

Meet Winnie of Winchester!

Winchester has a new resident! After the Mayor called for name recommendations for the moose, those suggestions were tallied up, and the name that was suggested the greatest number of times was chosen to be the name of the roaming Winchester moose: Winnie! We know that Winnie has been off visiting neighboring towns, but the moose will always be welcome in Winchester and has a name to prove it. Thank you to everyone who participated in the naming contest! Please remember that Winnie, if seen, is a wild animal and should not be approached under any circumstances.



Adopted: Infrastructure Investment Plan



On May 28, 2022, registered voters and property owners in Winchester headed to the polls to vote on two items: the annual town budget and the town's proposed Infrastructure Investment Plan. Both of those initiatives were adopted at referendum. The Infrastructure Investment Plan, as it was adopted, will invest \$18.3 million Town dollars into Winchester roadways, as well as another \$6.4 million state and federal dollars. The Town estimates that this plan will take at least five years to execute, and Town officials and advisors will be working diligently to ensure that the projects move forward in a way that gets the most for our money in these difficult economic times. The list of road and bridge projects that were

approved as part of this plan can be found online at townofwinchester.org/infrastructureplan, and we encourage you to send questions about the plan to townmanager@townofwinchester.org.

Don't Forget: Property Taxes Due

The tax bill season is upon us, and bills have already been sent out. Bills are due July 1st and you have until August 1st to pay without penalty. If you have questions regarding your assessment, please reach out the Assessor's office at 860-379-5461. If you have questions about how or where to pay your bill, please call the Tax Collector at 860-379-4474.



Winchester's Prescription Drug Discount Program



Did you know? Winchester belongs to the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), which offers a free prescription discount card program. This card may be used by any resident in town and saves an average of 45 percent off the retail price of medications, as well as providing discounts on vision, LASIK and hearing care services. It's especially valuable for people without health insurance or a traditional pharmacy benefit plan, or for patients with prescriptions not covered by insurance. To learn more or request a card, please go to ccm-ct.org/services/prescription-savings.



Connect With Us



Facebook: facebook.com/TownWinchesterCT

Instagram: @Winchester_CT

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LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/winchesterct

YouTube: Town of Winchester-CT

Nextdoor: Nextdoor.com

You can also visit our website at townofwinchester.org to find links to our social media pages (Instagram, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Nextdoor). Town Hall can be reached at 860-379-2713 or at townmanager@townofwinchester.org.

WINCHESTER WIRE

The latest, direct community updates from the Town of Winchester, CT.



REMINDERS & UPDATES

JUNE IS DOG LICENSING MONTH, REGISTRATION AT TOWN HALL.

JUNE IS HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS MONTH; LEARN MORE & PREP AT READY.GOV/HURRICANES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT FIRE DEPT; LEARN HOW AT WINSTEDFIRE.ORG.

FIREMEN'S CARNIVAL TO RUN AUGUST 24-27; FIREWORKS FRIDAY & PARADE ON SATURDAY.

TOWN REVALUATION UNDERWAY; LEARN MORE @ TOWN WEBSITE

Open for Business!

2021 and 2022 have been a huge year for Winsted businesses: In that timeframe, we have seen the opening of the Railway Cafe, Live Be You, Be Under Par, and 2nd Home to name a few, and we've also seen the reopening of Laurel Lanes under new management, the relocation of Asa's Place with expanded hours, and we've heard of the Little Red Barn's plans to expand. In the past couple months alone, we've also had Live At Home, a home good store, open at 58 Main Street, and Cura Di Se, a protein shake shop, has opened next door. Rooted Market has rebranded, and the American Museum of Tort Law is once again open with regular hours. The Mad River Market is opening an official office on Elm Street, and the American Mural Project open with regular visiting hours to the public.

Winsted's Main Street and downtown corridor is on the rise, and the Town continues to offer small \$10,000 forgivable loans to new businesses that choose to open in town. More information about the program can be found at townofwinchester.org/2022InvestmentPrograms. If you know someone who may want to open a business in town and make use of this opportunity, please let the Town Manager know at townmanager@townofwinchester.org. Great things have already come from this program (including funding to help get Live At Home and Cura Di Se off the ground), and we hope to help support even more business start-ups going forward!

Please continue to support our growing array of local businesses - walk Main Street, shop local, and eat local! #WinstedHasIt #WinstedCT #WinchesterCT

Events & Activities - Summer 2022

- **July 4 - Reading of the Declaration of Independence at Soldiers Monument:** Reading commences at 2pm, and the first floor of the monument will be open to visitors from 2-4pm. Grounds will be open for picnicking at that time.
- **July 7 - HHC Neighborhood Health Clinic at Senior Center:** The neighborhood clinic offers evaluation and management of urgent care needs, medical screenings, lab tests, referrals, follow-up care, immunizations and Covid vaccines. Walk-ins are welcome. On-site financial assistance is available, insurance is excepted but not required. Held from 11am - 3pm.
- **July 9 - Second Saturday Farmers' Market:** Hosted at East End Park, this market will feature farmers, crafters, and other local vendors. Come out between 9am - 2pm to enjoy! Applications to become a vendor may be acquired by emailing pawsandreflectct@gmail.com.
- **August 12 - Winsted Recreation Movie Night at the Park:** Join us at 8:00 PM at the Playground Building (75 Rowley Street) on Friday, August 12th, to watch Disney's Encanto for free outside in the park. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
- **August 7 - Historical Program at the Soldiers Monument with Virginia Schultz-Charette:** event will be held at 2:15pm at the Monument, and the first floor of the monument will be open to visitors from 2-4pm. Grounds will be open for picnicking at that time.
- **August 13 - Second Saturday Farmers' Market:** Hosted at East End Park, this market will feature farmers, crafters, and other local vendors. Come out between 9am - 2pm to enjoy! Applications to become a vendor may be acquired by emailing pawsandreflectct@gmail.com.
- **August 24 - Firemen's Carnival Day 1:** The Winsted Fire Department's annual Firemen's Carnival kicks off on Wednesday, August 24th and will be open through Saturday, August 27th. To be held at the fairgrounds on Rowley Street.
- **August 25 - Firemen's Carnival Day 2.**
- **August 26 - Firemen's Carnival Day 3 & Fireworks:** Fireworks to be held at the fairgrounds in the evening on Friday the 26th, a more specific time for the fireworks to be shared on the town website.
- **August 27 - Firemen's Carnival Final Day & Firemen's Parade:** Parade to step off at 6pm on Saturday the 27th, with the final evening of the carnival being held thereafter.
- **September 10 - Second Saturday Farmers' Market:** Hosted at East End Park, this market will feature farmers, crafters, and other local vendors. Come out between 9am - 2pm to enjoy! Applications to become a vendor may be acquired by emailing pawsandreflectct@gmail.com.
- **September 11 - Rededication Ceremony of the Soldiers Monument:** This event will also double as the official re-opening of the monument and as an ice cream social. The monument was originally dedicated on September 11, 1890, and this re-dedication ceremony will show the complete replacement of windows in the monument and the opening of the 2nd and 3rd floors to the public.



For more information about programming, please visit the Recreation and Senior Center pages on the Town website (townofwinchester.org) and beardsleylibrary.org. Want to see your event listed in the Summer edition (spanning June 15 - September 15)? Email townmanager@townofwinchester.org.

Winchester Photo Contest - Deadline Extended!

The Winchester Conservation Commission and Economic Development Commission (EDC) are partnering up to run a free town-wide photo contest! The contest is looking for high-resolution, high-quality digital photos that depict our town's natural beauty and vibrant community. Pictures can be of anything in town, though there are four primary categories that pictures will be sorted into as part of the judging process. Top winners will be awarded a small prize and will be given the opportunity to have their photos appear in a 2023 calendar that the two commissions plan to compile. Learn more at townofwinchester.org/photocontest. The deadline has been extended to August 15, 2022! Thanks to all who have submitted so far.



150+ Winsted Cats



As most have now heard, the Town of Winchester took possession of over 150 cats, 2 dogs, and a ferret as part of an animal hoarding case in town. Municipal governments are required by state law to care for animals that are seized from homes in this manner, which meant that an enormous amount of time, energy, money, and love needed to go into the Town's response to this tragic situation. Scores of volunteers have assisted with the care of the cats as they were held in a temporary shelter at the now-decommissioned Batcheller School, and even more from around the town, region, and state donated supplies to the cause.

Now comes the truly hard part: making sure that these cats are able to stay healthy and be placed in a happy and loving forever home. The Town incurred thousands of dollars of costs associated with veterinarian care for these cats, and there are a few more bills to come following spaying and neutering efforts. If you are able to do so and would like to help these cats, we encourage you to make a monetary donation by cash or check made out to "Town of Winchester, CT" with "Animal Care" in the memo line. Cash can be dropped off at Town Hall (338 Main Street, Winsted, CT 06098), or checks can be dropped off or mailed to that address. We thank you in advance for your support!

As of the time that this article was written (Tuesday, June 28), most of the cats had been placed in shelters or were lined up for adoption. To check if there are still cats available for adoption that are under the Town's care, or to find out which rescue shelters took cats in, please email townmanager@townofwinchester.org.

Town Board & Commission Meetings

The Town has many boards and commissions that meet regularly to consider, advise, and decide on issues facing the town and its residents. For a full listing of those agencies and the days and times on which they meet, please visit our website at townofwinchester.org. Below you will find a selection of meeting schedules (please note that all meeting schedules are subject to change due to holidays and extenuating circumstances - please check the Town's website for the most up-to-date information):

- **Board of Selectmen:** 1st & 3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room at Town Hall.
- **Board of Education:** 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room.
- **Planning & Zoning Commission:** 2nd & 4th Mon. of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room.
- **Water & Sewer Com.:** 2nd Tues of the month, 6PM (note: new time!), Blue Room at Town Hall.

For more listings and specific information, please visit our website. To volunteer for a Board or Commission, please contact the Town Manager at townmanager@townofwinchester.org.