

# Former City Commissioner Book seeks another term

By Randy Patrick  
WinCity Voices

Kenny Book has been a city commissioner for Winchester for more than half of his adult life, and after two years out of office, he wants to return to finish what he helped begin.

With nearly three decades of experience on the Board of Commissioners, dealing with city budgets and projects, he believes he can contribute.

"There (are) a lot of things that need to be done," he said.

One of those things is finishing the Seventh Street project to get heavy truck traffic out of residential

neighborhoods on the northeast side of town, including Magnolia, Elm, and Seventh streets.

"We have some money from the state to do the Seventh Street project; we just have to get it done," he said.

The multi-million-dollar project, planned several years ago, extends Seventh Street to Ky. 627 and Veterans Memorial Parkway near Interstate 64 to avoid having heavy trucks traveling through the residential area.

The project was originally intended to avoid truck traffic on Seventh Street to Gates Precast, but Book said the project would also



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Kenny Book is running for another term as City Commissioner.

curtail other truck traffic.

He said the state gave the city money to do the project

and extended the deadline until next year.

Another priority for Book is finishing the Depot Street project by including restrooms for the Winchester-Clark County Farmers Market and other events.

He wants to restore an old railway passenger car for the restrooms to reflect the history of the railroad line and the former train depot, which was demolished in the early 1980s.

The area is rich in history. North Main Street near the railway depot was one of the locations for the 1967 comedy film "The Flim Flam Man," and the train stop was part of President Harry S. Truman's 1948

whistle-stop tour.

Several years ago, the city restored the street's original brick surface and later added a canopy for the farmers' market.

"They have talked about putting in restrooms on Depot Street for years," Book said. "By putting in an old passenger train car, it would save the city money."

"I was the one to bring up putting Winchester on the west end of the canopy to help identify the old train depot," he mentioned.

Book, 75, has served 28 years on the Winchester Board of Commissioners, though he lost a re-election bid a couple of years ago.

## Centerpoint Health - Winchester publishes its 2025 community benefit report

### Centerpoint Health - Winchester

Centerpoint Health - Winchester published its community benefit report for the 2025 calendar year. This annual report outlines the various ways the hospital is working to support the health and economic vitality of Winchester as part of its mission of making communities healthier®.

"Always striving to advance our mission is how we succeed as a community leader in Winchester, and as a leader in our community, we are dedicated to supporting those

who entrust us with their care, investing in our region's overall well-being and making a positive impact on our region," said Matt Smith, CEO Centerpoint Health - Winchester. "This year's report highlights our continued commitment to providing high-quality, compassionate care close to home."

Centerpoint Health - Winchester's 2025 community benefit report highlights its continued efforts to meet the growing healthcare needs of its community through welcoming new providers, adding and expanding service lines and continually investing in its facilities and healthcare

technology. For example, in 2025, Centerpoint Health - Winchester added new providers in interventional cardiology and emergency medicine and made more than \$2.3 million in capital improvements, including new cardiac CTA capabilities, new patient beds, an Echo machine and an updated and expanded Infusion Center.

Additionally, Centerpoint Health - Winchester provided nearly \$32.6 million in health services to those in need, demonstrating its continuous commitment to ensuring everyone has access to care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Centerpoint Health - Winchester is also devoted to creating environments where providers want to practice and employees want to work. In 2025, the hospital distributed \$64,927,414 in salaries, wages and benefits for its approximately 665 employees, while contributing \$259,951 in professional development and tuition assistance so all its employees can have the opportunity to learn, grow and improve the care they provide their patients.

Last year, the organization paid \$12,292,200 in local and state taxes, while also continuing its support of local activities and organizations

committed to serving the region, including the American Heart Association, Clark County Athletics, Clark County Chamber of Commerce, Emergency Medical Services and Mt. Sterling Chamber of Commerce.

"We are proud to call Winchester our home and feel truly privileged to contribute to its well-being. We are also thankful for the hard work and dedication of our providers, employees and volunteers who make it all possible," said Matt Smith. "As we look ahead to the future, we are so excited to continue improving the way we serve our neighbors and communities."

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