

Town of Winchester

Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Monday February 5, 2024

Item 1 **Call to Order**

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

Attending Members	Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)	Troy Lamere (Selectman)
	Steve Sedlack (Selectman)	William Hester (Selectman)
	Candy Perez (Selectwoman)	William Pozzo (Selectman)
Staff Members	Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)	
	Kevin Nelligan (Town Attorney)	
Absent Excused	Bob Geiger (Town Manager)	
	Paul Marino (Selectman)	

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

Item 3 **Agenda Review** - Mayor Arcelaschi requested that Item 12 (Executive Session) be moved up to follow Item 9 (Unfinished Business)

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

Item 4 **Approval of Minutes**

* Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 16, 2023

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to accept minutes - Unanimous (6 - 0)

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

* Joy Hubbard

Item 6 **Town Manager's Report** - Interim Town Manager Bob Geiger was not in attendance. Mayor Arcelaschi offered the following outline of key events over the past 2 weeks.

* EDC sponsored a Manufacturers Breakfast Meeting at the Tort Museum. Over 30 participants attended.

* Northwest Community College sponsored an Entrepreneurial Start Up event in Salisbury. There were several attendees interested in locating in Winsted.

* Farmington Valley Art Center held an Open House. There was interest by several artists in setting up shop at the Whiting Mills location.

* CBIA held a networking event and continues to recruit companies to locate in Town.

* Police Union contract negotiations are ongoing.

Item 7 **Correspondence** - None

Item 8

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

- 1) Candy Perez (D) is submitted for appointment as a member of the Rural Transit District Board with a term to expire 3/2024
Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Lamere
Vote to accept - Yes (5) Abstain (1) Sel. Perez
 - 2) Formal resignations were received and accepted from the following volunteers.
 - * Alison Pierce - Board of Assessment Appeals
 - * Shayne Deschamps - Economic Development Commission
 - * Shayne Deschamps - Recreation BoardAlison and Shayne's time and service to the Town is acknowledged with gratitude.
 - 3) David Lapointe (R) is submitted for consideration as an Alternate Member of the Board of Assessment Appeals with a term to expire 10/2024
Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing Mr. Lapointe was properly vetted by virtue of prior service and was eligible to move directly to Appointment consideration. The Board was unanimously silent on a requested Motion to Appoint.
 - 4) Thomas Carter (D) is submitted for consideration as a Member of the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire 4/2028
 - 5) Thomas Carter (D) is submitted for consideration as a Member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 5/2025
 - 6) Steven Vaill (U) is submitted for consideration as a Member & Co-Historian of the Historic Commission with a term to expire 12/2025
 - 7) Virginia Schultz-Charette (D) is submitted for consideration as a Member of the Historic Commission with a term to expire 12/2024
 - 8) Debra Jablonski (U) is submitted for consideration as a Member of the Cultural Commission with a term to expire 12/2024
 - 9) Carrie Stetson (D) is submitted for appointment as a Member of the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire 4/2028
Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Lamere
Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)
 - 10) Hamish Lutris (Resident) is submitted for appointment as a Member of the Historic Commission with a term to expire 12/2024
Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Hester
Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)
- * The following groups have position openings. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply!
- Arch. Review Committee - 1 Member Seat and 2 Alternate Seats
 - Conservation Commission - 1 Member Seat
 - Cultural District Commission - 6 Member Seats
 - Economic Development Commission - 3 Alternate Seats
 - Historic Commission - 3 Member Seats
 - Laurel City Commission - 3 Member Seats
 - Recreation Board - 3 Member Seats

Item 9

Unfinished Business - None

Item 10

New Business -

A) 24-04 Refunds as recommended by the Collector of Revenue

Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the refunds recommended by the Collector of Revenue in the amount of \$1,956.47."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Sedlack

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

B) Discussion /Possible Action on requests for proposal for Legal Services

Motion Statement - "I move to table this item until the Town Manager and Selectman Marino are able to attend and participate in the discussion and possible vote."

Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to accept - Yes (5) Abstain (1) Sel. Perez

Item 11

Citizens Comments - None

Item 12

Executive Session

This item was moved up on the agenda to proceed Item 10 New Business

A) Discussion / Possible Action regarding KJ Fracasso Industries vs Town of Winchester

B) Discussion / Possible Action regarding Pending Claims and Litigation

C) Discussion / Possible Action regarding the Sale of 508 Main Street

Motion Statement - "Motion to enter Executive Session taking the Town Attorney at 7:17pm."

Motion - Mayor Arcelaschi / Second - Sel. Lamere

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 0)

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:02pm taking the following action.

Motion Statement - "I make a motion to approve to settle on the agreement that is on file for the Fracasso property."

Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo

Vote to approve - Yes (5) - No (1) Sel. Lamere

Item 13

Selectmen's Comments and Reports -

* Sel. Hester - Reported that the Historical Commission would be looking to commemorate the Nations 250th anniversary with decorations on Main Street. Volunteer help and support will be needed.

* Sel. Lamere - Passionately commented that the Main Street crosswalks really need to be illuminated at night. He stated that a recent personal close call really drew attention to the need for improved safety measures during night hours.

* Sel Perez - Asked for Board support to formally gather Affordable Housing data for the Town of Winchester. Gathering inclusive, accurate data would be crucial to future development planning efforts.

* Sel. Pozzo - Asked if he could champion an effort to get Eversource to repair the outlets on the Main Street light poles.

Item 13

Adjournment

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

To adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm

Vote to approve - Unanimous (6 - 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.