

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 6:00 PM
Lee Ann LaClair Room (Blue Room)

COMMISSION

Thomas Carter, Chairman
Deweese Yeager, Vice Chairman
Gary Giordano, Treasurer
Dennis Dressel, Commissioner
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner
Carrie Stetson, Commissioner
Jess Tessman, Commissioner

ALTERNATES

Stephen Plumlee
Eric Richard
Joseph Santoro
Jamie Coligan, Secretary

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, Dewees Yeager, Gary Giordano, Alan Colavecchio, Dennis Dressel, Jess Tessman, Carrie Stetson, Jamie Coligan, Eric Richard, Stephen Plumlee and guests Veronica Zecchin, Holley Atkinson, Linda Groppo. Absent was Joseph Santoro.
2. Agenda Review - Motion to approve by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 7-0-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:
 - Motion to approve the minutes of September 2, 2025, by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Carrie Stetson. Voted 7-0-0.
4. Public Comment
 - None
5. New Business
 - What's happening in Town?
 - Paul Harrington to join with the EDC in visiting with Manufacturers
 - Cura Cafe possibly moving to be a food truck business
 - JT's Cafe is closed
 - Wallens Hill RFQ coming out shortly
 - 508 Main Street - no updates at this time
 - 163 Main Street - Welding Company to go behind Citgo - no activity
 - Cumberland Farms building no activity yet
 - Domino's work continues - hope to open late September

- Liaison Updates
 - Sue Grossman Trail
 - Work on easements continues. No word on results of meetings with Noad, Lippincott, Rhodes
 - Requests for qualifications for engineering is out for proposals due date of October 2, 2025
 - Friends of Main Street - regular meeting cancelled
 - Fall Foliage Festival, Saturday, September 27, 2025
 - Road closes at 7:30 AM for set up; Runs from 10 AM - 3 PM
 - Need help getting vendors settled in - 7:30-8:00 start with Rotary Club
 - 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
 - No word on update to EDC page - Towns update to new site first
 - Planning and Zoning Commission
 - Next meeting on Thursday, September 18th at 10 AM
- Business Visitations
 - Manufacturer visits this Fall with Paul Harrington to see what's going on, get ideas, contact info, and present State of The Town address.
 - First set of visits is on Tuesday September 23 with Hubbell at 11 AM, Fairchild at 1:30 PM.
 - Next up Cadco October 7 at 10:45 AM; Howmet tbd
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
 - Aero Hair Studio, Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM.
 - Jessica's Barbershop postponed, possibly October
 - Marshall's October 23, 2025
 - Ash Family Heating late winter or next spring (2026)
- Social Media Spotlights
 - Upcoming Spotlight(s)
 - David Sartirana on vacation so will schedule along with Annie Simard in the near future (hopefully September)
 - Railway Cafe has been filmed and working on tweaking
 - Tyler FX Studios in October
 - Need to schedule Winchester Hardware and Park Place Hardware
 - Get back to Find it Friday, Motivation Monday, Myth or Fact postings
 - Wonder if we could do something like Norfolk - Norfolk Now newsletter

6. Communications

- Safe Streets for all - SSFA - See Town's Facebook Page
 - Meeting to be scheduled soon

- Gary noted still need volunteers

7. Old Business

- EDC Promotional Video (5:30 minute video).
 - Presentation made at BOS meeting on September 15, 2025
 - Well received by the Board and other meeting attendees
 - Premier at LRB on October 8, 2025 at 5:00 PM
- Job Fair - 2025
 - Event Date: Thursday, September 25th, 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm.
 - Location: Greenwoods Hall Gym, NCCC.
 - Set up 1-1:30
 - Need volunteers for welcome table, parking monitor, some college students will be there to help as well
 - Parking signs need to be placed day of
 - Railway Cafe catering
- Magnetic Stickers
 - Give to BOS members evening of premier
- Community Night
 - Is more of a Chamber event than EDC
 - See if Chamber is interested - EDC will absolutely support excluding full monetary sponsorship
- Fall Foliage Festival
 - Stephen and Gary in the morning; Dennis afternoon, others when they can
 - Jess has tent and weights, checking on available promotional items
 - Door Prize, candy, apples
 - Bring your own chairs
- Real Estate Committee
 - Couple of updates made and will update as needed going forward
- Lampost Banners
 - Check cost for 10 each of 2 designs
 - Rec Department is in charge and will be ordering new holiday banners
 - Tom to reach out to Paul (and others) about other possible designs

9. Adjournment - 7:14 pm motion by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Carrie Stetson. Voted 7-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Jamie Coligan