

Hannah Belcher
892 Shirley Street
Winthrop, MA 02152

October 28, 2026

Town Council President Letterie
Winthrop Town Council
Town Clerk Quist
2 Metcalf Square
Winthrop, MA 02152

Dear Council President Letterie, Members of the Winthrop Town Council, and my fellow committee members,

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the following municipal committees, effective immediately:

- Affordable Housing Committee
- Commission on Disabilities (Secretary)
- Firehouse Building Committee
- Firehouse Reuse Committee (Chair)
- Scholarship Committee

I have immensely enjoyed the opportunities I have had to work on important municipal issues, both during my time on the Town Council and through my continued committee service. I care deeply about the work of each of these committees and believe their missions are critical to the well-being and future of Winthrop.

This work demands respect for the institution of local government, the responsibilities of public office, and most importantly, the constituents. It requires a willingness to listen, collaborate, and consider perspectives beyond our own, even when we disagree.

The Town Council Special Meeting held on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, has cemented my concerns about the direction and focus of town government at present. What took place was not simply a difference of opinion or approach, but a troubling display of disregard for the responsibilities of elected office, the Town Charter, and the residents of this community. What makes this most clear at this juncture is the unwillingness and inability of the majority of councilors to work collaboratively with each other - despite a united campaign.

I have continued to serve on multiple committees with the belief that the time, effort, and thoughtful recommendations of their members would be given the consideration they deserve. I no longer have confidence that the current Council is willing or able to do so.

Committee members volunteer their time and expertise because they believe they can make a meaningful difference in their community. Their efforts deserve more than to be dismissed, disregarded, or undermined by those entrusted with making decisions on behalf of the town.

I can no longer hold any semblance of faith that recommendations intended to improve, assist, or otherwise bolster our community will be fairly, diligently, or even respectfully considered by this Council. Continuing to serve under these circumstances would suggest a level of confidence in the current process that I simply do not have.

This is not a decision I have come to lightly. My commitment to Winthrop and its residents has not changed, nor has my belief in the importance of the work being done by the many dedicated volunteers who continue to give their time to this town.

I have been honored to contribute my thoughts and energies wherever I could, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside so many people who genuinely care about this community.

It is my hope that the Council will reflect on its conduct and the direction in which it is leading our town. Winthrop deserves an elected body that respects its office, its obligations, and its constituency, and that recognizes the value of working together, even through disagreement, for the benefit of the community.

Regretfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hannah Belcher". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large initial 'H' and a long, sweeping 'B'.

Hannah Belcher

Cc: Members of Affordable Housing Committee, Commission on Disabilities, Firehouse Building Committee, Firehouse Reuse Committee, Scholarship Committee