Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting
Monday, November 2, 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)	Cheryl Heffernan McGlynn (Selectwoman)
	William Hester (Selectman)	Kevin Bishop (Selectman)
	Troy Lamere (Selectman)	William Pozzo (Selectman)
	Paul Marino (Selectman)	
Town Staff Members	Paul Harrington (Town Manager)	
	Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)	

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

Item 3 ***Agenda Review*** - The following request was acted on

Town Manager Harrington asked to add an agenda item for the Board to vote on the approval of Resolution 26-08 (Acceptance of Recreational Trails Program Grant Funding)
Motion - Sel. Hester / Sel. Marino
Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 4 ***Approval of Minutes***

* Minutes of Regular Meeting on October 19, 2026
  Motion - Sel. Lamere / Sel. Bishop
  Vote to approve - Yes (5) / Abstain (2) Sel. Pozzo & Hester
* Minutes of Special Meeting on September 17, 2026
  Motion - Sel. Bishop / Sel. Lamere
  Vote to approve - Yes (4) / Abstain (3) Sel. Marino, Hester and Heffernan McGlynn

Item 5 ***Citizens Comments*** - None

Item 6 ***Selectmen's Comments & Reports***

* Sel. Bishop - Offered concerns about the signage that was installed to warn vehicles of our new speed camera locations. He suggested warnings that were larger and perhaps enhanced with flashing lights. He also made a point that the Town should adopt and be guided by a written policy should adding more cameras be pursued.
* Sel. Marino - Tendered his resignation from the Board and read an impassioned letter that thanked fellow Selectmen, residents and voters for the opportunity to serve the community that has been his families home for many years. He offered parting words of encouragement and several pearls of guidance as the Town continues to shape its future.
* Mayor Arcelaschi - Chided Facebook posters that found pleasure in the recent Speed Camera sabotage damage. The program is solely designed to keep travelers thru our Town at a safe pace.

Item 7 ***Town Manager's Report*** - Town Manager Paul Harrington reported on the following topics.

* Winchester was just awarded $150,000 in funds from the Resilient Forestry Grant Program. This money will restart proactive management of Winchester's watershed forests for the first time in nearly 20 years.

* The Town is in the last phase of negotiations with Cardinal Engineering to hammer out the specs and costs associated with the final stretch of the Sue Grossman Trailway.
* The reconstruction of the Bridge Street intersection has been substantially completed. Line marking and final inspections will wrap up this very successful project.
* The SS4A group held a recent workshop to name specific priorities, needs and desired improvements for future reconfiguration of the Main Street thoroughfare.
* The "Blue Room" in Town Hall will soon undergo a major renovation. The Historic Commission recently made recommendations for new art to highlight Winchester's past. The room will also be upgraded to allow for Livestreaming and recording of meetings and events.
* We continue to research options for improved security and door access to staff and visitors to Town Hall.
* A quick reminder that Tuesday November 4th is Election Day. Voters can cast their ballots at Pearson School from 6am to 8pm.
* The Speed Camera Program is up and running. The camera's recorded 8,000 violations during a 11 day stretch. Unfortunately, vandals did damage the Rte 44 camera headed out of Town by the Dry Dam. The equipment vendor will address this incident and make the necessary repairs.

Item 8 ***Correspondence*** - The following was submitted to the Board's attention

* A letter from our Land Use Director, Geoff Green regarding Planning and Zoning's approval for the Board to put Town owned property at 16 Brook Street up on the market for sale.

Item 9 ***Boards and Commissions*** -

1) John Herman (U) is submitted for Re-Appointment to a Member seat on Board of Assessment Appeals with a term to expire in October 2029.
   Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn
   Vote to approve - Yes (3) / Abstain (4) Sel. Lamere, Marino, Hester, Pozzo
2) A motion was offered for the Board to approve Charlene Lavoie from an Alternate seat to Member.
   Note - this action will have Charlene fill out the term of John Cooney who resigned at the end of October. Charlene's term will end in October of 2029.
   Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
3) George Closson (D) is submitted for Appointment to an Alternate seat on Planning & Zoning with a term to expire in October 2031.
   Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 10 ***New Business -***

A) Discussion on Anticoagulant Rodenticide Ordinance (2nd of 3 meetings)
Motion Statement - " I move that the Board of Selectmen approve advancing the proposed Town of Winchester Ordinance Regulating the use of Anticoagulant Rodenticides to a third reading and consideration for final adoption at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen."
Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Sel. Marino
Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0) (Sel. Pozzo left the meeting at 7:42pm and returned at 7:45pm.

B) Resolution 26-08 (Acceptance of Recreational Trails Program Grant Funding) (added to Agenda)
A motion to accept Resolution 26-08 was offered.
Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Marino
Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

C) Discussion Winchester Public Schools/Gilbert School upcoming meeting questions reviewed

Town Manager Harrington explained that Gilbert School had a 1 hour scheduling limitation and asked the Board to narrow their focus to 3 or 4 topics from a pre written menu of 8. The Board chose Topic 4) Special Education, Topic 5) The Gilbert School's International Program and Topic 8) WPS-TGS Contract. The answers to these questions will be shared at the next BOS meeting.

D) Discussion / Possible Action regarding Board of Selectmen Executive Session Confidentiality and Disclosure of Confidential Information.

Mayor Archelaschi requested the Board consider setting specific rules for Executive Session conduct and the preservation of confidentiality. He also recommended that a new policy should also include complaint processing, investigative procedures and preservation of evidence in the event of a suspected breach. He further suggested that the new policy include guidelines on reporting of findings and potential penalties. The Mayor recommended exploring the purchase of a Faraday box to store digital devices during Executive Session meetings. Lastly, an amendment to Ordinance 36-10 was mentioned adding language to include possible censure of elected officials found guilty of violating the ethics code.

Sel. Heffernan McGlynn spoke in support of the Mayors comments but added that this issue was on this meetings agenda as a result of an issue that had come up at the last Executive Session that someone had violated the confidentiality of that meeting. She stated that "information came to our attention that made it appear that despite clear advisement that it shouldn't that information from Executive Session was provided to outside people and as a result this discussion, Todd and I had discussions and we asked for this to be on the board, on the agenda."

Sel. Heffernan McGlynn did acknowledge that Sel. Pozzo was not a suspect because he was absent from the meeting in question. Several Board members pressed Sel. Heffernan McGlynn for details of the breach but none were offered. Much back and forth resulted in the following motion.

Motion Statement - "I make a motion to hire private counsel to investigate a breach of the confidentiality of the Executive Session of the last Board of Selectmen Executive Session meeting I make a motion."

Further discussion yielded a request by Sel. Heffernan McGlynn to amend her motion and add "to impower the Town Manager to select an appropriate lawyer for the investigation."

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

Vote to approve - Yes (1) / No (5) / Abstain (1) Sel. Bishop

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

*Bryan Sundie *Deb Jablonski *Bryan Sundie (second time)

Item 12 ***Executive Session***

A) Discussion regarding Sale of Town Owned Properties - 508 Main Street and Wallens Hill negotiations update.

Motion to enter Executive Session taking the Town Manager Paul Harrington and Town Attorney Kevin Nelligan at 8:34pm.

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Marino

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:17pm with no formal action taken.

Item 13 ***Selectmen's Reports***

* Sel. Lamere reported that the Pearson School Building Committee met this past week. No funding has been released yet but the Engineering and Architect plans are about 75% complete.
* Sel. Bishop congratulated all the kids and parents that came out for the Main Street Window Painting event. The turnout and artwork was exceptional this year.
* Mayor Arcelaschi complimented the Rec Department on another successful Trunk or Treat event as nearly 500 kids enjoyed this years festivities.

Item 14 ***Adjournment***

To adjourn the meeting at 9:18pm

Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Lamere

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.