

I. Call to Order

MIC Members Present: Michelle Metzler, Chair; Micayla Schambura, Secretary; Gretchen Calcagni; Anna Vold

City Staff Present: Jon Rauscher, Public Works Director; Eli Ogilvie, City Councilor; Al Turkos, City Councilor

Guests Present: Terry Zigmund, Winooski resident

Call to Order by: Michelle

Meeting Start Time: 6:33 pm

Minutes Recorded by: Micayla

II. Public Comment

Terry Zigmund, resident of Winooski, inquired on the progress of freshening city-wide line striping, commenting that she was only seeing new paint on Main Street. This question included the bike lane on W Center Street, which she has been asking to be repainted for over 7 years.

Jon Rauscher, Public Works Director, replied that he put out a bid for linestriping work last month that would include Rt 15/East Allen. In general, corridors tend to have priority by contractors as local streets are done by DPW. One bid from a Massachusetts firm was submitted and priced at \$40,000 to do all the white line striping (bike lane, fog lanes, and all of the white symbols and crosswalks with durable epoxy paint, the same kind of paint on Main Street). There is only \$15,000 in Winooski's line striping budget this year. The City is looking at reducing the scope of work and increasing the budget for next year.

Jon says that the City recently awarded a bid for a new walk-behind linestriping machine for internal DPW use. He says that depending on when the new machine arrives, he will coordinate with the DPW crew to see if they can stripe the bike lane on W Center street in-house, since it's a shorter straight section (longer sections would require other equipment to keep the line straight).

Terry also wanted to follow up on the traffic calming study on West/Elm Street that was performed last year. The findings of the traffic calming study reported there were no large trucks during the data collection period. She is looking to see if there was any follow-up on restudying since it seemed like an anomaly that there was no truck traffic during this period.

Jon says that he is looking to request an additional truck traffic study on Elm Street, wrapped into a city-wide traffic calming study he secured as part of the FY27 budget. This city-wide traffic calming study has partial grant funding through CCRPC and will evaluate 10 additional streets that are in our traffic calming manuals. He says that he also heard that Cabot is taking full control of the industrial facility, and that they are very aware of the truck routes and conveying that to their drivers.

Terry says there has been an improvement in truck traffic speed as the smaller trucks that were driving very fast are no longer there. However, she is concerned that the trucks are too big and

are hitting the curbs and destroying them. Jon says he is going to need to look further into this with other city staff, he agrees with her, but says it is a legacy issue that the industrial area was approved in a residential area. The Winooski Truck Traffic code does not specify maximum vehicle dimensions. For reference, Winooski's [Municipal Code Chapter 20 Truck Traffic Code is available here](#).

III. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by: Micayla

Second: Anna

Decision: **Approve**

The minutes from the [May meeting](#) were unanimously passed.

IV. Discussion: Commission Reflection on What's Working, What's Not

Eli Ogilvie says that there have been internal discussions about what the City wants commissions to be, and what is/isn't working. He says that a lot of work, intended for commissions, has gone to city staff. He asks what things we see as important to keep as we rethink commission structure.

Michelle Metzler says that it is unclear what council wants from commissions and that there is an illusion of participating as there are things the commission has worked hard on, and it did not feel like it received the support of the Council or Mayor. She says this disconnect can lead to struggling with participation and/or growth. Micayla Schambura joins the discussion about having more discrete tasks and focus would be beneficial – things that can be line-itemed as progress for the group.

Anna Vold, the newest member of the MIC, says that she likes the monthly frequency of the meetings as she sees tangible things happen (such as renovations around the City). She is interested in seeing what happens after our meetings and what impact she and the group can have.

Gretchen Calcagni joined the commission when Main St was underway. She says that because staff time is limited, it feels like agenda items are tough to move forward. She wonders if after these big infrastructure projects are complete that the meeting can have more action items once Winooski is back into more planning stages instead of construction.

Jon says that historically commission structure in Winooski is relatively new. Commissions were created when the City created new master plans and they were initially specialized thinktanks for Council. The Transportation Master Plan was the original cohort of commissioners' main task.

Michelle says that Jon serving the liaison role as director of Public Works is very helpful for helping educate the commissioners and being able to answer questions during public comment. She wonders if other council members are staff who are aligned with their commission's line of work. Eli says that department heads are the liaisons for the other commissions and have defined relations to it. He says for the Councilors, it is not a perfect match, but a lot of the councilors are interested in the topics that they are liaisons for.

Michelle comments on the idea of the Inclusion & Belonging Committee being instead integrated within groups, instead of making it separate. She says that singling it out may give the

impression that other commissions aren't functioning under DEI/IB&C principles. There should be people in all committees who believe in and act in support of these ideas. The group suggests that IB&C instead be a smaller task force every time there is a specific task item that comes up that needs addressed – it could pull from a list of Councilors or other citizens who are interested in DEI/IB&C to help fill the temporary role.

Eli poses the question on whether folks would prefer to have local wards / zoning, or combine all commissions into a singular commission. There was a mixed response to this question, but generally folks did not prefer having wards. Gretchen was not opposed to the idea of having location based groups like Burlington. Michelle, however, says that this seems more for community than joining out of interest. Micayla comments that if all groups have to meet with Council, this could stretch them and city staff out more. Al says that location-based groups could make Winooski more segregated.

Jon says that the current charter doesn't reflect how commissions have ever served and recommends changing the charter to what we want the commission to be. He says it feels like commissions are transitioning more into outreach for the particular topics rather than technical work, and that staff is looking on guidance, too.

The group discusses creating a schedule of agenda topics for the fiscal year to have some structure (new budget starts). The group agrees that meetings should be regular so the public can expect consistency. They should be at least every other month, with additional meetings in between as needed.

V. Discussion: Traffic Calming Study, Petition, and Funding

A [petition](#) was filed by residents living on Florida Ave to get a traffic study done prior to repaving. The City has a traffic calming manual to create policy on how measures get implemented. We have a candidate list of submitted complaints, Florida Ave was on this list. The City had funds to do a city-wide traffic calming evaluation and concept planning for 10 streets. Jon submitted the candidate list of CCRPC in January, removing the streets previously studied and streets that are considered collector streets to target neighborhood streets, and eliminated George & Upper Franklin (try to do these when there is school traffic, the study would take place when there isn't school during the summer).

These 10 streets, including Florida Ave, were studied this summer. CCRPC is putting together that data from the summer. We'll have data for those ten streets including Florida Ave pretty soon, which will dictate whether each street will meet the threshold for traffic calming measures based on speed, truck traffic, and crashes. There will be a public outreach piece on this.

VI. Discussion: DPW 2026 Season Priority Work

The following [public works priority plan](#) includes budgeted capital work and 2026-2027 policy. Work is mostly driven by the budget. Highlights include RFP Advertisement of the Burlington-Winooski River Bridge Replacement Project, as well as the Hoods Crossing traffic signal and Spring sidewalk extension to be out to bid this winter. The Abenaki Parking Garage construction is coming to a close, but there is a punch list of items to get through. Other work is related to transportation, stormwater, and facilities/grounds. Water Distribution Master Plan just started - evaluates priorities for replacement.

One need not in budget currently is to install watermain on Park Street due to Armory building project. It would require a water main service from each side to feed the sprinkler service. Some items on the current list will need to be deprioritized for this water main on Park St and repaving prior to building. The work may require a bond vote and further discussion will be necessary to

determine what to deprioritize.

VII. City Council Liaison Updates

There were no additional updates to tonight's discussion.

VIII. Inclusion & Belonging Commission Update

N/A

IX. City Staff Liaison Updates

There were no additional updates to tonight's discussion.

X. Other Business

N/A

XI. Adjourn

Motion by: Anna

Second: Micayla

Meeting End Time: 8:33 pm