

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 6:00 PM  
Lee Ann LaClair Room (Blue Room)

COMMISSION

Thomas Carter, Chairman  
Deweese Yeager, Vice Chairman  
Gary Giordano, Treasurer  
Jamie Coligan, Secretary  
Dennis Dressel, Commissioner  
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner  
Carrie Stetson, Commissioner  
Jess Tessman, Commissioner  
Eric Richard, Alternate  
Joseph Santoro, Alternate  
Stephen Plumlee, Alternate

TOWN OFFICIALS

Paul Harrington, Town Manager  
Althea Candy Perez, BOS Liaison

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 6:00 pm by Thomas Carter. At the meeting were Thomas Carter, Alan Colavecchio, Dennis Dressel, Dewees Yeager, Jamie Coligan, Stephen Plumlee, and guests Veronica Zecchin. Absent/excused were Jess Tessman, Gary Giordano, Carrie Stetson, Joseph Santoro, and Eric Richard.
2. Agenda Review - Motion to approve by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 6-0-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:
  - Motion to approve the minutes of August 5, 2025, by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 5-0-1. Dewees Yeager abstained.
4. Public Comment
  - None
5. New Business
  - Magnetic Stickers
    - Dennis ordered 250 and will be ready any day.
    - Purchase Order presented
  - Community Night - Fall 2025
    - EDC will not be sponsoring at this time
  - American Mural Project - EDC will not be sponsoring Able Table at this time, but info has been posted on the EDC Facebook page.
  - Lamppost Banners
    - Agreed to check cost of Win Win and Shop Local banners (10 each)

- Check with Candace Bouchard to intersperse with FOMS banners
- What's Happening in Town?
  - 142 Main Street - Former Jesse's Restaurant
    - Property is on PZC agenda for amending to be four housing units
  - 103 Riverton Road - Alexson's Diesel Repair
    - Zoning change approved to add storage to the property
  - September - get out to meet the manufacturers in town
    - Schedule with Town Manager and EDC member
    - List of Manufacturers discussed and members assigned to coordinate meetings
- Town Updates and Renovations - no new updates at this time
- Liaison Updates
  - Sue Grossman Trail
    - Working on easements.
    - Sewer lines in question - cost vs benefit.
  - Friends of Main Street - Fall Foliage Festival, Saturday, September 27, 2025
    - Tom to look into FOMS table application website for completion
    - Touch base with Jess for promotional items
  - Town of Winchester Website (EDC Page)
    - Check the Resources section for 2025 Job Fair Info links for Attendees and Employers as well as other information links
  - Real Estate Committee
    - Dewees combined four lists into one working list of properties.
    - It is a work in progress
    - Will update to add additional information fields as needed
  - Planning and Zoning Commission
    - Tom to meet with Chairman - Will Platt and Vice Chairman - Peter Marchand on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 4:00 PM
- Business Visitations
  - Tom and Dewees visited Jessica's Barbershop now at 19 Rowley Street - would like Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - see below
  - Dewees visited Cappy's Cleaners - spoke with owner Joon Lim and yes it's back on the market, owner ready to retire.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
  - Aero Salon, September 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM.
  - Jessica's Barbershop mid September
  - Sacred Beauty and Cura Cafe some time in September
  - Keep checking with Park Place Hardware

- Social Media Spotlights - no updates at this time
  - Upcoming Spotlight(s) - Railway Cafe, Tyler FX Studios.
    - Keep Park Place Hardware on the radar - new renovations.
    - Local Realtors David Sartirana and Annie Simard are on the schedule

#### 6. Communications

- Tax Free Week CT is this week - Sunday, August 17, 2025 - Saturday, August 23, 2025
- Discussion on Neil McGuinness email regarding Weekend in Norfolk concept for Winsted/Winchester - maybe discuss in conjunction with Fall Foliage Festival
- Torrington Newsletter concept - discussion to do maybe do a WEDC year-end update
- Creative Economy Summit September 11, 2025 - AMP fundraiser
- Litchfield County Housing Summit
- WBDC Grant - see Town of Winchester Website - EDC Page
- Safe Streets for all - SSFA - See Town's Facebook Page
  - Forming a committee to assess town streets, would like an EDC member.

#### 7. Old Business

- EDC Promotional Video (3 - 4 minute video).
  - Filming in progress - visited Rooted Market and filmed concert in the park.
  - Fairchild and Ledgebrook scheduled for this week
  - Do we have a promotional event for it at LRB?
  - Presentation discussed at BOS meeting on 8/18 and Board was excited
  - On track for the presentation at BOS 2nd meeting in September (9/18).
- Job Fair - 2025
  - Event Date: Thursday, September 25th, 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm.
    - Location: Greenwoods Hall Gym, NCCC.
    - 13 current registered employers.
    - Responses needed by September 19, 2025 to reserve a table.
    - Look into lawn signs, flyers, radio to promote it - Alan will get estimates

8. Adjournment - 7:22 pm motion by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 6-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jamie Coligan