



# TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting Minutes: Town Council  
2024 March 25  
7:00 pm Eastern Time  
WCAT Studio – 24 Hemlock Road | Via Zoom

**Call to Order:** Jonathan P. Chines called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Jonathan P. Chines led the body in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Town Council:** Mehreen N. Butt, Jonathan P. Chines, Chair; Anne P. Danehy; Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.; Michael J. McLane, Vice Chair; Julie Smith-Galvin; and Robert E. Vincent II.

**Administration:** Stephen P. Maio, Town Administrator; Sherri A. Dalton, Executive Secretary, and Town Council Clerk.

**Town Counsel:** Thomas A. Mullen.

**Public Engagement:** Kimberlee Rivera of 30 Charles Street; Valerie Gokhfeld of 9 Cedar Court; Leigh Concessi of 66 Main Street; Annmarie Moretti of 268 Salem Street; Manuel and Ana Martins of 13 Jennifer Road provided comments regarding the billing process for the Department of Public Works water and sewer invoices. Julie Scott of 4 Central Street provided comments regarding the Master Plan and supported the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Wakefield Housing Trust.

**Fiscal Year 2025 Budgets:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve Budget #28 Veteran Services Department for \$178,300.00, as presented by Town Accountant Gill, Paul Cancelliere, chair of the Veteran Advisory Board, and Veteran Service Officer Mangan. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. moved to restore the recipient line item from \$90,000.00 to \$110,000.00. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0. The vote on the original motion passed 7-0-0. Michael J. McLane moved to approve Budget #40 Medicare for \$1,030,195.00, as presented by Town Accountant Gill. Mehreen N. Butt



seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0. Town Accountant Gill presented Budget #46 Group Health Insurance. After discussing the proposed addition of a full-time position, having the Human Resource department budget separate from the Group Health Insurance budget, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. questioning Finance Committee Group Health Insurance Subcommittee chair Donald Ravenelle regarding the full-time position and no discussion happening at the Subcommittee meeting regarding the position, the Town Council tabled the budget, pending more information until the April 8, 2024 meeting. Michael J. McLane moved to approve the Cable Television budget for \$559,216.00, as presented by Town Accountant Gill and WCAT Director Ian McDermott. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**Annual Town Meeting:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve Warrant Article Capital Planning for \$2,051,816.00 as presented by Capital Planning Committee chair Phil Renzi and Department of Public Works Director Conway. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**Presentations / Updates: Food Pantry Storage Container:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve the placement of a storage container at the rear of the Americal Civic Center for the Food Panty as presented by Food Pantry Director Miller and members of the Board of Directors. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0. **American Rescue Plan Act:** Town Councilors discussed the allocation for the remaining American Rescue Plan Act funds. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. moved to remove \$220,000.00 from the Fuel Assistance Fund and add that amount to the General Fund. Michael J. McLane seconded. Jonathan P. Chines made a friendly amendment to return the unspent funds allocated from the Fuel Assistance Fund for this current heating season. The motion passed 5-2-0 with Robert E. Vincent II, Anne P. Danehy, Michael J. McLane, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting in favor. Julie Smith-Galvin and Jonathan P. Chines voting against the motion. Julie Smith-Galvin moved to approve the allocation of \$1,000,000.00 for the Small Business Incubator Fund, \$40,000.00 for the Food Pantry,

\$400,000.00 for renovations to the Senior Center, \$250,000.00 for Sidewalk Extensions, \$150,000.00 for Pedestrian Access to the Lake, and the remaining \$200,000.00 to the Housing Trust. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. seconded. Robert E. Vincent II amended the motion by removing the \$250,000.00 for Sidewalk Extensions, and remove \$150,000.00 for Pedestrian Access to the Lake, and add \$400,000.00 for Solar Panels to the Galvin Middle School. Michael J. McLane seconded. Robert E. Vincent II modified the amended motion by removing the \$250,000.00 for Sidewalk Extensions, and remove \$150,000.00 for Pedestrian Access to the Lake, and removing \$100,000.00 from the Housing Trust Fund and putting the \$500,000.00 into the solar panels. Michael J. McLane seconded. The motion failed 3-4-0 with Robert E. Vincent II, Anne P. Danehy, and Michael J. McLane voting in favor. Julie Smith-Galvin, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting against the motion. Robert E. Vincent II moved to amend the main motion by removing \$150,000.00 for Pedestrian Access to the Lake. Michael J. McLane seconded. The motion failed 2-5-0 with Robert E. Vincent II and Michael J. McLane voting in favor of the motion. Anne P. Danehy, Julie Smith-Galvin, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombrowski, Jr. voting against the motion. Michael J. McLane amended the motion that 800 square feet of the renovations to the Senior Center be allocated to The Friends of Beebe Library and that they are given reasonable access to the building. Robert E. Vincent II seconded. The motion failed 2-5-0 with Robert E. Vincent II and Michael J. McLane voting in favor of the motion. Anne P. Danehy, Julie Smith-Galvin, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting against the motion. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. moved with respect to the \$400,000.00 to the renovations of the Senior Center that the funds not be used to any department for office space build out within the facility. Michael J. McLane seconded. The motion passed 6-1-0 with Robert E. Vincent, II, Anne P. Danehy, Julie Smith-Galvin, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting in favor of the motion. Michael J. McLane voting against the motion.

The main motion passed 6-1-0 with Robert E. Vincent II, Anne P. Danehy, Julie Smith-Galvin, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting in favor of the motion. Michael J. McLane voting against the motion. Jonathan P. Chines asked for a motion to instruct Town Administrator Maio to put together a Warrant Article for the Regular Town Meeting with regards to solar panels for the Galvin Middle School roof. Michael J. McLane so moved. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 6-1-0 with Robert E. Vincent II, Anne P. Danehy, Julie Smith-Galvin, Michael J. McLane, Jonathan P. Chines, and Mehreen N. Butt voting in favor of the motion. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting against the motion.

**Licenses: One Day Liquor License:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve the request for a One Day Liquor License for an event at the Library on April 27, 2024. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0. **Livery License:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve the request for a Livery License for A Class Limousine. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0. **Common Victualler License:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve the request for a Common Victualler License for AA Sumo Inc. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**Approval of Minutes:** Michael J. McLane moved to approve the March 11, 2024 Town Council executive meeting minutes. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Robert E. Vincent II, Julie Smith-Galvin, Michael J. McLane, Jonathan P. Chines, Mehreen N. Butt, and Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. voting in favor of the motion. Anne P. Danehy abstaining. Michael J. McLane moved to approve the March 11, 2024 Town Council meeting minutes. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**Adjournment:** Michael J. McLane motioned to adjourn at 10:54 p.m. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sherri A. Dalton, Town Council Clerk