Item 1  **Call to Order**
Meeting called to order by Mayor Todd Arcelaschi at 7:00pm

Attending Members  Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)  Jonathan Morhardt (Selectman)
                   Candy Perez (Selectwoman)  Jack Bourque (Selectman)
                   Candace Bouchard (Selectwoman)  Linda Groppo (Selectwoman)
                   Steve Sedlack (Selectman)

Staff Members  Josh Kelly (Town Manager)
               Ann Marie Rheault (Finance Director)
               Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)

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

Item 3  **Agenda Review**  -  Sel. Bourque requested that Items 12 and 13 swap positioning

Item 4  **Approval of Minutes**
* Minutes of Special Meeting on March 27, 2023
  Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Morhardt
  Vote to accept minutes - Unanimous (7 - 0)
* Minutes of Special Meeting on March 28, 2023
  Motion - Sel. Groppo / Second - Sel. Sedlack
  Vote to accept minutes - Unanimous (7 - 0)
* Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 3, 2023
  Motion - Sel. Morhardt / Second - Sel. Sedlack
  Vote to accept minutes - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 5  **Citizens Comments**  - The following people addressed the Board
* Stephen Kosinski  * Virginia Shultz-Charette
* Steph Burr  * Otis Cook
* Sue Addison  * Eleanor Colante
* Kevin Bishop  * Steve Larson
* Deb Kessler  * Jerry Martinez
* Lynn Kessler  * Bill Pozzo
* Amin
**Item 6  Town Manager's Report** - Josh Kelly reported to the Board on the following topics...

* The Town has locked in an electricity Supply Rate of $0.108 per kWh. This reduced rate will be extended to Town Buildings, Schools and the Sewer Commission.

* Progress on the sale of both Batcheller School and 508 Main Street will be reported in Executive Session.

* Recommendations made on Friday April 14th gave the Selectmen a menu of options which will help get to the targeted 26.5 Mill Rate goal.

* Winchester was just rewarded a $60K Grant without a matching component. These funds will be used to complete the Planning phase of the new Mad River Recreation Area. The Town also received notice that its application for repurposing 44 Elm Street using Draper Fund monies was not approved.

* A new Board Clerk for Planning and Zoning and Inland Wetlands meetings has been hired. Interviews continue for the Assessor and Enforcement Officer positions. An opening for Land Use Assistant has been posted internally.

* Senator Chris Murphy visited Winsted on Thursday April 13th. He visited the Public Works facility and spent time addressing local business community concerns as they related to Federal oversight and regulations.

**Finance Directors Report**

* Finance Director Ann Marie Rheault reviewed current General Fund, Cash Flow and CIP data....

**Item 8  Correspondence**

* Resident Bill Pozzo gave each member a typed letter regarding 149 Newfield Rd.

* Lynn Kessler read and submitted 2 letters of support for John Noone’s purchase of the Methodist Church on Main Street.

* Steph Burr, Executive Director of the NWCT Arts Council read and submitted a letter of support for John Noone.

* A data sheet outlining the Economic Impact of Non-Profit Arts and Cultural Organizations in the Northwest Connecticut Region was submitted into the record.

**Item 9  Boards and Commissions** - Sel. Sedlack introduced the following actions.

1) Ellie Gunn (D) is submitted for Appointment as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire 12/2028.
   
   Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Morhardt
   
   Vote to approve - Unanimous

2) Paul Mitchell (U) has applied for Appointment as a member of Zoning Board of Appeals but still needs to complete the vetting process.

3) Dennis Dressel (R) is submitted for Re-Appointment as a Permanent Member to the Economic Development Commission with a term expiration of 04/28.
   
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard
   
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
4) Shayne Deschamps (D) is submitted for Re-Appointment as a Permanent Member to the Economic Development Commission with a term expiration of 04/28
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Groppo
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
5) Russel Davenport (U) is submitted for Re-Appointment as a Permanent Member to the IWWC with a term expiration of 04/26
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Perez
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
6) Frank Olivieri (R) is submitted for Re-Appointment as a Permanent Member to the IWWC with a term expiration of 04/26
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bourque
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
* A written notice of resignation was received and accepted from the following volunteer.
   David Sartirana (R) from the Economic Development Commission
   Dave’s volunteer time and service to the Town is acknowledged with deepest gratitude.

* The following groups have position openings. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply!
   Arch. Review Committee - 1 Permanent Seats and 2 Alternate Seats
   Board of Assessment Appeals - 1 Alternate Seat
   Laurel City Commission - 5 Permanent Seats
   Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission - 2 Permanent Seats
   Recreation Board - 1 Permanent Seat
   Zoning Board of Appeals - 2 Alternate Seats

Item 10

Unfinished Business

A) 23-09D Consider and Possibly Act on proceeding with adoption process for codified ordinances.
   Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen consider adopting the codified ordinances as presented, replacing the ordinances as they currently stand.
   Motion - Sel. Bourque / Second - Sel. Bouchard
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
B) 23-11C Consider and Possibly Act on Tax Abatement items.
   As had been requested, Town Manager Kelly drafted a preliminary Tax Abatement Schedule for the property at 630 Main Street. The mission of the proposal was to assist John Noone’s purchase and investment of the former Methodist Church as a Performing Arts Center. Josh’s draft tax proposal offered incremental tax breaks at 90%, 50%, 25% and ended with a full tax position at year four. Mr. Noone, as a member of the audience engaged the Board members in open discussion of the suggested Abatement schedule and expressed concern that it would not afford him the tax relief the cost of the building renovation demanded. Continued discussion resulted in the following suggested action.
   Motion Statement - "I make a motion that the Town Manager convene a small group of Selectmen to collaboratively structure a comprehensive Tax Abatement Resolution that protects the Towns interests and still gives John Noone the additional financial incentive to complete the necessary renovations at 630 Main Street in an agreed upon timeframe."
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Perez
   Vote to approve - Yes (6) Abstain (1) Sel. Morhardt
C) Consider and Possibly Act on the Town Managers Proposed FY 23-24 Budget

Sel. Perez made formal motions for the following Line Item actions.

**ALL VOTES TO APPROVE WERE UNANIMOUS**

- Line 0999-799-0002-0000 (Transfers In - Opioid Settlement Fund 15) added $5,000 (Second - Sel. Bourque)
- Line 0325-822-0000-0000 (Electricity) added $3,000 (Second - Sel. Bourque)
- Line 0910-822-0000-0000 (Telephone/Internet) added $4000 (Second - Sel. Groppo)
- Line 0918-230-0004-0000 (Deferred Comp) reduced $2500 (Second - Sel. Bourque)
- Line 0148-806-0000-0000 (Office Supplies) added $2800 (Second - Sel. Bourque)
- Line 1001-179-0000-0000 (Transfer to Capital Projects - GF) reduced $2800 (Second - Sel. Bourque)
- Line 1001-179-0000-0000 (Transfer to Capital Projects - GF) reduced $5000 (Second - Mayor Arcelaschi)
- Line 0210-811-0000-0000 (Training & Education) added $5000 (Second - Sel. Bourque)

Further Discussion regarding the budget resulted in a motion to table discussion temporarily until the first New Business Item has been heard and acted on.

- Motion - Sel. Perez / Second - Sel. Bouchard
- Vote to approve - Unanimous (7) - ()

Renewed discussion included updated numbers from Finance Director Rheault. The Budget total which captured all motions from Fridays Special Meeting and those occurring tonight resulted in a FY23-24 Budget Total of $39,574,308 and a new reduced Mill Rate of 26.83. Further discussion resulted in a consensus to close any further budget revisions and vote to send to Town Meeting.

- Motion Statement - "I make a motion that the Board of Selectmen send the total budget expenditure of $39,574,308 to be considered at Town Meeting on May 8th, 2023."
- Motion - Sel. Perez / Second - Mayor Arcelaschi
- Vote to approve - Unanimous (7) - ()

**Item 11**

**New Business -**

A) 23-18 Consider and Possibly Act on the granting of a Driveway Variance at 543 E. Wakefield Blvd.

- After much back and forth discussion, Town Manager Kelly requested tabling action until the Public Works Director and Town Attorney Nelligan could rule on the homeowners representative David Corey’s adamant assertions that no Driveway Ordinance applied and that the water build up on the street was NOT the fault of the driveway paving.
- Motion to table until May 1st Regular Meeting
- Motion - Mayor Arcelaschi / Second - Sel. Bouchard
- Vote to approve - Yes (6) - Abstain (1) Sel. Perez

B) Discussion on Ordinances related to feral cats

- Town Manager Kelly gathered information regarding this issue as requested by the Board. He felt that No Action was required at this time.

C) 23-19 Proposed Line Item Transfer

- Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the line-item transfer of $980.00 from Training and Education (211-811-0000) to Membership Dues (211-814-0000) in the amount $980.00."
- Motion - Sel. Bourque / Second - Sel. Morhardt
- Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
D) 23-20 Discussion and Possible Action on Fund 48-Beverly Pass Scholarship fund transfer
   Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve the distribution of these funds to the Greenwoods Scholarship Foundation."
   Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Bourque
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

Item 12  Executive Session -
(Changed to 13)
A) Concerning the possible Sale of Town-Owned land
B) Discussion on Strategy and Negotiations of Contracts
   Motion Statement - "Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the Sale of Town-Owned land and Strategy and Negotiations of Contracts, taking the Town Manager to be part of the meeting at 10:22pm.
   Motion - Sel. Bourque / Second - Sel. Groppo
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
   The Board returned from Executive Session at 11:08pm with no action taken.

Item 13  Citizens Comments  The following people addressed the board
(Changed to 12)
* Jerry Martinez
* Bryan Sundie

Item 14  Selectmen's Comments and Reports -
* Sel. Bouchard reminded everyone of the upcoming Earth Day schedule
* Sel. Groppo reminded everyone of the upcoming 89th Annual Laurel Festival activities
* Sel. Morhardt spoke about the Tatro's Pond Reclamation Sub-Committee

Item 15  Adjournment
* Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Morhardt
   To adjourn the meeting at 11:08pm
   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.