



TOWN COUNCIL
HYBRID MEETING – VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON
JULY 7, 2025
Regular Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers

APPROVED MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Black-Burke called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Nuchette Black-Burke, Deputy Mayor Darleen Klase, Councilor Mary Armstrong, Councilor Ronald Eleveld, Councilor Kristin Gluck Hoffman, Councilor Anthony King, Councilor Ojala Naeem, Councilor William Pelkey and Councilor Lenworth Walker

2) PRAYER REFLECTION

Councilor Walker led the group in prayer/reflection.

3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Walker led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS

- a) Recognizing July 2025 as Parks and Recreation Month

Mayor Black-Burke and Deputy Mayor Klase read aloud the proclamation recognizing July 2025 as Parks and Recreation month.

5) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

George Slate, 74 Ethan Drive, urged the Town Council to look over the agenda for the June Health and Safety Committee, because in the agenda summary item there was one item, one paragraph in there that's not in tonight's agenda item summary. This is what scares him about the cameras, because the cameras are the easy part. Here's the difficult part, along with adoption of an ordinance, municipalities are also required to create a comprehensive action plan which would be required three years after the first cameras become operational. Such a plan describes how a municipality would ensure that their streets can accommodate users of all ages, abilities, and modalities similar to a Vision Zero or complete streets plan. A comprehensive safety action plan can identify a variety of municipal traffic safety issues while presenting an array of methods to improve road

safety concerns. He doesn't care what the cameras cost. He doesn't care what the economics are. Those can be handled. If you have to prepare a plan but don't have to implement it, go ahead. But if you have to implement it, he really worries about the cost of that. He thinks the simpler thing where you maintain control in this town for speeding issues is to just hire two new police officers.

Eric Weiner, 130 Palisado Avenue, stated he is here to talk about data, and it starts with license plates, traffic and speeding. He would just urge caution before we proceed headlong into putting up speed cameras or red light cameras that we build a town wide policy regarding how any data that is recorded by the government, whether it's town staff, police department or fire schools, is shared. There are concerns nationwide being raised in councils all over the place regarding the Flock safety systems camera data being shared inappropriately and being tapped into at the Federal level and concerns about this folding into the data that's coming out of DOGE and their partnership with Palantir Data where they can build a profile of where everybody's been at all times in perpetuity. We don't have to buy into that as a town. He thinks we need to do a lot more work and have a lot more public discussion about civil liberties here in Windsor and what's important to our values. That needs to be a broader, community-wide discussion. It's much more than just our people speeding, or are they running a red light? This is very important to him, and he fears as a nation we are giving up our own civil liberties for expediency, and we will regret that.

6) COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor King stated he just hopes everyone had a great 4th of July.

Councilor Eleveld said he was at the Juneteenth parade over in Bloomfield. He was there along with the Mayor, Councilor Walker and Town Manager Souza. It was a nice day. Hopefully, everyone had a great 4th of July. Watch out for kids on the street. There are a lot of them and we don't want to hear of any accidents.

Councilor Naeem thanked the speakers for coming out tonight. We love hearing from folks in our community because they help us understand what is needed, so please continue doing so. She hopes everyone had a wonderful 4th of July weekend and stayed cool. It is a warm summer and hopefully the rain stays away on the weekends. A couple of shout outs over the last few weeks. First is the Windsor Chamber of Commerce who had their annual event and fundraiser which was a great time. It was the Windsor Cares auction. It was really amazing to see all of the different food vendors that came out. She actually got to try out a couple of restaurants that she's never been to. Then the week after, First Town Downtown had their annual meeting and saw a similar type of turnout. It was great that both of them are using The Birdcage. It's a great location. If anyone's looking for a spot to have a party event, please do check that out right here in town.

Councilor Pelkey reminded everyone to check in on individuals that you may know, especially those who may not have air conditioning, or who may have an older unit that may have failed them. They are too proud to say anything about it, but might need some help. Regarding fire hydrants in town, if you see one that is leaking, please call MDC. He had it happen on his street about a week ago and someone from MDC came and replaced it. It's very important to have those fire hydrants operating properly. On July 19, at Windsor High School at 3:00 p.m., there will be a charity softball game between the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department and the Bloomfield Fire Department. It's a charity where they're looking to raise funds and the proceeds are going to go to the Connecticut Firefighters memorial. The rain date would be the following Saturday, if needed. If you decide to join the ranks of the Fire Department, and are interested in what they do, or you want to know more, windsorfire.org is a great place to start.

Councilor Armstrong said it's great to see people out this evening, and virtually as well. She attended the grand opening of Haircraft 75. It was an enjoyable event, and also the Windsor Chamber of Commerce auction which was well attended and enjoyable. She also attended a seminar sponsored by the Commission on Aging and Persons with Disabilities on June 26th at L.P. Wilson, along with Jane Garibay and other officials, individuals and seniors. They all gained considerable knowledge from the presenters about the long-term community Ombudsman program. A wealth of information was gained. They are looking for volunteers and they are on the website for individuals who would like to find out more information about Ombudsman. She thinks individuals would find it to be a valuable asset. It's a season of walking, exercise, gardening, and riding bikes. Please watch out for the children and pedestrians. Drink fluids and remember health care is the best care. For those who don't know who to contact in a crisis situation, you can always call 211 or 988.

Councilor Gluck Hoffman gave a shout out to her favorite folks on the Public Works team here in Windsor. Everything looks absolutely fantastic. She was at the Hartford Yard Goats game the other day and Senator Blumenthal was there and they swore in a bunch of folks for U.S. citizenship. It was a wonderful thing to see and it kind of regained her hope and promise in this country.

Councilor Walker said he too was at the Juneteenth parade. He thanked First Cathedral for always helping out the community with the use of their parking lot and their building facilities. And hopefully, at some point, Windsor will have a parade of its own for Juneteenth. Windsor is pretty fortunate to have a very professional Police Department. If you've ever had to interact with them, most of us know that the outcomes are positive. The Police Chief and the Town Manager got together and gave their assessment on any negativity that's out there. He completely agrees with them. The job of a police officer is not easy. It takes a lot of mental acuity and a calm, sound mind. He was a training officer for many years. He just wants to take the time to say thank you to the Windsor Police department for everything they've done, and we're proud of them.

Deputy Mayor Klase stated that she's noticed that we've had a lot of bikes, motorized bikes, and scooters on the road, so please be careful of them. Also, she encourages them to ride on the correct side of the road, because they are considered a vehicle. Also, helmets can always be bought at the Health Department. The concerts on the green have begun and the farmers market is awesome, so she encourages people to go there. The VFW has a ribbon cutting coming up on July 12th at noon. Also, for those folks using our pools, please remember our lifeguards are very diligent, but probably a little overworked. We should make sure our kids are at the right stage of swimming so that our lifeguards are able to manage them the way they are supposed to be handled. She would just echo Councilman Walker's sentiments. She also appreciates the additional training the Police Department has taken on, and some of the procedural changes they have made.

Mayor Black-Burke said she wants to take a moment just to acknowledge that at the end of last week the Windsor community was impacted by the loss of a young life, Tiana Sutherland, or also called Leah. She just wants to take a moment of silence to honor her memory. She lost her life while visiting Jamaica. There's going to be a candlelight vigil for her this Thursday, July 10th at 6:00 p.m. She's sure there will be more information forthcoming. She is really saddened by the sudden loss. The Taste of the Caribbean had their celebration at The Birdcage, which is a very popular spot. The room was filled and it was a great event. She added that our own Commissioner Roby, from the Commission on Aging and Persons with Disabilities was asked to be a part of a statewide commission representing Windsor. Kudos to Windsor for being able to be recognized on a statewide level and for the work we are doing on the aging and those with disabilities. She knows Commissioner Roby has talked to the Council about the booklet that they put together year after year. So just again, putting Windsor on the map through the work that they are doing. They had two great events in June. She wanted to remind everyone that school is out, summer is happening and camps are open. She added that Windsor public schools does have their summer food program going. They're distributing meals Monday through Friday at Sharshon Park, 38 Skitchewaung Street, from 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM and at John Fitch Park, 156 Bloomfield Avenue, from 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM. Our Police Department are hard working individuals. She's grateful that many of them live here in the community. To her, that's super important. There will always be areas of opportunity and growth for all of us, and she's really grateful to read and see in the report that training is at the top of that, because there's always room to grow. She is also acknowledging the hard work that happens each and every day. She thanked the Chief of Police for the hard work that's happening in the Police Department and she's really looking forward to how we can grow together as a community with our Police Department in those areas that have been highlighted by the Chief of Police and other reports that have come out.

7) REPORT OF APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

a) Board of Education

Mr. Leonard Lockhart, Board of Education stated he wanted to thank the Mayor for leading off with the recognition of the sudden loss of a Windsor student. It's definitely

been a difficult time for the high school at this point, and those that are familiar with the student. So definitely, thoughts and prayers are going out to the family, both here as well as on the island.

Mr. Lockhart gave the following report:

- On Tuesday, June 10, we graduated the Windsor High School Class of 2025. For the first time in recent memory, two outstanding students are co-valedictorians for the Class of 2025. Amanda Eneh and Samuel Garcia. Amanda will attend Boston University in the fall, majoring in biology. Sam will be attending the University of Connecticut majoring in biomedical engineering.
- We are really proud of the WHS Class of 2025. Out of the 263 graduating seniors: 196 (75%) (2 yr or 4 yr college) **(The national average as of 2023 is 62%)**, 16 (6%) (technical/trade), 8 (3%) (military), 12 (5%) (workforce). We are happy to share that the 75% of the class who were accepted to colleges and universities, are attending all three tiers of schools:
 - 🎓 Tier 1: Nationally Prestigious / Highly Selective
 - UCONN (Flagship, R1, selective)
 - Boston University (Top private, national research university)
 - University of Miami (Top private, national research university)
 - Michigan State University (Top public research university)
 - Howard University (Top HBCU, national reputation)
 - North Carolina A&T (Largest HBCU, growing national presence)
 - The New School – Parsons School of Design (World-renowned design/art school)
 - 🎓 Tier 2: Selective / Regionally Recognized Institutions
 - Hofstra University
 - Quinnipiac University
 - Bryant University
 - University of Rhode Island (URI)
 - Springfield College
 - Salve Regina University
 - University of Hartford
 - University of New Haven
 - University of Saint Joseph
 - Western New England University
 - St. John's University
 - UMASS Amherst (Highly ranked, but grouped here for its blend of accessibility and prestige)
 - Delaware State University
 - Hampton University
 - Tuskegee University
 - Morgan State University

- Coppin State University
 - Bowling Green State University
-  Tier 3: Accessible Public & Private Institutions / Regional Focus
 - CT State Community College (Open access, 2-year system)
 - CCSU (Central Connecticut State University)
 - ECSU (Eastern Connecticut State University)
 - SCSU (Southern Connecticut State University)
 - WCSU (Western Connecticut State University)
 - Assumption University
 - Johnson & Wales University
 - Monroe University
 - American International College (AIC)
 - Rivier University
 - Dean College
 - Livingstone College
 - Hartwick College
 - Nichols College
 - Maine Maritime Academy (Highly specialized, career-focused)
 - Fachhochschule Wiener Neustadt (Applied sciences university in Austria – less commonly tiered in U.S. systems but career-technical in orientation)
- Thank you to all of our community scholarship partners. Our graduating seniors received over \$148,900 in scholarships at their Senior Scholarship and Awards Night on May 29.
- The WPS Summer Food Program will run from June 18 to August 13, Monday through Friday - rain or shine - (closed on July 4) at the following locations: Sharshon Park at 38 Skitchewaug Street, from 11:30 AM to 12:15 PM and at John Fitch Park, 156 Bloomfield Avenue from 12:00 PM to 12:45 PM. Due to changes in federal regulations for the Summer Food Service Program, the child must be present to be eligible for a meal - no parent or guardian pick-up is permitted and the child's meal must be consumed on site. Grab and Go meals are no longer permitted. Each child or teen 18 and under is eligible for one lunch per day. The menu is posted on the district website.
- Our Mobile Classroom is a Hit! We have been bringing exciting learning experiences to areas across town, and the response has been incredible! There are plenty of upcoming opportunities to for families to join in on the fun. Please check the district website for scheduled stops.
- The WPS Summer Reading Program, *Color Our World*, is underway for students in all our schools. Families should visit the district website for more information and book lists.

- We finished the year with all our district administrators at our annual end of year leadership retreat. Again, this year, we were able to have our leadership retreat at the firehouse on Bloomfield Ave. A special thank you to Mr. Paul Goldberg at the firehouse for all his help and time in making this event possible.
- Dr. Hill has announced the appointment of two new administrators:
 - Ms. Kristen Blume will be the permanent assistant principal for John F. Kennedy School.
 - Mr. Robert Fleeting will be a new assistant principal for Windsor High School.
- The first day of school for students for the 2025-2026 school year is Monday, August 25, 2025.
- Families are reminded to update their returning children(s) information in the PowerSchool Parent Portal - Returning Student Registration for 2025-2026. There is a banner on the district website and families may access their forms from there. It is important to update phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. in the Parent Portal prior to the start of the new school year.
- The BOE's next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Board Room at LPW.
- Finally, please remember to visit our website, www.windsorct.org, for the most current information, athletic schedules, and academic calendar. Families should make sure their child's school has their most up-to-date contact information.

Mayor Black-Burke asked in regards to the mobile classroom, she's not sure if the Board of Education has any information in regards to how many students they have served to date? Or is that something we can get at the end of the summer? Mr. Lockhart said that's something that's going to be aggregated by the end of the summer and presented to the Board sometime in September. Mr. Lockhart added that they also have media reaching out to them where they want to do one-on-ones with the bus, tour it and see it in action at the different locations within town. So, throughout the summer, you're definitely going to see a lot of promotion of this within the local news outlets. There's a lot of people saying that you see bad news on TV all the time. This is something that's refreshing where we're actually having good news and really showing how we invest in the community.

Councilor Armstrong asked if the mobile classroom information will be made public so that people will know the location and where they can attend the mobile unit. Mr. Lockhart said yes, he thinks it's rolling out two weeks ahead of schedule. If there's any changes in the schedule, they try to update it within the next business day. But they try to really put it in places where people are being more active and want to make sure that we have the most people being able to participate, but at the same time spreading it out so that everyone has access to it. So, the pools, places where the food drop offs are, has definitely been a very, very big hit for Windsor so far, but we want to try to look outside of that as well. There might be some experimenting here and there. But there's core

locations that they're doing throughout the summer, and those are updated on the website on a consistent basis.

b) Public Building Commission

Rusty Peck, Public Building Commission, gave the following report:

1. **Wilson Fire Station – Interior Renovations – 9585**

Project is in progress with 95% of the work completed. Remaining items are building controls and security upgrades. Project expected to be completed by the end of August 2025.

2. **Oliver Ellsworth School Humidity Mitigation Design - 9574**

The final items remaining is a roof ladder to obtain access over the ductwork and final inspection by the design engineer. Project expected to be closed by the end of July 2025.

3. **LP Wilson HVAC and Interior Renovations Phase-2B – 9551**

Project is in progress with 40% of the work completed. Abatement is well finishing up with floor, ceiling, and HVAC to follow. Project is on schedule with construction expected to be completed by mid-August 2025.

4. **Welch Park Pool House Renovations Project - 1938**

Architect has completed his final inspection and a few more items have been added to the punch list. Some of these repairs may have to wait until the fall, so as not to disrupt use of the pool. Project expected to be closed by the end of September 2025.

5. **Clover Street School Restroom ADA Code Compliances Phase-2 - 9552**

Project is in progress with 50% of the work completed. Abatement is finished and construction is progressing without any issues. Project is on schedule with construction expected to be completed by mid-August 2025.

Mr. Peck said regarding the Public Building Commission, some updates are that they are streaming live, they go over the items, they're very diligent in closing out the invoices and finding out those items to be done. They do a fair amount of consulting for other towns. They are one of the more proactive Public Building commissions.

c) Historic District Commission

Liz Dupont-Diehl, Historic District Commission, stated the following:

SP September 12, 2024

- 236 Palisado Ave., Roof mounted solar, Stewart

- 249 Palisado Ave, Roof mounted solar, Sheehan

SP November 27, 2024

- 139 Palisado Ave., Constructing new fence, Munroe
- 107 Palisado Ave., Replace 2nd floor windows, First Church in Windsor

SP April 9, 2025

- 325 Palisado Ave., Roof mounted solar, Thomas

Ms. Dupont-Diehl stated they had three meetings last year and five applications altogether. She gave a shout out to Mitch Vye, who now helps with the Historic District Commission and Todd Sealy also did a really great job prior to Mitch coming on board. We approved all of the applications before us. Three or five of them were for solar panels. We continue a hybrid meeting format. We publish our meetings that we have and have not had a great deal of interest from the public, but it's working as intended.

8) TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Block Parties

The Windsor Youth Services Bureau and Windsor Police Department invites families to come out and enjoy the Community Block Parties this summer. The block parties run from 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Admission is a school snack donation for the Weekend Wheels program. All can enjoy tie dye shirts, bounce houses, face painters, henna artist, music and free food. There will be one party in July and one in August.

- Friday, July 25th at Lancaster Park, located on Lancaster Drive
- Friday, August 8th Deerfield Park, located on Seymour Street

National Night Out

The Police Department will be hosting National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM on the Town Green. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Thousands of communities across our country take part in National Night Out every year on the first Tuesday in August.

Welch Pool Party

Come and enjoy a day of activities at the pool on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 1:15 PM – 3:15 PM. There will be swimming, music, games and great company at the Welch Pool Party. Fun for all ages. There will be refreshments and a lively atmosphere. It's a perfect way to cool off and connect. Please come enjoy this free community event. For more info contact the Recreation Department at 860-285-1990.

Bottle & Can Drive

Our local student robotics teams, the Blazing Spirits, S.H.A.R.P, and Paragon will be holding a bottle and can drive on Saturday, July 12, between the hours of 9:00 AM – 2 PM. The drop-off area for this is 20 William Street, Windsor, CT. This is the street between the fire station on Bloomfield Ave and McDonalds's. Look for the Paragon trailer.

Gateway Park Grand Opening

We're celebrating the brand-new Gateway Park in Wilson with a fun community block party! No matter where you live in town bring your family, friends, and neighbors out for an exciting day of fun this Saturday, July 12, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at 458 Windsor Ave. There will be bounce houses, face painting, a Live DJ, Kona Ice, food truck, playscape fun, Police Demonstrations and more! There's something for everyone!

Town Manager Souza added there's all sorts of activity related to street repaving in town Center. This is our Phase One of our repaving activity. He extended his appreciation to all the residents and business owners here in Town Center who've endured the last several weeks of different types of work. Utility work, waterline work and drainage work have been completed, and now they're in there milling off the first couple inches of asphalt and then over the next 10 days, paving will begin. Hopefully rain will not be too much of an issue and delay that.

Just as an FYI, hopefully, tomorrow, they're going to be starting the milling at the High School and Sage Park Middle School. So those parking lots will be done as well this summer. So, paving in this Phase One should hopefully wrap up in a couple of weeks. Then later in the fall, there's another round that will be done. And it's not in town center. Suzanne, can you remind me what part off top of your head? Ms. Choate does not have the answer but we'll get that information out to folks.

Town Manager Souza asked Chief Melanson to join them and speak to the recently released Inspector General's report concerning the use of force incident this past winter. Chief Melanson will talk a little bit about the report findings as well as moving forward with some activities that he's put in motion.

Chief Melanson provided an update in regards to the police related incident back in January. The safety and well-being of our residents and officers always remains our top priority, and we understand the impact an incident like this can have on our community's trust and law enforcement. The State's office of the Inspector General has completed their investigation of the incident involving Police Officer Thomas discharging his department-issued firearm instead of his taser during a foot pursuit of a suspect this past winter. Since the incident, Officer Thomas has been on restricted non-patrol duty status and has completed remedial training focused on use of force and taser deployment scenarios. The State's office of the Inspector General issued an arrest warrant for two misdemeanor charges, reckless endangerment and unlawful discharge of a firearm. Officer Thomas turned himself in and will be attending court for those charges. With the completion of the State's investigation, the Police Department intends to conclude its disciplinary review

process and impose appropriate administrative discipline, including additional training and oversight. In response to this incident, and as part of our ongoing commitment to improving safety and reducing the potential for critical errors, our Police Department is implementing changes to both equipment and carry practices. While the State model policy on electronic control weapons requires that tasers be carried on the non-gun side, it does permit cross draws with the dominant hand a method that is commonly used across Connecticut and historically by our Police Department.

Chief Melanson added moving forward, we are in the process of requiring all officers to carry their tasers on the non-dominant side, which is the non-gun side but also to draw it exclusively with the non-dominant hand which is the weak hand. This change is intended to create a greater physical and cognitive separation between the firearm and the taser reducing the chance of confusion in high stress situations. In addition, as part of our standard equipment replacement cycle, we are transitioning from black tasers to high visibility, yellow models to provide a clearer visual differentiation from service weapons. We are also incorporating additional scenario-based training using various approaches, including our video simulator. Our Police Department is committed to maintaining professionalism, accountability and public safety. Officers undergo ongoing training in de-escalation conflict resolution and the proper use of force, including tasers and firearms. This training works to ensure that our officers have the ability to make sound decisions and use force only when necessary. However, practical training cannot fully replicate the intense, unpredictable stress and emotional pressure officers experience during real life incidents. Once again, we want to reassure the public that the safety and well-being of our residents remain our top priority, and we understand the impact this has on community's trust and law enforcement.

Councilor Eleveld said Chief Melanson mentioned that you're looking at acquiring yellow tasers, which would obviously be a visual separation versus a black firearm. Do we have a timetable for replacement? Chief Melanson replied we've already purchased six. Based on the replacement schedule, we could move forward, replacing anywhere from six to ten a year to move forward.

Councilor Eleveld asked of the six tasers that were acquired, was that before or after this incident? Chief Melanson stated it was after this incident.

Councilor Eleveld said it was a decision that was based in part by the incident? Chief Melanson said yes, it was. Councilor Eleveld stated we already took proactive measures internally to create that visual differential. Chief Melanson said yes. Councilor Eleveld said then you should be commended for doing that. This has been an issue in other communities. We've all heard of the stories. Where this error has occurred, we were fortunate that no one was injured. In the high stress situation, we can all understand it. Mistakes can happen. He would suggest that, as he mentioned this to Town Manager, that we speed up the replacement of the weapons if it makes sense and try to get that completed in the next year or so. It just makes common sense.

Councilor Eleveld said he thinks the changes the Police Department is implementing, are not the standard in the State of Connecticut, would that be correct? Chief Melanson said they are higher than the required standards that most departments do. Councilor Eleveld said he appreciates that effort on the part of the Police Department.

Deputy Mayor Klase said she appreciates it's a very difficult and concerning situation. She appreciates the seriousness of the response. She knows that we're adding new scenarios, and have those been added to the training, or are they going to be added? And do you know when they'll be added? Chief Melanson responded they are being added now. We do have that capability with our simulators and we are starting to put officers through them as we speak.

Deputy Mayor Klase asked about the non-dominant hand use of the taser. Has that been done in other towns or cities in Connecticut or in other states? Chief Melanson replied in his conversations with Chiefs in Connecticut and with POST, the Police Council on Training, he doesn't believe any Connecticut towns require the non-dominant hand law. He has seen it more on the west coast and some of those districts like in California, but not in Connecticut.

Deputy Mayor Klase asked do we have the funding to expedite the purchase of the tasers in this fiscal year? Or would you need to have additional funding to have that done? Town Manager Souza stated there's two ways of being able to do this. We do expect that there'd be some salary savings in the department, but most likely, the source of funding would be from the police private duty account. If we look at approximately replacing 35 tasers that are issued to the police officers and sergeants and the folks that are in patrol, that will be approximately \$65,000. We would be able to use either a combination of police private duty fund and or some salary savings during the course of the year.

Deputy Mayor Klase said she thinks there would be a lot of interest in getting that done quickly. Thank you very much for your statement, and she appreciates everything the officers are doing as well.

Mayor Black-Burke said the question she has is in regards to the training. There's always room for growth. This is something that all Windsor police officers will be going through, correct? Chief Melanson stated yes, all Windsor police officers are going through additional training in regards to scenario based training.

Mayor Black-Burke commented that if we can expedite getting the tasers, that would be beneficial.

Councilor Pelkey asked are we simply just trying to switch to the yellow version over the black or has there also been some consideration of somehow getting a better piece of equipment as well at the same time? Chief Melanson responded we're always looking for new equipment that may be coming out on the market that enables an officer to use less

force than going hands on. Currently, there are no other items available for policing that would create less injury to officers and are as reliable as the taser.

Councilor Pelkey asked about training. He's actually had the hands on with this sort of thing, and he thinks that's wonderful, but is there anything that could be a little bit more real world? Is there something that's a little bit more heart pumping? Getting you in the heat of the moment training that is available. Chief Melanson stated we do that. This past April, we did active shooter training, which is force on force where we're actually using what they call simunition rounds, where it's like a soap round. It's kind of like high tech paintball. So, you actually have someone potentially shooting at you and you shooting at them. But we also, in addition to that training, incorporate all the other less lethal options that the officer may have to deploy. We change those scenarios up. We do that annually where we do a four hour training block just doing those specific types of scenarios force on force where it's real, more real world or more realistic training.

Councilor Walker said a police officer position is incredibly challenging. He thanks the Windsor Police Department for what they've done. He is 100% in support of them. Connecticut, like some other states, has addressed and attacked qualified immunity. So, people are hesitant to do a lot of things. But, thank you, Chief Melanson, for running a professional department.

Councilor Armstrong said she wanted to say thank you for being on top of the changes. As we all said, we appreciate the high standards of our police and the professionalism that they provide for our community. So that should go without being said that we appreciate you all. We know the incidents happen and you're on top of it. So, thank you for that.

Mayor Black-Burke asked about the block party of Wilson Park. There's been a lot of conversation throughout town over the months. Is it going to be called Gateway Park, or are we going to go through a naming contest? Town Manager Souza stated they will be staying with Wilson Gateway Park as the name to the park. It's the gateway to Wilson. It's the gateway to Deerfield if you're coming from the other direction. It's also a gateway to our wonderful town from the South End. The working title will be Wilson Gateway Park in Wilson.

9) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Town Improvements Committee – Deputy Mayor Klase – nothing to report.

Finance Committee – Councilor Naeem – nothing to report.

Health and Safety Committee – Councilor Armstrong stated they had a meeting on June 17th. She wants to thank everyone who participated in the health community assessment. We did go over and review it and reviewed many of the comments, recommendations and suggestions. That data was completed. We will be coming back perhaps in October or November with the programs or with implementing the suggestions that were made.

Joint Town Council/Board of Education Committee – Deputy Mayor Klase – nothing to report.

Personnel Committee – Councilor King – nothing to report.

10) ORDINANCES – None

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Approve the construction of Prospect Hill Road sidewalks per Section 15-33 of the Windsor Code of Ordinance

MOVED by Councilor Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Gluck Hoffman to approve, per Section 15-33 of the Windsor Code of Ordinances, the design and construction of a six foot sidewalk along Prospect Hill Road between Woodduck Farms Road and Day Hill Road with the town being responsible for snow removal.

Town Manager Souza stated at the last Town Council meeting, you heard an overview of this request, which is planned to be funded through a State of Connecticut grant. This is approximately less than a mile of sidewalk in that segment between the Lang Road, roundabout and on Prospect Hill all the way to Day Hill Road. We had a public hearing, as you know, on June 16th. We had several abutting property owners that came out. Each of those property owners have very lengthy street frontage on Prospect Hill, and they expressed their concerns with the requirement of clearing of snow. 40% of the street abutters of the proposed sidewalk have 320 feet or more of frontage, much greater than the typical street frontage for residential property. There's also a number of agricultural parcels. The six foot sidewalk would be similar to what other Town Councils have in the past approved and have accepted the responsibility of snow removal. He noted that the six foot width, even though this has not been fully designed, will likely require small easements from a number of those abutters to allow for the sidewalk to go onto their property and still allow a couple feet separation from the roadway itself. Those would be more specifically identified as we go through the specific design of the sidewalk. If the Council approves that this evening, this is part of the Pavement Rehabilitation project that the town has received a grant for at approximately \$1.6-\$1.7 million for the roadway to be repaved. Then there would be an additional, roughly \$670,000 for sidewalk construction. We would go back to Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) as well as the Department of Transportation (DOT). If the Council were to approve a six foot wide sidewalk, we would ask for an amendment to the grant amount. Early indications are that it would be favorably considered by CRCOG and DOT.

Councilor Eleveld stated we discussed the five foot sidewalk. Is the increased size due to the anticipated additional apartments that are being discussed on Day Hill Road which would increase potential traffic heading to Northwest Park? Town Manager Souza said it's more of a combination of the pragmatic nature of being able to use a sidewalk machine or a plow to be able to navigate six feet versus five feet. Also, it stays in practice of past Town

Council actions when the Town Council has voted on taking on the responsibility of sidewalks, those that have been six feet or greater. It's a combination of the real world pragmatic aspect of it, but also it aligns with past votes Town Council had made in years past.

Councilor Eleveld asked are we anticipating more sidewalks being built anywhere in town that are not being done by development? Town Manager Souza stated there are many state roads in town. Most of them have residential subdivisions off of those. The State of Connecticut, their general rule is they will not build or initiate the construction of sidewalks. He cannot say that there wouldn't be other segments. We've had residents come to the Town Council in years past for Poquonock Avenue as you're heading north out of town center basically from Best Cleaners going out north towards Tiffany Drive for example. Most of the sidewalks, as you know, are developed when a piece of land gets either repurposed or developed through the land use process. Councilor Eleveld stated his concern is that he doesn't want to set a precedent.

Councilor Eleveld said he's not opposed to the sidewalk, but another concern of his is the cost of us having to plow it and maintain it. What would it cost? What would you estimate it to be? What might the average cost be based upon labor costs and a factor for fuel? Town Manager Souza said in the vicinity of \$180-\$200 for each area which is based upon two passes during a storm. He factored that as all over time, because it seems like it always snows in the night or on weekend. So that's the assumption. There are typically 12-15 storm events that happen on average.

Councilor Pelkey said there already is some existing sidewalk from Huckleberry to Silver Birch. What happens to that existing sidewalk and to the property owners? What about that current sidewalk? Town Manager Souza said what the plan has been up to this point is that those sidewalks would remain. He believes there's two houses there that have frontage. Councilor Pelkey stated there is one on the corner of Huckleberry. Town Manager Souza said which has this portion and he believes there's one other house or two other houses, so there may be two and a half houses worth of frontage. In reality the prospect of it would be that we would just plow clear those two and a half houses on the corner as well.

Councilor Pelkey asked if someone slips and falls, is it now the town's liability, if we are responsible for clearing that as opposed to the property owner? Town Manager Souza stated it's an interesting situation where the town had some level of protection because they're public entities. Other times, the courts have gone in a different direction. In reality, folks are going to be claiming or naming the town regardless of if it's the homeowner's responsibility or not. We get those claims fairly often during the course of a winter season. So, he doesn't think this action, if the Town Council were to accept it, will dramatically change our exposure.

Councilor Pelkey said his concern with doing this is that no matter what you do, we're setting some sort of precedent to somebody. He feels the cleanest way to do this is to

actually sunset it or, in other words, have the town take some responsibility in many ways as a thank you, because we're asking people to give up maybe a part of their property. He thinks it's a small thing for most residents in town to ask these residents to have this new obligation. We should do something for them. He's also concerned that some people might be clamoring for the six foot mark on their sidewalks as they want their sidewalks to be maintained by the town as well. He suggested that perhaps the town can take on these sidewalks for about five years or so. We can go longer, but could certainly go less. If approved tonight, the sidewalks wouldn't be done until about the fall of next year, according to the information in front of us. So that's one year. But if you had a few years, it allows some of these large frontages to be able to have a little bit more time and planning to figure out how they want to do this, both financially and from a time standpoint, or a company standpoint for what they would want to do to take it over. He would really like to see the town sunset the town's responsibility on this for a certain number of years. He would recommend five years, but he'd be open hearing something else.

Councilor Naeem said she wanted to address a couple of things. She keeps hearing about precedent. From what she's hearing from the Town Manager, and what she's been able to look into, and what has been shared with her is that previous Town Councils have set precedent. They have made the decision to make it a six foot wide sidewalk, so that the responsibility can be taken up by the town. Now the situations vary, depending on where the sidewalks are. This one in particular helps to have better connectivity to an area where we know a lot of people would prefer to walk to which is Northwest Park. It continues walking paths that we already have there. She has a sidewalk, but if she did it in the development that she lives in, she couldn't make that same argument of like, hey, I need a sidewalk, and I need the town to pay for it because it's not really public use. This one would have more public use than some other parts of town. She thinks the precedent has been there. This makes sense from a safety perspective on that road, as well as the use that it's going to get. She would be in support of moving forward with the motion, as stated.

Motion Passed 7-0-2 (Councilor Pelkey and Walker abstained)

12) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Accept conveyance of Addison Road Right of Way

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Naeem to accept the donation of land as public right of way as shown on the attached map entitled 'Subdivision -Town R.O.W. Plan, property of 175 Addison Property Owner, LLC, 175 & 176 Addison Road, Windsor, CT, sheets SUB-1 and SUB-2 by F.A.Hesketh & Associates, Inc., dated 5/2/2023, revised 7/1/2025, scale 1"=100'.

Suzanne Choate, Town Engineer, stated a portion of Addison Road from Pigeon Hill Road and the southern end of 175 Addison Road is constructed within a 60 foot wide easement

granted to the town by Aetna in the mid 1970s when their campus was developed. The easement area also includes a portion of Pigeon Hill Road where it intersects with Addison Road. The town completed the construction of the roadway at that time and has maintained the roadway throughout the years. The Aetna campus is in the process of being repurposed / redeveloped and the property to the east side of the roadway has recently been subdivided from the western portion of the parcel into a separate industrial lot. At this time the property owner would like to convey the easement area to the town.

On June 10, 2025, the Town Planning and Zoning Commission approved the subdivision of 175 Addison Road into two parcels with a public Right-of-Way for Addison Road. In the mid 1970's a 60 foot-wide easement totaling approximately 159,657+/- square feet was granted to the town by Aetna for purposes of constructing the road as an unrestricted public roadway. The intent of the recent subdivision is to facilitate redevelopment and to allow the town to take ownership of the easement area.

Councilor Eleveld asked how did we get here with this property? At one point or another, they gave us the right to go and put a street through it, but they own both sides of the street. Ms. Choate said that is correct. Ms. Choate explained that it was in the 70's that this all came about. Councilor Eleveld said but we built the road back then. Ms. Choate said that is correct and the road is ours and always has been. It was an agreement, per her understanding. Councilor Eleveld said but we didn't really own the earth under the road, correct? He added that basically, you've got corrections. Ms. Choate replied it's the right of way, instead of the easement. It's in the exact same position.

Councilor Eleveld said what he's trying to say is that we're basically going to own above and below the road when this is completed, plus whatever corrections versus planned versus as built. Ms. Choate said that was correct.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- b) Authorize the acceptance and expenditure of a State of Connecticut grant for installation of WI-Fi infrastructure at Wilson Gateway Park

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Naeem to authorize the acceptance of the Community Wi-Fi Grant in the amount of \$157,132 and to approve \$157,132 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to fund the installation of Wi-Fi at the Wilson Gateway Park and authorize submittal of 100% reimbursement from the State of Connecticut.

Frank Angelillo, IT Director, stated the Community Wi-Fi Grant program is a competitive reimbursement grant initiative administered under the State of Connecticut's CEN Broadband Infrastructure program. The town has been awarded \$157,132 to fund the installation of public Wi-Fi at the newly developed park in Wilson.

The awarded funds will cover costs associated with the installation of a fiber circuit, Wi-Fi infrastructure, access points, and supporting networking equipment at the park along with five years of maintenance/warranty. This installation will support future installation of security cameras at the park. The Town Council is requested to appropriate these funds from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance and to authorize submission for reimbursement in the same amount. It is expected that this work will be completed in the spring/summer of 2026. Generally, it takes about 6 months to be installed. There's a lot of overhead for the providers, with all going up on the poles permitting which, you know, every poles owned by somebody different. So unfortunately, if we move forward. It won't be available Saturday. But we're looking for a soft opening in December.

Councilor Pelkey said he's actually used this in a lot of different major cities. He thinks LA was actually the first place that he saw it in some of the parks. That was a little bit back in the day before cell phones and smartphones were around, but literally he could take out his laptop and figure out the route for where he was next going on his road trip. He thinks this would be really great, because we have this open performance space that you can use for musicians, bands, artists, or other groups to be able to put on their show and have this help. He thinks that'd be something that could be really beneficial to a brand new park. Mr. Angelillo added that in addition to that, it'll also provide management for sprinklers for access controls and it will have the infrastructure in place should we decide at some point to add cameras.

Councilor Armstrong said she thinks Councilor Pelkey sort of went the way that she was going. She does appreciate that. It's much needed, especially now that we're moving up in another age where technology is so important wherever we go. We appreciate that and thank you for the grant.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- c) Approve an appropriation of \$40,000 from the Capital Projects Fund for Town Hall Roof Design

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Pelkey that \$40,000 be appropriated from the Capital Projects Fund for design services related to the Town Hall Roof Replacement Project.

Marco Aglieco, Facilities Manager, stated the Siplast section of the roof has reached the end of its useful life and has had multiple repairs to prevent leaks, over the years. Loss of granules throughout the roof surface has caused it to lose most of its UV protection which is causing cracking and blistering. It has exceeded its 20-year warranty by 4 years.

This project will involve the removal of the layers of roofing material down to the structural decking, HazMat testing as required, metal edging flashings, safety railing, and all installation details and specifications. There is a center skylight which will be replaced and the masonry will be repaired as needed as part of the construction. The new roof will

have insulation tapered to roof drains along with a 20-year warranty with an expected life of approximately 25 years.

The shingled roof section is excluded from this project as it is in good shape and still within its useful lifespan.

Town Manager Souza added the funding source, as outlined, is a capital projects fund. For folks that are watching in, that's a fund that we use for pay-as-you-go projects similar to this just so we're not borrowing \$40,000 for design. Those funds are when the Public Building Commission closes out a project. Probably every other year we come to the Town Council to sweep those monies and transfer those monies into the Capital Projects fund. So, right now the projects account has over \$800,000 available for expenditure.

Councilor Pelkey asked where does the roof cycle fit in with the HVAC cycle or any other items that would be on our roof. Do we do the roof and the equipment in the same period? Is that what you're saying? Mr. Aglieco stated it's pretty common to do them separately. They'll remove the equipment off the roof, do the roof and then put the equipment back on. We just had that done at Sage Park, and so it would be more difficult to try to time it all together and try to coordinate all the efforts. The HVAC equipment just rests on the roof so it's not penetrating the roof. Therefore, you can just remove it and replace it.

Councilor Eleveld asked are we thinking of putting solar on the roof? Town Manager Souza said it's a relatively small section and has a skylight. There's other equipment that's there as well as the cupola. There's not a large amount of area there, so we don't believe that would be really an attractive outlay to lease the space like we've done in years past.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- d) Approve an appropriation of \$40,000 from the Capital Projects Fund for L.P. Wilson Community Center Roof Design

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Naeem, that \$40,000 be appropriated from the Capital Projects Fund for design services related to the L.P. Wilson Community Center Roof Replacement – North End project.

Marco Aglieco, Facilities Manager, stated the north end section of the roof has reached the end of its useful life and has had several repairs to prevent leaks from occurring. Loss of granules throughout the roof surface has caused it to lose most of its UV protection which is causing cracking and blistering. It has exceeded its 20-year warranty.

This project will involve the removal of the layers of roofing material down to the structural decking, HazMat testing as required, metal edging flashings, safety railing, and all installation details and specifications. As part of the construction, the skylights will be replaced with new and include fall protection hardware. The new roof will have insulation

tapered to roof drains and will have a 20-year warranty with an expected life of approximately 25 years.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- e) Approve an appropriation of \$140,000 from the Capital Projects Fund for exterior repairs and improvements at the town owned Chaffee House

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Gluck Hoffman that \$140,000 be appropriated from the Capital Projects Fund for Exterior Renovations to Chaffee House.

Marco Aglieco, Facilities Manager, stated the Chaffee House located at 108 Palisado Avenue was built by Dr. Hezekiah Chaffee, Sr. in 1767. In subsequent years, the house stayed in private ownership until 1926 when it was sold to the Loomis Institute to be used as Chaffee School. In 1969 Loomis Institute sold the property to the Town of Windsor, who leased it back to Loomis Institute. In 1992 the town leased the house to Windsor Historical Society, who still leases the Chaffee House from the town today. Per the lease agreement, the town is responsible for repairs to the exterior of the building.

Several years ago, the town embarked on a multi-phase project to make repairs and improvements to the exterior of the Chaffee House. The building has been re-roofed, portions of the trim boards, fascia and soffits have been replaced or repainted. The next phase of the work will include additional repair and repainting of exterior wood trim, repointing of brick sidewalls, masonry repairs, as well as repairing and painting of windows.

Councilor Gluck Hoffman asked does the Historic District Commission gets involved with this project at all? Town Manager Souza said it depends if the scope of work is going to change it. So, if we decide to go down the route of replacing windows, then they would review that. Depending upon if we have to decide to change type of materials, then we'd ask the commission to take a look at that too. Mr. Aglieco added if colors are changed, they also need to go before the commission for its review.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- f) Introduce Fiscal Year 2026-2031 Capital Improvements Program

Assistant Town Manager Colby gave an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2031 Capital Improvements Program as follows:

The information in the six year CIP provides regarding the short-term and long-term financial impacts of undertaking projects enables policy makers to balance town priorities with the town's financial capability to pay for identified projects.

The development of the draft CIP has been a challenge this cycle as the macro global economics continue to put significant upward pressures on material, commodity and labor costs as well as availability.

Below are a few highlights of the proposed six-year CIP which totals approximately \$126 million in projects:

- The CIP includes approximately \$10.2 million for street resurfacing, pavement reclamation, milling, curb replacement, minor drainage improvements and other pavement repair work. In addition, the 6 year period includes major street reconstruction or rehabilitation projects at an estimated cost of \$32.4 million. Of the total \$42.6 million included for the asset management of town roadways, \$11.1 million is planned to come from state and/or federal funding sources.
- Projected debt service ratios based on a five-year financial forecast inclusive of all projects requiring voter referendum, are projected to be within the 8% policy goal in each year of the proposed CIP.
- The proposed CIP identifies \$28.8 million in cash-funded projects. The sources for cash funding projects are primarily appropriations from the annual General Fund as well as requests for monies from the Capital Projects Fund Assigned Fund balance and the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance. The Capital Projects Fund source fluctuates from year to year as that fund is comprised of closed out balances from completed projects.
- The remaining Outdoor Pool Facilities project (Veterans Pool) is scheduled for concept design in FY 2026, full design in FY 2027 and construction funding in FY 2028. This project may require voter referendum depending on the scope of work and phasing.
- The proposed CIP forecasts \$80.5 million in new bonding authorization. The 6-year CIP cycle includes three projects that would require voter approval based on current estimated costs. These projects are:
 - o Milo Pack HVAC, Electrical, and Energy Improvements
 - o Windsor High School Roof Replacement
 - o Windsor High School Fieldhouse Renovation
- School related projects total \$41.1 million over the 6-year period. Projects range from a fieldhouse renovation, roof replacements, window replacements, envelope improvements, and HVAC updates to boiler renovation/replacement and ventilation updates.

There have been public comments made in recent months concerning long-range planning for school facilities. While there is currently no planning funding included in the draft CIP, this topic is something to be further explored between the Town and Board of Education.

In addition, there have been public comments relative to the incorporation of the Broad Street Traffic Calming project into the proposed CIP. Concerns of motor vehicle speeds, accidents, and pedestrian and bicyclist safety remain; therefore, staff believes it is appropriate to include the project in the CIP with a reduced scope of work and estimated cost. The revised scope of work does not include traffic roundabouts and assumes traffic signals at Maple Ave and Batchelder Road are only modified and not fully replaced.

The Capital Improvements Committee completed their review of the proposed CIP back on June 23rd and the committee voted to recommend the approval of the proposed CIP with a recommended adjustment of moving the Luddy House Fire Protection installation project from unscheduled to Fiscal Year 27. That recommendation is incorporated in the proposed plan that you have before you, and it's we are just looking for recommendation that the CIP be referred to the Town Improvements Committee for review prior to the final consideration by the Town Council.

Councilor Pelkey asked about the Luddy House fire sprinkler. Is that something that couldn't be done in Fiscal Year 2026, or why do we want to do it in Fiscal Year 2027, given the relatively low dollar amount, but also the sort of importance of what it is? Town Manager Souza stated there are two factors. One is that we'd have to be able to put a design together but more importantly, the ability to manage another project. This would allow Mr. Aglieco to be able to pull together another project and be able to get it out for bid. Most of that work can, from a design perspective, be done in-house. Maybe a design bid, but that's the primary reason.

Mayor Black-Burke recommended that the proposed CIP for Fiscal Years 2026-2031 be referred to the Town Improvements Committee for review prior to final consideration by the Town Council.

g) Provide guidance and direction relative to Traffic Enforcement Cameras

Councilor Armstrong stated the Health and Safety Committee had a meeting on June 17th and traffic enforcement cameras was one of the items on the agenda. In that discussion, they had a presentation and public comment about traffic enforcement cameras. It was considered and determined by the committee, Deputy Mayor Klase, and Councilor Walker that they should bring this before the Town Council in fullness as to the multiple steps required, and look into our consensus to direct the staff to move to the next steps.

Town Manager Souza stated as Councilor Armstrong mentioned, the Health & Safety Committee met on June 17th. It has met three times to review this topic in more detail. It will take a fair amount of time to prepare a plan as well as ordinances for Council review,

and then ultimately the DOT's review. We'd love to be able to get general direction this evening on if the Town Council wants to proceed or not. Or do we want to wait and see how other communities are doing it and their experience? Because there are now three communities statewide that have been approved with these cameras and he believes two are in operation and there will be more to come.

Assistant Town Manager Colby stated these devices capture images of vehicles involved in two specific violations, traveling 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit and failing to stop at a steady red light. At this time, we're not recommending the use of red light cameras due to the low number of signal-related traffic stops and accidents. Some of the steps that do need to occur prior to a plan submittal to State Department of Transportation (DOT) is that municipalities must adopt a local ordinance that would authorize the use of the traffic enforcement cameras, as well as conducting a public hearing and securing the approval from the legislative body to allow the use of those cameras. Additionally, they must submit a plan to the DOT for the review of the cameras that are proposed for placement on state roads and get the DOT's approval as well. Typically, that takes about 60 days. There could be some back and forth in regards to that, if they have any feedback. There are some other items that do have to occur as well, such as creating a data policy. An image or data is only collected if a vehicle exceeds the 10 mile an hour posted speed limit. So, if a vehicle is traveling on a posted road at 30 miles an hour, and it's traveling at 29, no image or information is collected on that vehicle. Assistant Town Manager Colby said Connecticut State law requires that the traffic enforcement camera data be stored securely to protect privacy. Personally identifiable information must be deleted within 30 days after the fine is resolved. All data is encrypted, reviewed by trained officials, and managed under strict privacy policies approved by the DOT. Municipalities have to adopt that privacy policy that meets or exceeds DOT standards as part of the traffic enforcement camera implementation as well as before activating any traffic enforcement cameras. Municipalities also have to install two warning signs on the roadway approach to those cameras as well as conducting a public awareness campaign and notifying the mobile navigation app providers of the camera locations, such as Google Maps or Waze. The submitted traffic enforcement camera placement plans will be reviewed within the 60 days of its submittal, based upon factors such as crash history, average daily traffic, prior traffic stops and roadway alignment. Citations, just as a note, are not reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Therefore, no points will be added to the driver's license or go against the driver's auto insurance carrier. But what happens is, if you have your vehicle and say you loan that to another relative or a friend, and they go through at above the posted speed limit of 10 miles an hour, then the owner of that vehicle would be the one to receive that citation.

Assistant Town Manager Colby added staff from the Engineering and Police Department have evaluated traffic data using criteria such as the 85th percentile speed exceeding the speed limit by 10 miles an hour, average daily traffic volumes of over 3,500 or more, the history of motor vehicle stops for speeding and accident frequency. Based upon those parameters, four locations are being recommended for the initial traffic enforcement camera placement and those include Poquonock Avenue between I-91 south off ramp,

Farmstead Lane, Broad Street between Island Road and Remington Road and Windsor Avenue between Deerfield Road and the Windsor Shopping Center and Rainbow Road, between East Granby Road and Merriment Road.

Assistant Town Manager Colby explained the two ways to go about getting funding.

Councilor Pelkey asked what the penalties are after the first month. Assistant Town Manager Colby explained for the first 30 days it is just a warning. There's no fine associated with that. Then, 30 days after those cameras are live and operational, the first fine would be \$50. Anything after that would be \$75. Under Connecticut State law, it also allows up to a \$15 administrative fee to be included on top of that fine. That would vary depending upon vendor to vendor and what the cost would be for the software and how to process the mailings of those citations.

Councilor Pelkey asked aside from the probationary first month, how does that compare? Is it the same as if the Chief of Police pulled someone over later that night? Is it the same penalties? Chief Melanson said the fines for infractions are much higher than what's allowed for by the speed cameras. And it's all based by miles over the speed limit. He believes the minimum fine is in the area of \$85. That's 1 to 9 miles over the speed limit, and then it increases all the way up to about \$200-\$250, depending on how many miles over the speed limit you're going.

Councilor Pelkey stated his understanding would be, if you were to pull someone over for speeding, you can pull them over for anything over the speed limit, whether you do or don't discretion entirely, but you can pull them over, and they can get a ticket for one mile an hour over the speed limit. Correct? Chief Melanson said that is correct.

Councilor Pelkey commented under this new proposal, you have to be 10 miles an hour or over the posted speed limit for these traffic enforcement cameras to catch the vehicle. It sounds like there might be greater effect if you had folks who were in person just in terms of a deterrence effect.

Councilor Pelkey asked what is the distance, or perhaps effective range of these cameras? He knows that maybe it depends on exactly which ones we buy. But do you have a general understanding of what that is? Assistant Town Manager Colby said the cameras typically take an image of the rear of the vehicle for the license plate and it's roughly 100 feet. Councilor Pelkey said so, in other words, they can only detect a vehicle whether it's in excess of the speed limit, or maybe 10 miles an hour over within 100 feet of that camera. Assistant Town Manager Colby stated it takes a few snapshots at a time. It's a very fast camera, and so it takes a few snapshots of that vehicle. It detects it as it's approaching. And then, as it's moving away, that's when it snaps the photos to be able to capture that image.

Councilor Eleveld said mechanically, this is the easy part of the mechanics. So, as you're approaching the camera, if it's clocking you in a 30 mile per hour area doing 45, it takes

a picture of the front of the car or not? Assistant Town Manager Colby said it's taking images as you're passing it. So, it has the radar on the front side. Typically, the camera is on the back side, and it's taking an image of the rear of the vehicle.

Councilor Eleveld asked so how does it know you have the right vehicle if it's not taking a picture of the car approaching at the speed. Assistant Town Manager Colby stated he would have to look into that as he doesn't know the technology on that. He just knows that they're high level cameras that are able to capture that image.

Councilor Eleveld said if you're driving and a police officer pulls you over because you're speeding and you get a ticket, you're going to get an infraction. You're going to get points on your license and it gets reported to the motor vehicle department. Would that be correct? Chief Melanson stated for normal infractions, he doesn't believe there are any points against your license, so he doesn't believe you automatically get points anymore for regular infractions. But if you do get a higher fine, and the information gets posted and he believes the insurance companies do look through the Infractions Bureau for that information.

Councilor Eleveld stated in this case, there are no infractions, no picture is taken if they are driving the speed limit, and there will be no privacy issues if you are a good old-fashioned law-abiding citizen who follows exactly the 40 miles per hour speed limit on the 40 mile per hour area. We have LPR cameras, license plate reading cameras. Correct? How long is that data held? Chief Melanson responded the license plate reading cameras, the data is held for 30 days. Councilor Eleveld said unless it is needed for investigative purposes? Chief Melanson said the system, the bulk data, is held for 30 days. If an officer was looking for a specific vehicle, he can look back as far as 30 days. Once that 30 day period is gone, you can't go back any further. However, let's say he finds something from a week ago, and he's looking at a burglary trend where for that vehicle he can capture those hits that he found a week ago from a vehicle. He can keep those. He can download that little bit of data just on that one vehicle and that one search. So now he can build a case to say, okay, that vehicle did a burglary with us. And now it did a burglary in Glastonbury. We can tie those data points together.

Councilor Eleveld asked in the case of speed cameras, it's also 30 days presuming they paid the ticket in a timely manner, correct? Assistant Town Manager Colby said yes, it would be 30 days if the individual wishes to appeal that then that information would be 30 days until their case is resolved. Councilor Eleveld added like in the prior example with the burglary, it would be that one snapshot or set of snapshots for that vehicle would be held until the issue is resolved. Assistant Town Manager Colby said that was correct.

Councilor Eleveld asked do we have any preliminary data? He means this is brand spanking new and he doesn't think they've had them out for more than a month or two, have they? Assistant Town Manager Colby said Washington was the first community that went live and it was in the early part of June.

Councilor Eleveld asked at this point, it's really early to see how successful they are or if the economics makes sense. Assistant Town Manager Colby said that would be correct. We would certainly have to reach out to them to see how their initial months have been.

Councilor Eleveld said we need to decide whether or not we want to move forward with the administrative aspects of this program which is compiling various pieces of information for the DOT to give us approval. Town Manager Souza said that as well as coming back to the Town Council with a proposed ordinance and a variety of the items which then the Town Council can decide to have a required public hearing or not. So, we're really trying to look for that direction, because it will take time over the course of the summer to develop all that information and prepare it so later this fall the Town Council could be able to decide if they want to have a public hearing on the ordinance, and all the other steps that have to be done prior to submitting a plan to the DOT.

Councilor Eleveld said he would then make a guess that we would have some data potentially from the other communities that have put in the speed cameras for probably at that point for 4 or 5 months. Would that be? Town Manager Souza said that would be our hope. The next largest two communities right now are Middletown who is supposedly going live with their cameras this month and then Marlborough who has maybe two locations.

Mayor Black-Burke said from listening to the questioning and from the Health and Safety Committee meeting, her opinion is that there aren't enough data points out there for us to even compare against. If she's understanding this correctly, we just don't have that information yet to even put that in place. She thinks it would need to go back to Health and Safety. We would need to at least get more data maybe 6 months or a year's worth of data from other communities to see if this is something that could even be feasible here in our town. But again, she's not really excited about the traffic cameras. She thinks our Police Department is able to do that type of work, but that's her thought and opinion.

Deputy Mayor Klase said she would like to see it play out in another community for a year. Then we can take it up after we have some other data and see what that data looks like, how it's stored, and how is it's being used. Then we could revisit and see if it feels good to the residents of those communities. Do they feel like their privacy is being protected or impacted and do they feel like it's really protecting traffic speed and is it doing the things it's supposed to do, or would they rather invest in policing? So that would be her suggestion. A lot of investment in time, staff time for a lot of questions we have unanswered right now. That's my suggestion. She doesn't know if there is enough data currently and she thinks we should let everybody have an opportunity to speak before we get a second bite of the apple.

Councilor Gluck Hoffman stated that she is in agreement. Don't speed and don't do anything wrong and you will be fine. She also stated that she would like to focus on having more of the police force be part of that than the cameras.

Councilor King said that he would be in agreement with sending it back to the committee. He doesn't think we have enough information. He also thinks there's a lot of equity questions that get raised with fines that are not necessarily reported, or infractions by police if it's a \$50 ticket and you can do that as many times as you want. So, I think there are things there that need to be addressed as well. We need to see how that works out with other communities as well as some of the other issues raised here.

Councilor Naeem wanted to make one clarifying point in terms of sending it back. Because she knows that staff is looking for direction. She thinks what she's hearing is not sending it back now for further refining and coming back for the fall, but wanting to wait the year to see what other communities see when they install these? Because there is a significant upkeep cost of these, and if we're losing money and we're not seeing much coming out of it, she's hoping people just don't speed.

Mayor Black-Burke said that was an assumption in her statement in sending it back, because Health and Safety needs to be watching this. So, it's not to dismiss and dispose of it tonight, but send it back to Health and Safety. This is an ongoing conversation while we are tracking other communities. She thinks it's definitely up to Health and Safety to determine who that's going to be. So that was her assumption to say it needs to go back to Health and Safety for them to track over the next year.

Councilor Armstrong stated that this is why they brought it back to the Town Council is to get a consensus. She believes that there still needs to be further research and study before they can proceed with this. She stated that she is not sure if it'll be a full year that they can bring something back once they have further information about this. She wants to commend the Town Manager and the Assistant Town Manager because a lot of work had been done so far with this particular item. They wanted to make it known, and also have further public comments about it, once the determination from other towns and the expenditures and other items are brought forth. She is in agreement to bring it back to Health and Safety, and they can monitor it at some stage.

Councilor Walker said that he will defer to his colleagues on the Health and Safety Committee.

Councilor Eleveld made a suggestion to table this item until the February meeting, where you can then resend it back to Health and Safety, because the truth of the matter is, it may get lost between now and then. Town Manager Souza stated that it will not get lost.

Mayor Black-Burke said that she wants to make sure that everybody's clear. Councilor Naeem brought it back up. Coming out of Health and Safety, and after reading through the agenda, they wanted to bring it here for doing exactly what we're doing right now, having a conversation on the information that counts. Mayor Black-Burke thanked Councilors Armstrong, Walker, and Deputy Mayor Klase for asking for that level of detail to be brought to this meeting and sharing that information. What is it, how does it work and what is the cost, \$25 or \$50, or is that even worth investing in the cameras? So, it's something that

they have been watching and sending back to Health and Safety for them to continue to track because they have been looking at it for well over a year and it's now coming back to them. So, she doesn't think it will get lost, it will just be something that continuously appears on their agenda to say this is what we are looking at.

Councilor Pelkey said that he agrees with everyone and he thinks that more analysis of a lot of these different questions is definitely warranted and before we take any more precious staff time on this, he wouldn't be opposed to looking at it. Now, some of the specifics obviously are going to be different, but if we only have 3 towns here in Connecticut, he thinks it might be valid. When he lived in Maryland, he knew that Washington, DC. had these, and this was 20 or 21 years ago. So, while technology certainly has changed, he thinks there's some sort of items that can go to implement best practices, those sorts of things that could be looked at. Obviously, we have to deal with Connecticut State laws and etc., but he thinks even if we looked a little bit further ahead, we might find some lessons learned and best practices. He's not necessarily outright opposed to this. It's just at this point without the information, he thinks studying it more and since we may not even in a year have great data from Connecticut, just expanding where we're looking at for generalities might be helpful. He just wanted to throw that in there.

Mayor Black-Burke stated moving forward, they recommend to look at other Connecticut towns in addition to another town outside of Connecticut just for data's sake.

Town Manager Souza said that he appreciates the Town Council providing that direction. He wants to make sure everyone knows that we will still continue our traffic committee that we have in place that involves our Public Works Department, Police Department and our Engineering Department. We continue to gather data across the town, both on our main arterial roads as well as neighborhood roads. We have our Drive Wise program, which is really our education and awareness program. So, if folks in your neighborhood would like to volunteer to have signs, please contact our engineering office and we can make arrangements for that. The Police Department will continue to be on the road doing enforcement. He stated he did appreciate the Council's direction and guidance here, and we'll continue to pull together information as you move through the summer into the fall.

- h) Consideration of settlement in Buffalo-Windsor Associates, LLC vs Town of Windsor

MOVED by Councilor Naeem seconded by Councilor Eleveld to move item 12 h Consideration of settlement in Buffalo-Windsor Associates, LLC vs. Town of Windsor to after item 16, Executive Session.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

13) RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS – None

14) MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Pelkey to approve the minutes as presented of the:

- June 16, 2025 Public Hearing meeting (sidewalks)
- June 16, 2025 Regular Town Council meeting

Motion Passed 9-0-0

15) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

George Slate, 74 Ethan Drive, said he just wants to give his current state of consciousness with respect to the big brutal bill where his learning is, it got postponed until after the midterms. But he's not sure if that's true, totally. But that's one aspect. My understanding is you don't lose Medicaid, or Husky, as it's called, is that you just don't comply. You don't register every 6 months. For all of us, if we're not sent out reminders that you have to register your car every 6 months, you have to get emissions every 6 months, none of us would be driving a legitimate vehicle. But that's how you lose Medicaid. He doesn't think you lose it. You just don't comply, and therefore you lose it. That's his current understanding. The forms are going to be difficult to comprehend and fill out. But there's also a workaround, and that is, if you're able bodied, you're supposed to work or volunteer. So, he guesses we're back to the Roosevelt era where Windsor needs a volunteer coordinator. We need to dream up projects for people to do volunteer work. He doesn't know how that would play out. He hopes the State picks it up. If not, you will determine whether or not those folks fall through the cracks. Don't know what you're going to decide. He again hopes the State does it. When he goes out, they talk to the police when they get on site, because the police know which residents have medical devices. He's just wondering that if we go through a process locally, if we know who have the medical devices, if we can find out who's on the Medicaid Husky program. He never realized Husky had 9 separate types of programs. If you match that up, you can figure out what we can do, but he guesses we will learn.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Naeem to enter into Executive Session at 9:58 p.m. for:

- a) Strategy and Negotiations in respect to pending claims and litigation (Buffalo-Windsor Associates, LLC vs. Town of Windsor)
- b) Discussion of the selection of a site or purchase of real estate

Motion Passed 9-0-0

16) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Mayor Nuchette Black-Burke, Deputy Mayor Darleen Klase, Councilor Mary Armstrong, Councilor Ronald Eleveld, Councilor Kristin Gluck Hoffman, Councilor Anthony King, Councilor Ojala Naeem, Councilor William Pelkey and Councilor Lenworth Walker

Staff: Peter Souza, Town Manager; Josh Gaston, Town Assessor

Guest: Kevin Deneen, The Law Offices of O'Malley, Deneen, Leary, Messina & Oswecki

MOVED by Councilor Naeem, seconded by Councilor Eleveld to exit Executive Session at 10:21 p.m. and return to the Regular Town Council meeting.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor King absent)

17) ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Klase, seconded by Councilor Naeem to accept the settlement of Buffalo-Windsor Associates, LLC vs Town of Windsor as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor King absent)

MOVED by Councilor Armstrong, seconded by Councilor Eleveld to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 p.m.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor King absent)

Respectfully Submitted,

Helene M. Albert
Recording Secretary