



**TOWN OF WINCHESTER
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 –6:00 PM
Town Hall, 338 Main Street
2nd Floor – P. Hicks Room

1. **Call to Order** – the meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chairwoman Candy Perez. In attendance are members of the Commission Holly Cassaday, Mark Lampognana, Luiza Martinez, and Sondra Strubher. Also in attendance Selectwoman Cheryl Heffernan McGlynn and Selectman Paul Marino. Bill Hudock was excused. Note: One person is in attendance from the public at tonight’s meeting. Holly left at 6:45 and was excused.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Review minutes from April 13, 2026 - motion to approve Holly , second by Luiza and unanimously approved.**
4. **Agenda Review**
 - a. Discussion of Budget Timelines with the Town Manager: Town Manager Harrington proposed moving the town meeting to the first Tuesday in May. He also suggested the referendum vote be held the following Tuesday following the Town Meeting. He believed there was time in between to make the required public notice. He suggested that this format would continue if a budget referendum were to fail. The commission discussed requiring the Town Clerk’s office to be open for absentee ballots every day, including Saturday, before the Tuesday referendum. The commission also discussed requiring public comment at BOS meeting budget discussions.
 - b. **Continued Review the analysis of each of the four BOS charges by each work group:**
 - i. Town Clerk change – commission wants to move forward with this charge. *This will be sent to Town Attorney Nelligan for review and language.*
 - ii. Budget timing – commission wants to move forward with this charge. *This will be sent to Town Attorney Nelligan for review and language.*
 - iii. Boards and Commissions – Discussion continued regarding what "Major Boards" would be on the list for restrictions. *This will be sent to Town Attorney Nelligan for review and language.*
 - iv. Selectman terms – Discussion on changing the Board of Selectmen (BOS) from a 2-year term to a 4-year term. Comments continued among members as to the pros and cons of each term length. Candy committed to staying with a 2-year term, noting that accountability to the electors was an important consideration.
 - c. **Charter items to discuss from Town Departments:**
 - i. Registrar of Voter terms – will invite to the next meeting
 - ii. Land Use/Inland Wetlands number of board members – will consider change
 - iii. Fire Service: The Commission discussed the consolidation of the Fire Departments (i.e., Winsted and Winchester Volunteer F.D.). It was decided that this is a complex matter that requires more input from all involved parties, the Selectmen, and the Town Manager.
 - iv. Discussion on yearly BOS stipends and whether to suspend those. There was a suggestion of potentially leaving the Mayor's salary in place. No action was taken.
 - d. **Establish next steps including, but not limited to, invitations to town staff or others to understand any changes:**
 - i. Invite the Registrar and IWWC to our next meeting to weigh in on budget timing. Refer items to the Town Attorney for his opinion

e. **Timeline Check-in**

i. Next meeting is on Monday, May 4th 5:30.

5. **Public Comment** – Renee Waldron: suggested placement of Gilbert Tuition line item in Town list of budget departments and remove from the WBOE budget line item. She stated that this may help relations between the two boards. Gilbert would still retain its tuition under 10-34.
6. **Adjournment - *Motion to adjourn made by Sondra Strubar, seconded by Mark Lampognana and unanimously approved.***

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.