

# Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting

Monday June 1, 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)
	Paul Marino (Selectman)	

Staff Members	Paul Harrington (Town Manager)
	Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)
	Jim Rollins ( Public Works Director)

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

Item 3 **Agenda Review** - No Changes

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

- \* Minutes of Regular Meeting on May 18, 2026
- Motion - Sel. Lamere / Sel. Heffernan McGlynn
- Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

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

- \* Mike Connole
- \* Mary Naeher
- \* Caitlin Laplante
- \* John Prevuznak

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

- \* The FY26-27 Municipal Budget was approved by Saturdays Referendum vote. Implementation exercises will commence.
- \* The State approved ATESD program has entered the implementation phase. There are a number of permits and approvals to secure before the camera's are set up. Final locations of the 2 Rte. 44 units are being evaluated. Completion is estimated for July of this year.
- \* Our SS4A survey closed on May 30th. Results are scheduled for Committee review and a Public Hearing will be held on June 25th a 5:00pm in the Town Hall Hicks Room to share final analysis.
- \* The Winchester Fire Department has recently been awarded 2 grants to help offset costs of safety initiatives. The NWCB Foundation gave \$5000 towards smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and the In First Responders Foundation helped with \$1450 for Accountability Tags.
- \* Resurfacing of Main Street commenced on May 31st. Westbound lanes will be milled and paved during evening hours and ending June 6th. Eversource and CTDOT are managing this project and are alerting drivers and residents to exercise caution and patience during this important project.
- \* Winchester recently completed a \$850,000 Federally funded communications equipment upgrade. New 800-band radios dramatically improve emergency communication capabilities and reliability.

\* An RFP has been issued for the Towns 2027 Revaluation Project. The results of this initiative will establish new property assessments used to develop the FY2029 Town Budget. Bids are due on July 1, 2026 in the Town Managers Office no later than 10AM.

Item 7 **Correspondence** - None

Item 8 **Boards and Commissions** - No action scheduled

Item 9 **Unfinished Business** - None

Item 10 **New Business** -

A) Pearson School Hot Water System

\* Based on current conditions and expert appraisal the Board of Selectmen made the following motion after deeming the Town Charter's threshold of an Emergency Appropriation had been met. Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Section 912 of the Town Charter, determine that the failure of the hot water boiler at Pearson School constitutes a public emergency threatening the health, safety and property of the Town and the continued operation of an essential public facility."

"I further move that the Board of Selectmen approve an emergency appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the emergency replacement of the Pearson School hot water boiler, including all associated equipment, installation, engineering, permitting and contingency costs."

"The Board finds that immediate action is necessary to protect Town property and maintain essential public services. The appropriation shall be funded from the Town's General Fund FY2026 available budget. Any funds not covered by available budgeted funds shall be appropriated from general fund (fund balance) and expended under the directions of the Town Manager in accordance with applicable purchasing requirements."

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

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

B) Roads and Sidewalks Update

Public Works Director Jim Rollins detailed completed, underway and planned Road Projects

The following Bond Funded jobs were listed.

**Case Avenue** - Completed

**Case Avenue Bridge** - Completed

**Elm Street** - Completed

**Grantville Road Bridge** - Under evaluation by CTDOT with Final Design expected this year.

Construction pushed out to Spring 2028

**Hannafin Road** - Completed

**Highland Lake Retrofit Program** - This is a Asset Management and MS4 Initiative. Technology and Equipment have been purchased. Next steps are revision of assessment report and deciding where and what to test for.

**Highland Lake Drainage** -

Forest Avenue - Completed

345-350 West Wakefield - In Design

817-825 East Wakefield Blvd - Completed

608 West Wakefield Blvd - In Design

225-305 West Wakefield Blvd - Completed

Taylor Brook/Mountain Rd - In Design

**Holabird Avenue** - Design plans to COG for review. LOTCIP Funds allocated. Bid Out - 26/27

**Hubbard Street** - Substantially Complete

**Indian Meadow Drive** - Completed

**Lake Street** - Probably next Bond / LOTCIP Schedule out of phase - Trying STEAP

**Marshall Street** - Completed

**Moore & Roberts Avenue** - Probably next Bond / Sewer improvements needed

**Newfield Road** - Drainage and Paving Design starting / Bid Out Winter 2026 for 2027 Spring Start

**Oakdale Avenue Drainage and Paving** - Researching lower cost options or will scale back

**Old Colebrook Road** - 2" Mill and Pave last 100' (this week)

**South Road** - (From Hollow to Newfield) - Drainage and Pavement Design underway. Scheduled for completion by end of 2026.

**Spring Street** - Drainage is Completed / Milling and Paving this week

**Taylor Brook Culvert** - Completed

**Upland Road** - Western half wall and road - Completed / Eastern projects part of next Bond

**West Wakefield Blvd** - Holland Beach Area Substantially Complete

**Whiting Street** - Completed

**Sidewalks** - Winning Bidder has ghosted the Town / Need to Re-bid

The FY26-27 Budget has \$560,000 allocated for following planned projects

Crack Seal - \$32,000

Chip Seal - Targeting newly paved roads \$118,000

Line Painting - \$30,000

Hazardous Trees - \$150,000

Shimming and Pothole Patching - \$50,000

Contingency Funds for Uncategorized Projects - \$180,000

#### **Miscellaneous Projects**

Highland Lake Spillway Pedestrian Bridge

Bridge Street Intersection

Rockwell/Superior/Ridge - Catch Basin Repair and Drainage

White Street Bridge - Design

Skinner Road - Paving Design

Hurlbut & Birdsall

Resha Beach Intersection - Redesign and drainage

#### **C) 26-26 Proposed Line Item Transfer**

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the above Action Step 26-26 budget transfer 2026-17 totaling \$667.00"

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

#### **D) 26-27 Proposed Line Item Transfer**

Motion Statement - "By recommendation of the Town Manager, I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the above Action Step 26-27 budget transfer 2026-18 totaling \$5,976.00"

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Marino

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

#### **E) 26-28 Bid Waiver for Soldiers Monument Flashing Repair**

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 an agreement with Allstate Waterproofing Company Inc."

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Marino

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

F) 26-02 Resolution Supporting a Grant Application for the Community Investment Fund 2030  
Round 9 - Rescue Plan and Letter of Support

A motion for the Board to support the application was offered.

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

G) Set the FY27 Mill Rate

Motion Statement - I move that the Town Of Winchester set the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Mill Rate at 30.00 mills, effective for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2025, and for the collection of taxes during Fiscal Year 2026-2027, in accordance with the adopted Municipal Budget and applicable provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Item 11 **Executive Session**

A) Discussion Personnel Contract

B) Discussion Regarding 281 Walnut Street

Motion to enter Executive Session taking the Town Manager Paul Harrington at 8:53pm

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:13pm with No Action Taken

Item 13 **Citizens Comments**

\* Blaine O'Meara

Item14 **Selectmen's Comments -**

Sel. Lamere - Asked about EDC Signs, Suggested establishing a Cost Savings task force and the status of the Main Street Trash Receptacle initiative

Sel. Bishop - Visited the Little Red Schoolhouse in Winchester Center and learned that policy disagreements got an early start and are nothing new to Town.

Sel. Marino Expressed his opinion that the final approved Budget actually helped to cushion the initial cuts to the Board of Education funding request

Mayor Arcelaschi - Reminded everyone that the Laurel Ball is scheduled for June 13th

Sel. Hester - Passionately urged leaders from Gilbert and WPS to better communicate with each other and explained that growing the tax base was his top priority

Sel. Heffernan McGlynn - Rebuffed Sel. Marino's assertions

Item 15 **Adjournment**

To adjourn the meeting at 9:39pm

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

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.