

Winchester Planning Commission Minutes
January 23, 2023 6:00 pm

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Winchester Town Hall and via Zoom. Present were Chairman James Logan, Sulo Wainio, Lee Stengele, and Nicholas Newton, a new Winchester Planning Commission alternate, on Zoom, Michael Eichhorn, Glenn Goldschmidt, and John Melzer were also present. Lenelle Scholl was absent.
- Nicholas Newton was sworn in at the meeting by Town Chairman, Joe Discianno.
- Also at the meeting were County Board Supervisor Dick Logan, Town Board Chair Joe Discianno and Town Board Liaison John Grimmer.
- Roll was called, and a quorum was verified.
- Approval of the agenda at the Discretion of the Chair. Sulo moved to accept, seconded by Lee, and passed unanimously.
- Certification of compliance with public notice requirements.
- Approval of minutes of the November 28, 2022, was discussed, and tabled until the next meeting.
- Public comment: Nicholas Newton gave some personal history and was introduced to Commission Members.
- Winchester Town Board Liaison Report: Discussed approval of Equipment purchase pertaining to a truck, and health care and benefits for workers. Shipping Container Ordinance approved.
- Communications and Reports:
Open meeting law communications and training was discussed.

Old business

1. Discussion/possible action Town Equipment Inventory, replacement of ambulance was discussed. The inventory is still in progress by John Melzer. He will work with Bill Sell.
1. Discussion/possible action Town Properties Inventory. Further town records information is necessary on easements, maps, and deeds and other Planning Commission related documentation.
2. Discussion/possible action Town Road Ordinance; Progress reviewed by Sulo. Building setbacks were discussed, along with rules for new construction, the diameter of turnarounds, and the yearly culvert inventory. Lee moved to send the ordinance as revised in this meeting to the Town Board for approval, and Sulo seconded, passed unanimously.
3. Discussion/possible action on Room Tax for rental properties. Changes have been made and discussed by Glenn Goldschmidt. Must have Health Dept approval for safe rentals. The Planning Committee accepted the plan as a draft, Glenn Goldschmidt moved to send it to the Town Board. Second by Sulo passed unanimously. A discussion was had regarding working with the Town Board to form an Economic Development Committee.
4. Discussion/possible action Fee Schedule update; tabled until next meeting.
5. Discussion/possible action Sign Ordinance; Discussed setbacks from the road, rules pertaining to removal of temporary signs (i.e. Real Estate, Political), no personal arrow or directional signs allowed, only businesses. A small sign is considered 4'x4' or less.

New Business

1. Discussion/possible action economic development chapter; see #4 Old Business.
2. Discussed Xcel relocation across Winchester town properties.
3. Open meeting law education was discussed. Lee mentioned that he received an email from Jeff Whitney that Lee feels was threatening to remove him from the plan commission.
4. Records and shelving were discussed.
5. Open meetings law education was discussed.

Future agenda items

1. Driveway Ordinance
2. Sign ordinance

Glenn moved to adjourn the meeting, Lee seconded, passed unanimously at 9:15PM.
Future Meeting; 6PM Monday February 27, 2023