

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2025

President Letterie calls the meeting to order at 6:30 PM in the Harvey Hearing Room

ROLL CALL TOWN COUNCIL

Present: Councilor Aiello, Councilor DeMarco, Councilor Costigan, Councilor Tassinari, Councilor Swope, Vice President Belcher, President Letterie

Absent: Councilor Daros

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Swope

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Richard DiMento

Richard Bangs

MINUTES

Motion by Councilor DeMarco to Approve the Minutes of September 16, 2025, as circulated.

2nd by Councilor Swope

Motion Passed

GENERAL INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recognition of Veterans Breakfast: Gabriella Blamer & Carmen Bauer

Citation: Former Fire Chief Scott Wiley

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing Opened

Comcast: Madison and Winthrop St. Underground Conduit

Comcast Rep. discusses adding Comcast Services to 210-214 Winthrop St.

Discussion

Director of DPW Sees no conflicts with this but will continue to review with Comcast

Public Hearing Closed

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Morgan P4-October is White Cane Awareness Month

Mr. Jaffrey-Requests more pickle ball courts in town.

Marci Hamilton P2-Requests information on how the town is going to help the flooding areas in Winthrop. Something has to be done not just temporarily but a permanent plan.

Kim Dimes P2-Thanks all that participated in the Fishermen's Bend coast clean up, a big success.

Joe Romano P3-Thanks the Town Council for their work on the ADU Ordinance.

Erin Barcello's P5-Asks for another citizen about the no parking signs on River Rd.

CORRESPONDENCE-Received None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rules & Ordinance-Vice President Belcher reports the committee is reviewing on parking ordinances and the Council Rules & Procedures

FHBC-Demolition and Asbestos Removal Contract was awarded. Discussions will begin when the construction site will begin at the Old Middle School building.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Council President not able to attend, but reports there is still ongoing negotiations with the Teachers Union.

UPDATE POLICY MAKING COMMITTEES- None to Update

TOWN MANGER REPORT-Please see attached copy of report.

Council President reports he has talked to the Town Manager about the Pickle Ball Courts and is looking into installing new courts for use.

DPW Director Calla reports that there will be notices posted for No Parking on River Rd. today and neighbors will be made aware.

Councilor Aiello asked about a pickle ball games during the winter.

Asks if there is a final decision on the pricing of Zoom at the Sr. Center

Requests information on the Tree cut on Shirley St. (Information is posted on website)

Wants all to know that when a public tree is removed illegally, party will be held responsible.

Requests the email exchange between the Board of Registrars and Sec.of State be posted on the Town Website.

Councilor Aiello make a motion to appeal Council Presidents decision that only Town Manager Report information should be discussed during the Town Managers Report

2nd by Councilor Tassinari

Discussion

Councilor Tassinari discusses that no items can be put on the agenda since the Town Council President makes final decision. He requests that all Recall Process be put on the website. Also requests that the Town Council should be able to discuss more than just the Town Managers Report, especially since nothing is allowed on the agenda, particularly any Recall information.

Town Council President reiterates that the rules for the Town Managers Report were established over a year ago. He also questions reasonings for some things to be put on website while other things are not requested to be put on website. Reports that Recall information could not be put on the agenda as it was going through a court process.

The Town Manager reports this was in litigation and believes another filing may be occurring.

Councilor Aiello takes offense that if Council President agree with something, it is due to an election time, he is disappointed that there is no transparency and believes the Town Council President makes things difficult.

Council President reiterates he does not make things difficult, there is a process, which he did not create.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Yes: Councilor Aiello, Councilor Tassinari, Councilor DaRos, Vice President Belcher

No: Councilor DeMarco, Councilor Costigan, Councilor Swope, President Letterie

Tied Vote-Motion Does Not Pass

Council Vice President requests update on Short Term Rentals and Accessory Dwelling Unit

Town Manager reports process is to go through the Board of License.

Councilor Costigan inquiries about the Memorial Tree in front of the Old Middle School.

The Town Manager reports the tree should not be moved too far, the tree warden is considering Ingleside park.

Councilor Tassinari asks if there has been a request on the \$2,000,000 Earmarked from Chapter 150 of the Act of 2024.

Town Manager will make request.

Hopes trucks that are made bigger are not sent through Winthrop as the bump out in front of 90 Degrees may not admit a smooth drive. Worried trucks would have to go into the other lane to make turn.
Discussed that it is great the angle in the slopes could be changed. Looks forward to discussing the trees that were removed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Town appropriates the sum of \$1,100,000 (1) to pay costs to replace water meters-**Referred to the Finance Committee by Council President**

COMCAST Installation-**Referred to the Public Health & Safety Committee by Council President**

Motion by Councilor Tassinari to waive Council Rules and Re-schedule November Town Council Meetings from Nov. 4th to Nov. 5th and Nov. 18th. Leave as regular scheduled meeting.

2nd by Councilor Swope

Discussion

Motion by Councilor Tassinari to amend the date from Nov. 5th to Nov. 12th, 2025

2nd by Vice President Belcher

Discussion

Vice President Belcher not available on the 12th

Amended Motion is Withdrawn by Councilor Tassinari

Main Motion is Passed

Appointment(s)-

Motion by Councilor Swope to accept the appointment of Carol Mietzch to the Aviation & Nautical Committee

2nd by Vice President Belcher

Discussion

Councilor Aiello requests Town Council Privilege to table all appointments on agenda until we have clarification of the Board of Registrars behavior

Debbie Chavis- Board of License- Tabled

Andrea DeSouza-Council on Aging Tabled

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lee Foley has questions on the procedures of the Board of Registrars and how a Recall Meeting was called...

Questions that they may have discussed the meeting prior

Paul Reardon had reached out to Sec. of State Office previously.

Discusses further information pertaining to this issue

Asks why after a meeting that should not have been scheduled, Diana Viens issued a statement she was having a campaign event for Paul Reardon, who is on the Board of Registrars

Jack Dowd P2-Asks that people stand up to be heard and asked about microphones in room and can they be made lower to be heard better on WCAT?

He is navigating to keep green space green and is not in agreement of more pickle ball courts being put in Ingleside Park.

Asks if the dirt will be graded and hydroseeded when construction begins on the Old Middle School?

Marci Hamilton P2-Requests something on the Agenda on the Shelter in Place Policy.

Please join the Trunk or Treat Event

Celeste Ribeiro Hewitt P1-Revisits the request to post FOIA requests...would like to see posted for a variety of reasons.

Max Tassinari P1-Removes himself from the Town Council Table and requests a public request that he requested on Sept. 9, 2025 be addressed. Discusses emails during Sept. 6th to the 9th and would like a copy.

He asks on an email that was sent and said "Denise is not making unilateral decisions" who was making decision?

Mark Sennott P2-Discusses that it is very important that with an ADU, there should be a policy on asphaltting a driveway.

PUBLIC RELATIONS / UPCOMING EVENTS

October 15, 2025 White Cane Awareness October 15, 2025

October 15, 2025-Walden St. Dedication-Jerry DeFranza

October 21, 2025 Public Forum-Sr. Center 7:00 PM (Town Council Meeting will begin at 6:00 PM)

October 21, 2025 Mass Port Presentation

Polling Locations-

Precincts 1-2-3-5-6 will be voting at the Winthrop High School

Precinct 4 will be at Golden Dr.

Last Day to register to vote is Oct. 25, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Vice President Belcher at 7:35 pm

2nd by Councilor DeMarco

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Councilor Aiello, Councilor DeMarco, Councilor Tassinari, Councilor Swope, Vice President Belcher, President Letterie, Councilor DaRos (Zoom)

No: Councilor Costigan

Motion Passes -Meeting is Adjourned

Public Documents used in the meeting are available at Town Managers Office.

Documents Used in this Meeting: Handwritten Notes / Committee Openings Documents Roll Call Log

Written Motions / Verbal Motion

Respectfully submitted.

Denise Quist

Town Clerk

Council Clerk