

Ellie Gunn from the Zoning Board of Appeals

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

4) Candy Perez (D) is submitted for Nomination and Appointment to the Winchester Housing Authority with a term to expire April 2031.

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

Vote to approve - Yes (4) / No (1) Sel. Lamere / Abstain (1) Sel. Hester

Item 9 **Unfinished Business** - None

Item 10 **New Business** -

A) Discussion/Possible Action related to Additional State Aid to FY2627 Budget

Town Manager Harrington shared a spreadsheet with the Board illustrating a recommendation to receive \$136,056 in additional State Aid Revenue and take action to reduce the proposed Budget Mill Rate change to 2.85%.

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen increase the Pequot-Mohegan Grant revenue line by \$136,056; from \$49,474 to \$185,530; in accordance with SB-01 as of May 4, 2026, and that the total FY2027 Budget Appropriation of \$42,290,600 remain unchanged from the April 20, 2026 proposed Budget for presentation at the May 11, Annual Town Budget Meeting in accordance with the Town Charter."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

General discussion about the \$320,998 Education Aid funds was had with no formal action taken.

B) Historic Commission updates (Given by Town Manager Harrington in Mr. Lutris's absence)

A memorial service will be held on Saturday May 23rd at 11am to noon at the First Church of Winsted. This in honor of all those who served and sacrificed for our Nation and will include a performance by the Litchfield County Choral Union.

C) 26-01 Resolution Supporting the Acceptance of the NW CT Community Foundation Building Healthier Communities Grant

Motion Statement - " I make a motion to adopt Resolution 26-01."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

D) 26-19 Consider and Possibly Act on the Appointment of a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Monday May 11, 2026

Motion Statement - " I move that the Board of Selectmen appoint Dennis Dressel to serve as Moderator at the Annual Town Budget Meeting to be held at 7pm on Monday May 11, 2026 at the Gilbert School auditorium."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

E) 26-20 Consider and Possibly Act on a Bid Waiver for Aniline Guidebook System

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen waive the Town's standard bidding and procurement requirements in the best interest of the Town and authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with Aniline."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

F) 26-21 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the above Action Step 26-21 budget transfer 2026-13 totaling \$450.00"

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

G) 26-22 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the above Action Step 26-22 budget transfer 2026-14 totaling \$1,000.00"

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

H) 26-23 Proposed Line Item Transfers

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the above Action Step 26-23 budget transfer 2026-15 totaling \$22,000.00"

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

I) 26-24 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 \$4,387.78."

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

J) Discussion / Possible Action on the Pearson School Roof Project Building Committee

The Board agreed that all six applicants met the basic criteria to serve on the new committee. They also agreed that membership would have likely been capped between 5 and 7 so that approving each applicant would make the establishment of the Pearson School Roof Building Committee an easy task. A motion was offered to seat the following applicants.

- |                |                  |                |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1) Rob Asselin | 3) William Pozzo | 5) Troy Lamere |
| 2) Rich Mazzei | 4) Dave Cruden   | 6) Jason Kent  |

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Bishop

Vote to approve - Yes (4) / Abstain (2) Sel. Pozzo / Sel. Lamere

Item 11

**Executive Session**

This Item removed from Agenda

A) Discussion regarding Sale of Town Owned Properties, 32 Hubbard Street, 82-84 Rockwell Street 17 Birdsall Street, 132 Florence Street, 99 Hubbard Street, 124 Rockwell Street and 281 Walnut Street.

Motion to enter Executive Session taking the Town Manager Paul Harrington at \_\_\_\_\_pm

Motion - Sel. \_\_\_\_\_ / Second - Sel. \_\_\_\_\_

Vote to approve - Unanimous

A motion to come out of Executive Session at \_\_\_\_\_pm

Motion - Sel. \_\_\_\_\_ / Second - Sel. \_\_\_\_\_

Vote to approve - Unanimous

Item12 **New Business** This Item removed from Agenda

A) Discussion and Possible Action regarding Sale of Town Owned Properties, 32 Hubbard Street, 82-84 Rockwell Street, 17 Birdsall Street, 132 Florence Street, 99 Hubbard Street, 124 Rockwell Street and 281 Walnut Street.

Item 13 **Citizens Comments** - None

Item14 **Selectmen's Comments** -

Sel. Lamere - Promised that Memorial Day Flags would be hung in time

Sel. Bishop - Spoke in support of the reenergized Cultural District Commission

Mayor Arcelaschi - Attended the Elks Club Youth Month Celebration / Reminded everyone that the Pet Parade is scheduled for May 16th and the Annual Town Budget Meeting is May 11th.

Sel. Hester - Attended the FOMS Cleanup event, The Beauty and the Beast play and the America 250 Story Telling at American Mural Project.

Item 15 **Adjournment**

To adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

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.