Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen - Regular Meeting
Monday November 16, 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 7:00pm

Attending Members	Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)	Kevin Bishop (Selectman)
	Chris Sandford (Selectman)	Cheryl Heffernan McGlynn (Selectwoman)
	Troy Lamere (Selectman)	William Hester (Selectman)
	William Pozzo (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*** Sel. Hester motioned the following agenda change

* Move Item 10G (Discussion only) into Executive Session
  Motion - Sel. Hester / Sel. Pozzo
  Vote to approve - Yes (4) / No (2) Sel. Heffernan McGlynn & Sel. Bishop / Abstain (1) Sel. Sandford
* A motion to add Item 13B (Discussion/Possible Action on Violation of Executive Session confidentiality to the agenda.
  Motion - Sel. Hester / Sel. Pozzo
  Vote to approve - Yes (5) / No (2) Sel. Heffernan McGlynn & Sel. Bishop

Item 4 ***Approval of Minutes***

* Minutes of Regular Meeting on November 2, 2026
  Motion - Sel. Pozzo / Sel. Bishop
  Vote to approve - Yes (6) / Abstain (1) Sel. Sandford

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

* John Herman	* Joel Stewart	* Virginia Schultz-Charette
* Matt Smith	* Frank Oliveri	

Item 6 ***Selectmen's Comments***

Sel. Lamere	Offered John Herman an explanation that he had abstained on John's BAA confirmation vote because of his Liaison role.
Sel. Hester	Thanked Joe Lemelin for his work on the Water & Sewer Commission. Expressed hope that the meetings between Gilbert, WPS and the Town would continue. Suggested that John Herman reapply for his seat on the BAA.
Mayor Arcelaschi	Reminded everyone that the Salvation Army's holiday campaign would be starting soon and he would again be part of their Kettle fund raising efforts.

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

* The Town has officially migrated to it's new www.winchesterct.gov domain. This was mandated by CT law. The next step will be the transitioning of Town staff E-mail addresses which is required to be completed by January 1, 2027.
* The new Wayfinding signs have finally been placed around Town. This initiative used Community Challenge Grant and ARPA funds. The signage is strategically placed to help residents and visitors navigate downtown and help locate public parking, businesses and important destinations located in Winsted's center. A number of people were involved with this project and it is a great accomplishment to see it finally completed.
* The Sue Grossman Greenway is awaiting a letter from the State of CT to formally kick off the final leg of this project. Engineering estimates have been negotiated all in anticipation of having shovels in the ground by September 30, 2027.
* Our SS4A committee will meet again on December 8th. Expected topics include an explanation of Tighe and Bonds's project locations and scoring procedures along with downtown redesign options. This is all done in advance of drafting a final Action Plan due by the end of this year. This Action plan has the potential to modernize and completely revamp Winsted's Main Street.
* Our Fire Department has just recently received it's new "Jaws of Life" extractment tools. It was paid for from grant monies provided by the Northwest Auxiliary for Community Health. A demo was scheduled to showcase the equipment and apparently a neighboring Town will be benefiting from the used gear we are replacing.
* The revaluation team from Vision Government Solutions have begun their work to update property records in advance of the 2027 reassessment project. Data compiled during this initiative helps to ensure property taxes are correctly calculated based on current market values. CT State law mandates that every Town conduct Revaluation every 5 years.
* The Town has added a Community Health Navigator service to it's menu of Social Services. Each Monday from 9am to 1pm a representative will be available to help residents make connections with medical, public benefits and transportation assistance.
* Town Hall was effected by the Microsoft services disruption that occurred on November 12th. Service was restored Friday morning with no apparent damage to the Town's IT equipment.
* Town Manager Harrington took time to wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving as the next Selectman's meeting won't be until December 7th.

Item 8 ***Correspondence*** - None

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

1) A Letter of Resignation was received and accepted from Selectman Paul Marino.
   Paul's time and service with the Board and to the Town is acknowledged with gratitude.
2) A Letter of Resignation was received and accepted from the following volunteer.
   Chris Sandford from the Planning and Zoning Commission
   Chris's time and service to the Town is acknowledged with gratitude.
3) Robin Farrell (U) is submitted for Appointment to a Member seat on the Cultural Commission with a term to expire in November 2029
   Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Hester
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
4) A motion to table Deb Jablonski's appointment to a seat on the Board of Assessment Appeals was offered.
   Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Lamere
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 10 ***New Business -***

A) Update on the CTDOT project - White Street Bridge

Public Works Director Jim Rollins gave a lengthy and detailed explanation about pending work that needs to done on the White Street Bridge. He explained that the component scoring that the State uses to determine renovation construction had recently been revised to the benefit of the Town. Re-evaluation of previous work led to a lowering of construction costs and a much improved construction timeline of 8 months (single season) expectation. The State will be absorbing the entire cost of the project with planning and engineering work targeting a 2029 timeline.

B) Discussion and Possible Action on Anticoagulant Rodenticide Ordinance (3rd of 3 meetings)

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve and adopt the Ordinance Regulating the Use of Anticoagulant Rodenticides in the Town of Winchester, Connecticut as presented, following the required public hearing and three readings before the Board of Selectmen, with the ordinance to take effect in accordance with the Town Charter and applicable Connecticut law."

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

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

C) 26-09 Resolution for Acceptance of Resilient Forestry Practices Grant Funding

A motion to sign a Resolution and accept grant monies for Forestry Practices was offered.

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

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

D) 26-10 Resolution for Authorization to apply and accept JAG Grant Funding

A motion to advance the Town's application for JAG Grant funding was offered.

Motion - Sel. Bishop / Second - Sel. Hester

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

E) Discussion regarding "Letter of Endorsement" for a State recognized Cultural District in Winchester

Mayor Arcelaschi asked for the Boards support of a "Letter of Endorsement" formally appealing to State of CT for establishment of a Cultural District in Winsted.

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

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

F) 26-54 Discussion Possible Action on ATESD (Speed Camera) staffing proposal

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Section 916 of the Town Charter, authorize an additional appropriation of $112,540 from the General Fund to Fund 44 (Speed Camera Fund) for initial staffing costs, with the full amount to be reimbursed to the General Fund from future program revenue's."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Sandford

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

G) Discussion and Possible Action on Violation of Executive Session confidentiality

This item moved into Executive Discussion session under Agenda Item 13(B)

H) Discussion and possible action on charging the Ethics Commission to formulate draft policies regarding investigations, reports of findings and potential penalties

Motion Statement "So what I'm asking is that we try we do a motion, a motion to charge the Ethics Commission to formulate the policies, the regulations to comply with their State Charter, they have to sign a meeting schedule a meeting and start the process and I would ask that we have a deadline of 90 days from the date we charge of the motion being granted, if it's granted, to get a draft to this Board for review and to start the process that's required under our Charter so that we have a functional Ethics Commission so that we that if there are issues that come up, and they do come up that we have a manner by which to go through it that citizenry can file the appropriate complaint Okay, to that Commission and the Ethics Commission can act upon it.

Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Mayor Arcelaschi

Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

I) Discussion update on Winsted Public and The Gilbert School

Mayor Arcelaschi and Sel. Heffernan McGlynn explained that a frosty start to the Nov. 12th meeting quickly moved to open dialogue and some positive notes for the next meeting. Both Selectmen agreed that the hour format was too short but honoring the request was needed to get face to face discussions into motion. Town Manager Harrington remained hopeful that momentum had begun and more detailed talks scheduled for December 9th at 3pm would yield continued progress.

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

*Deb Jablonski *Cassandra McKenna *John Noone *Kevin Higgins

Item 12 ***Executive Session***

A) Discussion regarding Sale of Town Owned Property - 508 Main Street, and Wallens Hill

Motion to enter Executive Session taking Town Manager Harrington at 9:06pm.
Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Lamere
Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:03pm

Item14 ***New Business***

A) Discussion and Possible Action on 508 Main Street

Motion Statement - "I'd like to make a motion the Board of Selectmen thru the Town Manager provide a written notice of default to the Garamil Development Group LLC for the property located at 508 Main Street for failure to comply with Article 3.1and 3.3 of developers agreement."
Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo
Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

B) Possible Action on Violation of Executive Session confidentiality

Motion Statement - "So I make a motion to charge the Town Manager to research and locate a lawyer to retain to investigate a possible violation of breach of confidentiality of the Executive Session."
Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Sel. Bishop
Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 15 ***Selectmen's Reports*** None

Item 16 ***Adjournment***

To adjourn the meeting at 10:05pm
Motion - Sel. Heffernan McGlynn / Second - Sel. Hester
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.