

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, Councilor Daros, Vice President Belcher, President Letterie

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor DaRos

MINUTES

Motion by Vice President Belcher to Approve the Minutes of Nov. 5, 2025, as circulated.

2nd by Councilor Swope

Abstain: Councilor Tassinari, Councilor Aiello

Motion Passed

GENERAL INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY26 Tax Classification:

Nate Cramer and Deputy Assessor Kathy Hickey discuss the town of Winthrop's Tax Classifications- (Please see town website for presentation)

Motion by the Finance Committee with a positive recommendation that the town maintains a Uniform Tax rate for all classes of Property for FY26 Shift of 1 Single Tax Rate

No 2nd Needed

Roll Call

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

Motion Passes

Motion by Councilor Tassinari to exclude an open space discount to exclude a residential exemption and to exclude small commercial exemption.

2nd by Vice President Belcher

Roll Call

Yes: Councilor Aiello, Councilor Costigan, Councilor Tassinari Councilor Swope, Councilor Daros, Vice President Belcher, President Letterie

No: Councilor DeMarco

Motion Passes

Northeast Vocational School:

Winthrop Representative of the Northeast Vocation School and Superintendent Dave DiBari discuss the current situation of the Northeast Vocational School and what to expect with the building and education. with the new School that is due to be completed in the fall of 2026. Please see the Northeast Vocational Website for further information (<https://www.northeastmetrotech.com>)

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marci Hamilton P2- Discusses what is currently being done with broken pipes. This has been promised to be done, and she awaits information as to when this funding will be available. Thanks, the council for the appropriation that is currently on the agenda but requests more to be done.

Celeste Ribeiro Hewitt P1-Discusses the town does not have funding for their needs. What is the future of this funding that is needed?

Karin Chavis P2-Discusses the FY27 Budget is already being discussed. A question on increases will be health insurance. Requests the Town Council considering a Health Commission to explore different health insurance companies.

CORRESPONDENCE-

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Councilor DaRos reports on meetings with Deputy Assessor and Nate Cramer on discussion of FY26. Tax Classification information.

Discussion also included is the teleconferencing capabilities funding for the Senior Center. A current quote is \$32,750 and a funding source will be explored.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Union negotiations continue. Assistant Superintendent, Laurie Gallivan has resigned, she will be missed.

UPDATE POLICY MAKING COMMITTEES-

None up to date

TOWN MANGER REPORT-Please see attached copy of report.

Town Water Bills have been sent and there are questions from citizens about the increase in their bills. Many of these bills were considered “estimated” in lieu of “actual.”

DPW Director comments on the lighting issue on Revere St, and they are currently being improved. The cause was National Grid and Contractor had confusion internally with coding as a demo and removal and unfortunately wires were removed...they have not been reinstalled.

OLD BUSINESS

FY26 Tax Classification previously discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President refers to the Finance Committee to Transfer \$58,000 from Cap. Stabilization / Engineering Cost of the storm water system-Tileston, Girdlestone & Pico

Motion by Vice President Belcher to Accept the Appointment made by Council President Letterie of appointing Christian Buonopane to the Citizens Finance Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2028

2nd by Councilor Tassinari

Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erin Barcello P5-Invites people to try and cross at the intersection of Pleasant and Main. It needs work, it is not safe. What is the plan before 3A, what is currently happening with funding?

Brendon Cooney P5-Any discussion of marsh dredging at Fisherman’s Bend. Thanks Councilor Aiello for his past work as Councilor.

Jennifer Jones P1-Reiterates, what is the plan for Morton St. flooding?

PUBLIC RELATIONS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 2, 2025, Joint Meeting with Winthrop Housing – Appointment to Winthrop Housing, Local Tenant

Councilor DaRos announces that he will be resigning from his councilor seat effective today. It has been an honor, and he wishes nothing but the best for the town. He thanks all the councilors, and all involved in his tenure as councilor as it has been an amazing journey. He looks forward to a prosperous future with our town. He thanks the Board of License as this is where he began working with the town. He currently thanks the Climate Commission and all members. He wishes the incoming council much success.

Council President thanks Councilor DaRos as each Councilor also did in commending him for his hard work and dedication to the Winthrop Town Council. Councilor Swope added that she appreciated his respectful descent from the Town Council.

Tree Lighting Ceremony is Friday 4-6PM

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilor DaRos at 7:45pm

2nd by Councilor Tassinari

Passed Unanimously

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



TOWN OF WINTHROP

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Hall, 1 Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA 02152 Telephone: 617-846-1077

Anthony Marino
Town Manager

Town Manager Report **11-18-2025**

- The Revere Street TIP project will continue with sidewalk and curb installation for the remainder of the season, which they plan to wrap up in late November. Work will resume in the Spring of 2026.
- The Fire Station work continues as Kestle Boos continues to work on the design plans, and the Asbestos abatement work has started at the Old Middle School and Auditorium. The fencing has been installed, and the Pest Control System and Controls have been installed. We continue to work on isolating and rerouting the utilities to ensure that the Ice Rink and Gymnasium remain operational, allowing demolition to begin on the Old Middle School and Auditorium.
- We have seen an increase in water/sewer bill complaints as we work towards installing new meters and addressing the estimated water bills due to the meter reader devices not communicating with our billing software. We are investigating each complaint and will make adjustments as warranted. However, some of these increases have been attributed to water leaks in homes and irrigation systems, as well as an increase in the number of occupants in homes and apartments. Often, meter reader devices stop working due to work being done on homes or apartments, wires being inadvertently cut, or simply due to normal wear and tear. We also offer payment plans to our residents, allowing them time to get caught up once their water usage is accurately documented.
- Special thanks to Phil Ronan and the American Legion for another successful Veterans Day Ceremony. The turnout this year was impressive and showcases Winthrop's Patriotism and support for our Veterans!
- The dredging work to be completed by Northeast Mosquito Control at Fishermen's Bend is being coordinated for the Winter 2026 months. The logistics and material hauling costs are being coordinated with the DPW. The Town will have to contribute to this project, as we will be responsible for hauling and disposing of the dredged material.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions about the items listed above or any other concerns. Thank you.

Anthony Marino
Winthrop Town Manager
amarino@winthropma.gov