Town of Winchester
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Tuesday February 20, 2024

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

Attending Members
- Todd Arcelaschi (Mayor)
- William Hester (Selectman)
- Steve Sedlack (Selectman)
- William Pozzo (Selectman)
- Candy Perez (Selectwoman)
- Troy Lamere (Selectman)
- Paul Marino (Selectman)

Absent Excused
- Robert Geiger (Interim Town Manager)
- Ann Marie Rheault (Finance Director)

Staff Members
- Glenn Albanesius (Town Clerk)

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

Item 3  **Agenda Review**
- Motion to table Item "A" under New Business
  Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Marino
  Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0 )
- Motion to add Item "C" Discussion about Town Manager hiring process to Item 12 Executive Session
  Motion - Mayor Arcelaschi / Second - Sel. Hester
  Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0 )

Item 4  **Approval of Minutes**
- Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 5, 2024
  Motion - Sel. Hester / Second - Sel. Pozzo
  Vote to accept minutes - Yes (6) - No (0) - Abstain (1) Sel. Marino

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

Item 6  **Town Manager's Report**
- In the Town Managers absence Mayor Arcelaschi reported on the following topic.
  * Negotiations with the Police Union are progressing and nearing completion. Expectations are that the Board of Selectmen will have a final agreement to review and vote on at the next scheduled Regular Meeting.

Item 7  **Finance Director's Report**
- In the Finance Director's absence Mayor Arcelaschi gave a brief overview of current financial data which included Tax Collections, Expenditures, Municipal Aid and Investment Totals.
Item 8  **Correspondence** - Mayor Arcelaschi announced a charity cause sponsored by the Ct State Criminal Justice Club at Northwest Community College. They are collecting medium sized stuffed animals for distribution to officers to carry in their cruisers when they interact with children in crisis.

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

1) Diane Ransom (D) is submitted for Re-appointment to the Recreation Board with a term to expire 4/2028.
   Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Lamere
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

2) An E-mail confirming his Resignation was received and accepted from the following volunteer.
   Kristin (Dowler) McCartney (R) from the Soldiers Monument Commission
   Kristin's time and service to the Town is acknowledged with gratitude.

3) Ryan Horvay (R) is submitted for Consideration as an Alternate Member of the Board of Assessment Appeals with a term to expire 10/2024.
4) Sheila Sedlack (D) is submitted for Consideration as a member of the Historic Commission with a term to expire 12/2024.
5) Thomas Carter (D) is submitted for Nomination as an Alternate Member of the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire 4/2028.
6) Thomas Carter (D) is submitted for Nomination as a Member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 5/2025.
7) Steven Vaill (U) is submitted for Nomination as a Member of the Historic Commission with a term to expire 12/2025.
8) Virginia Schultz-Charette (D) is submitted for Nomination as a Member of the Historic Commission with a term to expire in 12/2024.
9) Debra Jablonski (U) is submitted for Nomination as a Member of the Cultural Commission with a term to expire 12/2024.

* 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 - 7 Members
  - Economic Development Commission - 3 Alternate Seats
  - Historic Commission - 3 Member Seats
  - Laurel City Commission - 3 Member Seats
  - Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission - 1 Member Seat
  - Recreation Board - 2 Member Seats

Item 10  **Unfinished Business** - None

Item 11  **New Business** -

A) 24-05 Consider and Possibly Act on Resolution for EPA/DPH Requirement for Lead Services Regulations
   This Item was Tabled by unanimous vote.
B) 24-06 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 $200.31."
   Motion - Sel. Marino / Second - Sel. Pozzo
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

C) 24-07 Consider and Possibly Act on the amendment of Ordinance 297 to adopt the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code. (first of 3 meetings)
   Motion Statement - "I move that the Board of Selectmen formally acknowledge their consideration of the amendment of Chapter 297 of the Town Ordinances and further consider it at the second regular meeting on March 4, 2024 and again consider and adopt at the third regular meeting on March 18, 2024.
   Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

D) Discussion/Possible Action on Celebrations to create a process and budget for Holiday decorations.
   Sel. Perez offered a detailed suggestion that the Board work with the Town Manager to establish a designated staff member to manage and oversee Town approved Holiday decorations. Specific responsibilities need to be worked out and agreed upon.
   An initial Motion to ask the Town Manager to approve a point person tasked with handling decoration and labor for Holiday events was amended to table until details could be discussed and worked out.
   Amended Motion to Table
   Motion - Mayor Arcelaschi / Second - Sel. Sedlack
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)

E) Discussion/Possible Action to create a Town Policy for Notifications of Tax Liens and Foreclosure Sales.
   Sel. Perez requested the Board consider adding additional notification requirements for any sale of Tax Liens and Foreclosure sales. Currently a posting on the Judicial website is the only required notice. Our Tax Collector has added notice in the local newspaper but Sel. Perez felt that a posting of such sales as Legal Notices on the Town website should be mandatory. Sel. Perez agreed to engage the Town Attorney and the new Town Manager for input and guidance to formally put this added level of notification requirement into effect.

Item12

Executive Session
A) Discussion/Possible Action regarding the sale of 508 Main Street
B) Discussion/Possible Action regarding proposals for Legal Services
C) Discussion/Possible Action regarding the new Town Manager hiring
   Motion Statement - "Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:48pm."
   Motion - Lamere / Second - Sel. Marino
   Vote to approve - Unanimous (7 - 0)
   The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:12pm taking the following action.
   Motion Statement - "I make a motion to send out an RFP for the Town's Legal Services - Town Attorney"
   Motion - Sel. Lamere / Second - Sel. Pozzo
   Vote to approve - Yes (3) Lamere / Pozzo / Marino No (4) (Motion fails)
Motion Statement - "I make a motion to table discussion regarding an RFP for 508 Main Street until 30 days after the new Town Manager has been on board."

Motion - Marino / Second - Sel. Pozzo
Vote to approve - Yes (6) / No (1) Sel. Lamere

Item 5  
**Citizens Comments** - None

Item 14  
**Selectmen’s Comments and Reports** -
Sel. Perez - Reported on her first meeting at the NW Transit District
Sel. Pozzo - Acknowledged reports from the land Use Dept and asked for more detail from Town Planner.

Item 15  
**Adjournment**
* Motion - Sel. Sedlack / Second - Sel. Lamere
  To adjourn the meeting at 9:21pm
  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.