

**WILSON DEERFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(WDAC)**

Regular Meeting
Windsor Town Hall
7:00 PM
July 24, 2025

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Karen Zak, Deborah Baker, Charles Jackson, Jennifer Czelazewicz, Lakisha Hyatt.

Members Absent: Alvin Bingham, Carolyn Joseph, Kathleen Woodward, Ken Rosol

Staff Present: Peter Souza, Town Manager; Patrick MacMahon, Economic Development Director; Heather Pardi, Patrol Commander; Flavia Rey de Castro, Community Development Specialist; Aaron Kiehne, Economic Development Intern.

Guests: William Pelkey, Windsor Town Council; Nuchette Black-Burke, Town of Windsor Mayor

1) CALL TO ORDER

Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

3) DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Parking Enforcement in the Wilson Neighborhood

Jackson introduced Souza and Pardi. Jackson raised concerns about the Police Department's (PD) parking enforcement speaking about a specific case and highlighting the need for the PD to be more aggressive at ticketing and to increase the parking fine. The group discussed the process that would need to take place to increase parking fines locally. Pardi, responded to the specific incident raised by Jackson explaining the challenges the PD faced and emphasizing that the driver of the vehicle mentioned was issued a ticket. Jackson then raised concerns about parking in Wilson Ave. Pardi noted that the issues on Wilson Ave. are more complicated as they relate to business operations and trigger enforcement efforts from Planning and Zoning, Health Department, and from the PD. She indicated that there are currently open court cases and that it would take some time to address the issues raised. She explained some of the efforts conducted by the town and indicated that all the departments involved are actively working on ways to resolve the issue. Jackson mentioned a zoning ordinance for parking and asked about a traffic authority. Souza indicated that the Engineering Department is designated as the local traffic authority. Jackson asked about the town's practices for updating ordinances and made suggestions for changes. Souza indicated that the Town updates them as the need arises. In regards to Jackson's suggestion, Souza noted that some aspects of the ordinances are dictated by the state and some are local, so he couldn't really discuss on the feasibility of specific changes right then. Jackson asked about procedures for addressing unregistered vehicles parked in the public right of way. Pardi explained that vehicles can be towed. She described the process, including notification requirements and procedures, and highlighted the availability of

an appeals process. She emphasized that compliance is always the goal. Jackson asked about unregistered vehicles on private property. She explained that private property is on town ordinance and not state statute and that it falls into blight. She explained the process including the several notification requirements, what qualifies as an infraction, and, once again, emphasized that compliance is the goal of the process.

Jackson brought up some past issues with commercial trucks on Faneuil Street. To provide context on enforcement activity, Souza provided an overview of current town efforts to address unregistered and junk vehicles. He explained that in the past six months, in district 1 (patrolling district that includes Wilson and Deerfield neighborhoods), the town had 23 junk vehicles cases and 44 town-wide. In regards to vehicles in private property, there were 19 vehicles town-wide and 7 in district 1. Based on who the lead investigating officer is, it can be determined if the vehicle is in private or public property.

Jackson asked about town-owned cameras that capture license plates. Pardi explained how these cameras work, their capabilities and how helpful these are for police investigations, including robberies, stolen cars, etc. She indicated that the town currently owns 16 cameras.

Baker asked about large truck presence in Windsor Ave. late at night. Construction on 91 and 291 were mentioned as possible reasons.

Jackson asked for an update on Town Council discussions to purchase speed cameras. Souza explained that it was decided to first investigate and report on how effective this technology is being in other towns. Once data is gathered and reported to Town Council, it will be determined how to proceed.

Mayor Black-Burke thanked Jackson for the invitation to the meeting and indicated she was listening online.

4) ITEMS FROM THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Baker provided an overview of the park opening ceremony. The group shared their impressions of the ceremony, the park and its current usage.

5) STAFF REPORTS

Rey de Castro informed the group that the town had been awarded a grant from Eversource to help with the promotion of their energy efficiency programs and that she would be reaching out to committee members in the future for help with outreach. She provided an overview of each of the programs. Jackson mentioned the weatherization program and asked about resources to address asbestos. Rey de Castro mentioned the Housing Rehab Program.

McMahon informed the group about an upcoming concert at Wilson Park. He also provided updates about businesses opening at the Windsor Shoppes. McMahon mentioned the Keney Park Trail Connectivity Project and indicating that there would be outreach efforts for public input in the future. He then provided an overview of Riverfront Recapture's Meadow street property site-development progress, emphasizing a recent grant that the organization had received to help with the trail development. Baker provided further details on the site-development progress.

McMahon informed the group about the East Coast Greenway, explaining that it was a trail system going from Maine to Florida that passes through Connecticut. He indicated that currently

there were trail gaps in the state and that there is a possibility that it would route through Windsor from Keney Park gateway down Meadow Road to the Riverfront Recapture park.

McMahon distributed restaurant trail fliers and provided an overview of the town's initiative to promote local restaurants. The group discussed different restaurants and upcoming opening dates for new businesses.

McMahon informed the group of a small grant that the town had received to promote bike safety. He explained that bike safety and educational materials would be distributed. He also mentioned that the town had recently submitted an application to receive a "bike-friendly community" designation and that there was currently an online public survey gathering data. This survey targets local bikers. The group discussed ways to reach frequent bikers. McMahon then introduced Kiehne, who was attending the meeting online and thanked him for his efforts.

McMahon provided details about development efforts on 29 Windsor Ave. he distributed drawings for this development.

Baker asked for updates on replacement of bus shelters. Rey de Castro indicated she would follow up with more information.

6) APPROVAL OF 3/27/25 MEETING MINUTES

Zak moved to approve 3/27/25 minutes with suggested revisions. Baker seconded. Motion passed unanimously

5) ADJOURNMENT

Baker moved to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Zak seconded.