

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 7, 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 7:00 pm by Dewees Yeager. At the meeting were Gary Giordano, Alan Colavecchio, Dennis Dressel, Jess Tessman, Carrie Stetson, Jamie Coligan, Stephen Plumlee, and guests Veronica Zecchin, and Members of Boy Scout Troop 1027 Assistant Leader Phil Marquis and Life Scout Jameson Michaud . Absent/excused were Thomas Carter, and Joseph Santoro. Stephen Plumlee filling in for Tom Carter for voting purposes.
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 16, 2025, by Jess Tessman, seconded by Carrie Stetson. Voted 7-0-0.
4. Public Comment
 - Scouts there to observe and see what goes on at meetings
5. Treasurer's Report
 - Balance is \$8,581
6. New Business
 - What's happening in Town?
 - Domino's a bit behind - working on counter area - on track to open this month
 - Offer on Cappy's Cleaners fell through
 - Website is a work in progress, Town comes first
 - Wallens Hill RFQ came out
 - Safe Streets - Gary attended initial meeting - gather info on problem areas in town - Grant of \$250,000 with \$50,000 town match
 - Traffic Ad Hoc committee taking note of issues reported, random meetings to be held to compile info and plan to go to RFQ for engineering

- Liaison Updates
 - None at this time
- Business Visitations
 - Dewey, Alan, Paul Harrington and Rista Malanca visited Cadco today (10/7), discussed town changes, manufacturer changes and how we can help
 - Hubbell and Fairchild were visited on 9/23
 - Will be reaching out to Sterling, SKF, Howmet, DRT, H&O and others in the near future
 - Cappy's Cleaners sale fell through, discuss with Geoff Green to see how we can help and if anything in the wings
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
 - Aero Salon, went well and had a great turnout
 - Marshall's will spearhead their opening at 7:30 AM on Thursday, October 23rd with first customer set to cut the ribbon, Mayor Todd Arcelaschi will say a few words
 - Sacred Beauty and Cura Cafe some time in October or November?
 - Keep checking with Park Place Hardware
- Social Media Spotlights
 - Upcoming Spotlight(s) - Winchester Hardware.
 - Hope to get Tyler FX this month, just got married
 - Still working to schedule local realtors David and Annie
 - Find pictures of old businesses and of the town to share
 - Post EDC summary at year end
 - Post about manufacturer visits
- Manufacturer's Expo - AMP - 10/23/25 2:30 - 6:30 PM
- Small Business Seminar - CSCC at Norfolk Hub - 10/29/25 at 5:30 PM, sell like a pro for small businesses
- Miscellaneous
 - BAR Grant will be a year long in development - table for next meeting
 - Rista thought maybe have a developers day to discuss some properties
 - T-Shirts - new design and color based on Win/Win logo
 - EDC Outlook Account needs to be switched to Tom as point person

7. Communications

- Becky at Cura sold her business
 - New owner to run it the same
 - Cura will operate out of a food truck
 - Sacred Beauty that shares space is waiting to see her next steps
- LIVE (Jackie) worried about Marshall's & her lease is coming up-not sure what to do

8. Old Business

- EDC Promotional Video Presented on 10/8/25 at 5:30 PM at LRB
 - Welcome table set up and began checking in guests early
 - Well attended and very well received
 - Alan was MC with Dennis, speakers included Rista Malanca, Paul Harrington and Albert Petrunti
 - Posted on Town's YouTube channel approximately 6:30 PM
 - Albert at the next EDC meeting (10/21) presenting electronic marketing 101
- Job Fair - 2025
 - Event Date: Thursday, September 25th, 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm.
 - Was well attended - approximately 120 people
 - On budget
 - Great venue
 - Comments received on sign in sheet: do it again, WiFi was an issue, could use more power outlets
 - If do it again see about getting a QR code for ease of payment
- Fall Foliage Festival
 - Quite a few people stopped by the table. Overall the event was very well attended.
 - Jess did a great job of drawing people in to talk.
- Real Estate Committee
 - Work in progress - tweaking as we go
- Lampost Banners
 - Not ordered yet - Rec Department in charge of ordering
 - No real update at this time

9. Adjournment - 7:24 pm motion by Carrie Stetson, second Gary Giordano. Voted 7-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Jamie Coligan