

Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

Monday, October 2, 2023

Item 1 **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Todd Arcelaschi at 7:00pm

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

Absent Excused	Candy Perez (Selectwoman)
	Jonathan Morhardt (Selectman)

Staff Members	Josh Kelly (Town Manager)
	Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)

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

Item 3 **Agenda Review** - None

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

* Minutes of Regular Meeting on September 18, 2023

Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Groppo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

Item 5 **Citizens Comments**

* Davis Lapointe

* Jay Champagne

* Mike Connoles

* Todd Clark

Item 6 **Town Manager's Report** - Josh Kelly reported to the Board on the following topics. . .

* Josh's last day as Town Manager will be Friday October 20th. Bob Geiger will take on the role as Interim until a new Manager is hired. Josh will be working to wrap up loose ends but will remain accessible for any questions or issues that arise.

* The Citizens Academy continues to be a successful venture. Public Works, Senior Services, Social Services and the Recreation Department were showcased during the last get together. The Public Schools along with Water & Sewer Works are next up for the class to learn about.

- * On the Economic Development front several important events are in the works. The Town has it's second job fair scheduled for October 11th. The RFP for Mountainside Drive property had 2 responses received. These will be evaluated and reported on at a future meeting. Winchester did apply for a Round 18 Brownfield Grant that if awarded will have funds spent on the Lake and Meadow street parking lot improvements and the Public Works Facility on Rowley Street. A reapplication for federal Reconnecting Communities grant funding was endorsed with a letter of support by the DOT Commissioner.
- * The Fall Foliage event held on Sunday October 1st was a huge hit. Using a rain date allowed the weather to clear and attendance was busy throughout the day.
- * The Selectmen did adopt an Ordinance that created a new Historic District in Winsted. Volunteers are needed and applications can be sent to the Town Manager's E-mail.
- * The Town continues to search for employees. A replacement Town Manager heads up the list as well as a Payroll Clerk, Police Officers and Public Works team members.
- * A special training session for business owners and public officials will show attendees how to get special events and activities listed on the CT State Tourism website, Discover Litchfield Hills and Town of Winchester's website. This activity will be held on October 4th.
- * Union negotiations with the Police Union will be held the week of October 16th.

Item 7

Correspondence -

- * Sel. Bouchard took time to thank in detail the people and businesses that helped to make the reinstated Fall Festival for 2023 a resounding success. It took a lot of effort and determination to pull off the rain delayed event but everyone who attended or set up booth had nothing but high praise for a terrific accomplishment.
- * On the invitation of Town Manager Kelly, Jim Rollins gave a detailed update of the Public Works Department Road Report. This report was presented using the following categories of progress or planning.

Projects currently active

Next Round of projects

Casual Preliminary Planning Projects

Jim and Josh made a point of stating the Town was ahead of the schedule with the work completed this year.

Item 8

Boards and Commissions - Sel. Sedlack introduced the following actions.

- 1) Andre Champagne (U) is submitted for Nomination as a member of the Ad Hoc Water Level Committee with a term to expire in 3/2025
 - R) Ryan Horvay (R) is submitted for Appointment as an Alternate member on Zoning Board of Appeals
- Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard
Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

* The following groups have position openings. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply!

Board of Assessment Appeals - 1 Alternate Seat

Arch. Review Committee - 1 Member Seat and 2 Alternate Seats

Conservation Commission - 1 Member Seat

Economic Development Commission - 3 Alternate Seats

Laurel City Commission - 4 Member Seats

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission - 2 Member Seats

Recreation Board - 1 Member Seats

Zoning Board of Appeals - 1 Alternate Seat

Item 9

Unfinished Business

A) 23-58b Consider and Possibly Act on the implementation of the new Parking Rules on Main Street

Motion Statement - "This item is tabled."

Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

B) 23-60b Consider and Possibly Act on the adoption of Amendments to the Driveway Ordinance.

Motion Statement - "This item is tabled."

Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Groppo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

C) 23-63a Consider and Possibly Act on the Adoption of an Ordinance creating a Cultural District Commission

Sel. Bourque questioned the Commission membership count of 11 as stated in Section (C) and proposed that there be a total of nine - 5 from Winsted's Arts and Culture community and at least 4 who live or work within the Cultural District. This change was agreed upon and offered as an amendment to the following motion.

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen recognize this as the first of three public meetings where a new Ordinance, as amended, to create a Cultural District Commission in Winsted is considered and that the Board further consider this draft Ordinance at its next regular meeting."

Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

Item 10

New Business -

A) 23-58b Refunds as recommended by Collector of Revenues

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the refunds recommended by the Collector of Revenue in the amount of \$2,226.43."

Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Groppo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

B) 23-65 Consider and Possibly Act on adopting a new Town Logo for external marketing purposes

Motion Statement - "This item is tabled."

Motion - Sel. Bourque / Second - Sel. Bouchard

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

C) 23-66 Consider and Possibly Act on proposals to use money obtained from the nipper bottle tax to improve solid waste management and littering issues.

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the use of nipper bottle deposit funds to complete the three projects as outlined above with a total cost not to exceed \$10,250.00."

Motion - Sel. Bouchard / Second - Sel. Sedlack

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

Item 11 **Executive Session**

A) To discuss the Sale of Town-Owned land

B) To discuss Contract Negotiations

C) To discuss Personnel Matter - Town Manager Search

Motion Statement - "Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the Sale of Town-Owned land Contract Negotiations, and Town Manager search taking the Town Manager to be part of the meeting at 9:14pm

Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 0)

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:23pm taking no formal action.

Item 12 **Citizens Comments** - None

Item 13 **Selectmen's Comments and Reports** - None

* Mayor Arcelaschi reminded everyone that RRDD1's annual Hazardous Waste Material day is scheduled for Saturday October 28th at the Torrington water Pollution Control Facility off Bogue Rd. from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Item 14 **Adjournment**

* Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Bouchard

To adjourn the meeting at 10:26pm

Vote to approve - Unanimous (5 - 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.