



Woodbury Republican Town Committee Minutes – July 10, 2025

P.O. Box 255, Woodbury, CT 06798

Emergency Services Building – 7:00 PM

Present: Vice Chairman Paul Luchetti, Bob DeLuca, John Lewis, Dennis Roberts, Rob Scott, Paul Zulpa, Nancy Mackey and Don Trella.

Absent: Chairman Cunningham, Tim Drakeley, John Hughes, Donna Kohanowski, Peter Perkinson, Burt Stevens,
Alternates: Tom Benedetto, Alan Diamond, Drew Gwiazdoski, and Mike Novak.

1) Call to Order by Chairman:

Vice Chairman Paul Luchetti called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM in Chairman Cunningham's absence

2) Seating of Alternates:

There were no Alternates present.

3) Pledge of Allegiance:

Everyone stood to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) Recognition of Guests:

Charmaine Samoska and Chris (Palin) Ford)

5) Approval of the Minutes:

Motion: Vice Chairman Luchetti entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2025 Meeting. The motion was made by Dennis Roberts and seconded by Paul Zulpa. All were in favor. **Approved.**

6) Officer's Reports:

a) Chairman:

No Chairman's Report at this time.

b) Vice Chairman:

No Report.

c) Treasurer

Chairman Stevens was not able to be at the meeting but provided a report which Nancy Mackey read. The report stated that the WRTC Ion Bank checking account currently has a \$2,712.11 balance which is \$584.54 greater than at the last WRTC meeting in June, 2025. He also reported that Fund Raising/Events Chairman Lewis has sold \$1,770.00 in tickets since the June meeting. this does not include sales since June 30th.

John Lewis then said that the Treasurer's report was not at 2,712.11 but at \$1,511.00 because we are committed for the Raffle prizes which amount to \$1,200.00. Treasurer Stevens is aware of this and will adjust the total.

Motion: Dennis Roberts made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Finance report. Paul Zulpa seconded the motion. All were in favor with no questions. **Approved.**

*** Please see the full Treasurer's Report which is included with these minutes.**

d) Secretary:

Secretary Mackey read the voter registration summary as of 7/1/2025: She said that as of 7/1/2025 there were 7,164 voters able to vote in town which includes, Democrats – 1908, Republican – 2,415, Unaffiliated – 2,684 and Other – 157. Also, from 1/30/2024 to 7/7/2025 the Democrats have lost 21 voters, Republicans 12 voters, Unaffiliated have gained 31 voters and Other have lost 2 voters.

Motion: The motion to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Dennis Roberts and seconded by Paul Zulpa. All in favor. **Approved.**

*** Please see the Secretary's two report that are included with these minutes.**

7) Committee Reports:

a) Candidate Recruitment:

Chairman Roberts reported that the candidate for the Conservation Committee, Charmaine Samoska, was accepted for the position and attended her first Conservation Committee meeting last week.

* Chairman Roberts added to his report that the Commission for Seniors will be losing an active member and Paul Luchetti will get the necessary paper work to apply for the job.

* Chairman Roberts said that all candidates for office have been notified of the date, time and place of the Caucus. He called everyone last week to notify most everyone of the upcoming elections. He is still trying to notify everyone that he does not have an email for. The following vacancies need to be filled. They are: Board of Assessment Appeals, one alternate, Inland Wetlands Agency, one alternate, Planning Commission one position, Retirement and Pension Board, one full seat, Shade Tree and Sidewalk Committee, one position and Waste Advisory Ad-hoc Committee, one position. He also mentioned that he hoped to get a Republican on the Pension and Retirement Board as the Board is overwhelmed, at this time, by Democrats.

Chairman Roberts said that the CRC held a meeting tonight at 6:30 PM at the Fire Department and will continue to do so before each WRTC meeting.

b) Scholarship:

No report at this time.

c) Fund Raising/Events – John Lewis explained that LaBonne's had requested a couple of date changes in the schedule for selling raffle tickets at LaBonne's store. John felt that these changes worked out well for the WRTC. He will send the list of dates for selling Raffle tickets to everyone.

* John explained that people were also coming up to those of us selling tickets and asking questions about the Town Budget, the School Budget, the Town in general and the WRTC. As Paul Zulpa said It is a little like an outreach for the WRTC.

d) Media – Public Information – Technology:

* John Lewis mentioned that the Website is not doing its job for us as it is not up to date. It would be good to be able to direct new people to the website. Paul Luchetti said that things should be cleared up by next week.

* Paul Zulpa explained that there have only been five hits on the website this month. Dennis Roberts keeps getting complaint calls on the Website that needs updating. A discussion was had on the causes of the lack of updating. At the

end of the discussion, it was decided to ask Chairman Cunningham what his expectations are for the Website, make the changes, and then get a new person (hopefully within the WRTC) to take over the site after the Web Master is finished with her job.

* The Caucus is next week and Chairman Cunningham has all the information on the Caucus from the Town Clerk, Maria Mancini

8) New Business:

*An Event to honor First Selectman Perkinson for her service to the town is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2026, at the 1754 House at 7:00 PM.

*There is a Republican Caucus scheduled for Monday, July 21st. at 7:00 at the Woodbury Senior Center. Chairman Cunningham said that the paper work for that is being filed with the Town Clerk and State Central. Also, the Registrar of Voters need to be notified and Paul Zulpa will take care of that.

Motion: Dennis Roberts made a motion to notify the Registrars of Voters of the Caucus time and place which is Monday, January 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Senior Community Center. All were in favor. **Approved.**

Paul Zulpa said that Mike Cunningham let him know that the notice on the Caucus was sent to Voices and that he got confirmation from Voices that it will be in the paper on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

9) Old Business:

None at this time.

10) Privilege of the Floor:

Chris Ford spoke about getting younger people involved in the Town Committee and how important that is and what he is doing to promote the Republican party. He also spoke about a young man who at 18 is involved in politics and he feels he will do great things for the party. He feels that there are a lot of young people that could help the party. Chris passed out his card to everyone.

* Charmaine Samoska spoke about Jonathan De Barros, U.S. Congressional Candidate, and passed out and read a note from him to the Town Committee. Mr. DeBarros will be in Woodbury on January 19, 2026 at 9:00 AM at the cemetery located at 254 Main Street South for the Sons of the American Revolution. Mr. De Barros asked if he could speak to the WRTC sometime in the future.

See the note from Jonathan DeBarros that is included with these minutes.

11) Adjournment:

Vice Chairman Luchetti entertained a motion to adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM and Paul Zulpa made the motion.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy Mackey, Secretary