

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

APRIL 11, 1989

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Meeting Adjourned	

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 11, 1989

6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Albert Killen. Answering present to the roll called by Town Clerk Kathryn J. Wall were Council Members Adams, Bradley, Doherty, Holmes, Parisi, Solinsky, Zandri and Killen. Also present were Adam Mantzaris, Town Attorney, and Tom Myers, Comptroller.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to have Items 1, 2.a, 2.b, 2.e, 3, 4.a, 4.c, 5, 13, 20 and 27 placed on the Consent Agenda to be voted upon by one unanimous vote.

ITEM 1. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$350 from Training Acct. No. 001-1430-500-5700 to Printing Acct. No. 001-1430-400-4180 to Fund Cost of Printing and Binding Abstracts - Assessor's Office.

ITEM 2.a Consider and Approve Transfer of \$600 from Utilities Acct. No. 001-5150-200-2010 to Maint. of Heating System Acct. No. 001-5150-500-5400 to Provide Additional Funds to Maintain Heating System at Senior Citizens Center - Public Works Department.

ITEM 2.b Consider and Approve Transfer of \$2,000 from Snow Plow Truck Acct. No. 001-5040-999-9901 and \$1,000 from Hydraulic Cylinder Assembly Acct. No. 001-5050-999-9909, a Total of \$3,000 to Outside Work Non-Recoverable Acct. No. 001-2015-100-1810 to Provide Funds for Police Protection While Working on Town Roads - Public Works Department.

ITEM 2.e Consider and Approve Transfer of \$500 from Replace Fuel Oil Tank Acct. No. 001-5140-999-9905 to Maint. of Building Acct. No. 001-5110-500-5100 to Provide Additional Funds to Maintain Building at Railroad Station - Public Works Department.

ITEM 3. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid for Quartermaster System - Police Department.

ITEM 4.a Consider and Approve Transfer of \$1,500 from Overtime-Training Acct. No. 001-2011-100-1420 to Overtime-Clerical Acct. No. 001-2011-100-1400 to Provide Additional Funds for Clerical Overtime - Police Department.

ITEM 4.c Consider and Approve Transfer of \$3,400 from Dispatcher Wages Acct. No. 001-2015-100-1300 to Paid Holidays Acct. No. 001-2015-100-1700 to Provide Additional Funds for Holidays - Police Department.

ITEM 5. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$1,015 from Reserve for Emergency Acct. No. 8050-800-3190 to Misc. Fact Finding Acct. No. 1300-600-6020 to Provide Funds for Services Rendered by Arbitrator - Mayor's Office.

ITEM 13. Consider and Approve Acceptance of a Small Section of Land Along Old Durham Road - Planning & Zoning Commission.

ITEM 20. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid and Designate Wallingford Center, Inc. as the Design Consultant for Streetscape Improvements for North and South Main Streets - Mayor's Office.

ITEM 27. Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 28, 1989.

Seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 2.c Consider and Approve Transfer of \$1,000 from Replace Fuel Oil Tank Acct. No. 001-5140-999-9905 to Maint. of Building Acct. No. 001-5140-500-5100 to Provide Additional Funds to Maintain Building at 701 Center Street - Public Works Department. Motion made by Mr. Parisi, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley stated we've expended about \$7,000 to date on the maintenance of this building. Are these just small items or are they major?

Steven Deak replied some are major items, but I don't have that with me. I will put a list together on all the repairs and what was spent.

Mr. Killen stated I'm going to tour the building with Mr. Deak. It's a hodge-podge of meeting rooms and in reality no one feels any sense of responsibility for the building as a whole. It really needs someone to make sure that everything is put back if it's taken apart.

Mr. Doherty asked do you know when the Recreation Department's renovations there will be completed?

Mr. Deak responded we just opened the bid today for installing the carpeting on the back gymnasium. I need about \$1,900 which I will seek at the next Council meeting and then we should be completed.

VOTE: Mrs. Papale was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 2.d Consider and Approve Transfer of \$1,000 from Replace Fuel Oil Tank Acct. No. 001-5140-999-9905 to Maint. of Heating System Acct. No. 001-5140-500-5400 to Provide Additional Funds to Maintain Heating System at 701 Center Street - Public Works Department. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley stated we've already expended \$4,850 on the heating system. What's wrong with the heating system?

Mr. Deak replied it's a very old system. It's a combination of steam and gas and we have a lot of electronics. In the past week we had an electrical problem which cost \$500 plus the oil burner man is charging \$204 for one call.

(Mayor Dickinson arrived at 6:50 p.m.)

Mr. Bradley asked should we be looking at possibly replacing this system?

Mr. Deak replied you're talking about \$100,000 to replace it.

Mr. Bradley stated it seems like we're spending quite a few dollars here on the heating system. I think we should at least look at the structure from top to bottom and see what it needs.

Mayor Dickinson stated we can certainly go through the whole building, and we have. The reason you're seeing it on a number of occasions is because we're making repairs as we can afford them. The roof has been fixed and a great deal of painting has been done this year. Rugs and furniture are in the proposed budget. So there are a variety of efforts to put the building into good condition. I'll sit down with Steve and see what major items should be dealt with. We can take a look at it and see what other major issues may be coming up in the next year or five years. We'll make a list of what has been done and what needs to be accomplished.

Mr. Killen asked that this be done at the Senior Citizen Center also.

VOTE: Mrs. Papale was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 2.f Consider and Approve Transfer of \$500 from Replace Fuel Oil Tank Acct. No. 001-5140-999-9905 to Maint. of Vehicles-Car Pool Acct. No. 001-5050-500-5010 to Provide Additional Funds to Maintain Car Pool Vehicles - Public Works Department. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Mrs. Papale was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 4.b Consider and Approve Transfer of \$10,000 from A&I Wages Acct. No. 001-2012-100-1310 to Patrol Overtime Acct. No. 001-2015-100-1400 to Provide Additional Funds for Overtime - Police Department. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Killen asked why are you expecting to spend \$1,550 per week? That hasn't been the criteria up to this point.

Darrel York replied that's a guess because it depends on what happens. In the past 6 weeks we've used the SWAT Team about 4 times and that costs roughly \$1,000 every time. We also have to consider "extended tours". If a policeman is in the middle of an investigation of an accident, he can't say it's 4:00 I'm going home. He has to work overtime until he gets things cleared up.

Mr. Killen stated I was going by the first eight months of the year. Are your figures going to be different in the last four months?

Mr. York replied only if we have to call the SWAT Team out. I don't know if that will be done, but I wanted to get through the end of the year without having to come back again.

VOTE: Mrs. Papale was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 6. Consider and Approve Change in 1988-89 Budget Line Item Due to Pierce Plant Reorganization - Electric Division. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Adams read the attached letter, dated April 4, 1989, from William Barry to the PUC.

William Barry replied this is part of the contract you approved four weeks ago. My purpose tonight is simply to get the Personnel Detail and Salary Calculations page amended. No transfer is necessary.

Mr. Bradley asked what is the difference between a Switchboard Operator and a Utility Operator as they are today?

Mr. Barry stated there isn't one. The Switchboard Operator classification is a very old one. A few years ago we hired a new group and they were classified as Utility Operators. They all do the same job. What we've accomplished is that everyone who does the same job now has the same job title and gets the same rate of pay. In addition, we have subdivided the work force so that two people in the plant will be totally devoted to maintenance and six will be totally devoted to operations.

Mr. Doherty asked how do we stand as far as filling positions on the managerial level in the Electric Division?

Mr. Barry replied the Power Plant Superintendent is on board as of last week. We also filled the Meter Maintenance Supervisor position last week. We are now at full staffing level in the management roles. We have five vacancies in the Electric Division overall which is pretty good.

VOTE: Mrs. Papale was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 7. Consider and Approve Request to Appropriate \$145,000 to Fund State Grant #148-87-080-VA for New Equipment for the Lyman Hall Vocational Agriculture Center. Motion made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mr. Adams read the attached letter, dated April 3, 1989, from Edward Polanski to Mr. Killen.

Edward Polanski stated the Committee put together a list of equipment that we feel would be necessary. As of our last meeting the total is \$112,000. Some of this equipment would be in the building which of course we are not going to request any funds for. That's about \$10,000 that would be deleted. So if we can get \$120,000 of the grant we feel we can get the equipment that will assist the Vo-Ag people. We will only spend the amount of money that the Committee feels is necessary to help expand the program. The Town puts up the money and then we are reimbursed by the State, supposedly by 100%.

Mr. Parisi asked whatever happened with the year's extension on the building?

Mr. Polanski replied Mary Fritz submitted an amendment for a year's extension but I have no idea what the status is at this point. The non-instructional items like desks and typewriters will go through Purchasing. Educational equipment will be handled by the school system.

Mr. Adams asked once you are committed to this request is it possible to make additional requests up until the deadline of June 30?

Mr. Polanski responded if any more items come up we will put them into the request to the Vocational people and see if they approve it. The equipment list that you have has been approved and is prioritized. Even though we may have money left over we would still have to submit a request for additional items.

Mr. Bradley asked what budget will this money come out of?

Thomas Myers stated this will have to be funded through the Ordinance process.

Mr. Polanski stated in the meantime we will continue to request bids for these items.

Motion was made by Mr. Bradley to Table Item 7 until an Ordinance is prepared. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Doherty abstained; Mrs. Papale was absent; all others ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 8. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid for the Architect for the Lyman Hall Vocational Agriculture Center Expansion.

This item was withdrawn until such time the Board of Education makes a decision on the reorganization of the school system.

ITEM 10. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid to Allow Rand Associates, Ltd. to Draw Up Specifications for a New Phone System - Board of Education. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Nelson Kari stated last summer the Board of Education Finance Committee had nine companies come before them and make recommendations regarding a new phone system. Six of the companies recommended Rand Associates as a good consultant to draw up the specifications for the telephone system. We contacted Rand and they made a preliminary study. They met with a number of principals and administrators and did a field survey of the schools. You have a copy of their proposal in front of you.

Mr. Holmes asked why is a new phone system needed and do you feel it's a justified expense in light of this being a tough budget year?

Mr. Kari stated the telephone system is antiquated. It's hard to get through and the Mayor has received several complaints. Yes I feel it's justified.

Mr. Bradley asked how many lines do we have currently?

A. J. Namnoun replied there are 4 DID's (Direct Inward Dialing). Our current vendor mentioned we could probably use about 20 DID's throughout the system.

Mr. Bradley asked is there any need for data type lines for LAN type networks?

Mr. Kari replied that will be taken into consideration and is listed on Page 3, Item 6.

Mr. Adams stated I've seen the system and it is antiquated. With technology the way it is today I think it's ridiculous to have a system like that in the School System.

Mr. Zandri asked can the existing equipment be added to?

Mr. Namnoun replied yes it can, but it would be more like a patchwork quilt type of method of solving the problem. We do not feel this would be an entire solution to our problem and it would cost around \$68,000.

Mr. Zandri asked is there going to be some cost comparison between a new system and an update?

Mr. Namnoun responded we have the facts for that also before we make a decision.

Mr. Parisi asked when the vendors make their presentations did they give prices?

Mr. Namnoun replied no they did not. Half of them discussed numbers. It was a situation where they would have to spend time and money to come in and look at our system to make a firm recommendations. They gave us outlines of what they felt would satisfy our needs. Evidently it's pretty expensive for them to do the workup for a system of our size. The presentations left the entire Board totally confused. It was really beyond us. Two or three vendors recommended Rand Associates to us.

Mr. Kari stated I went to Mr. Dunleavy last summer to see if the Town had specifications made out for a phone system. He said they did not. I asked him if anyone in Town had the expertise to write the specs for a phone system. He said they did not. The phone companies that made presentations stated Rand Associates did have excellent credentials and recommended them as consultants. Rand Associates is not associated with any specific phone company.

Mr. Holmes asked is this figure of \$8,400 what it would cost the Town for Rand's consulting services?

Mr. Kari responded yes.

Mr. Namnoun stated we also spent some money on this preliminary proposal. So you're looking at \$8,400, plus expenses not to exceed 10% of the contract and approximately \$1,900 that we already spent for Rand to come down.

Mr. Kari stated we spent \$1,980 to date for Rand to do the preliminary workup for this system. Their fee is generally \$800 per day. This is the proposal that Rand came back to the Board with.

Mr. Killen stated the thing that bothers me is 7-8 years ago the Board came before us for a new phone system. The Council at that time was afraid it wouldn't take care of future needs and this has come to pass. I would hope that this outfit will see beyond the tip of their nose.

Mr. Bradley stated it seems to me that Rand already has their foot in the door for \$1,900. Would SNET or AT&T come in, without putting money out, and draw up an overall presentation to bring before the Council.

Mr. Nannoun replied they lose some of their independent objectivity because they are a vendor for equipment. We went to Rand because they are only a consultant and not a vendor of hardware. They would write the specs broad enough to include all vendors and we felt that would be the most prudent method.

Mr. Holmes stated I can appreciate the problems you're having with the phone system, but in this budget year any expenditure in excess of \$100,000 would be better served going directly to the children for programs, etc.

Mr. Killen asked what was the \$1,900 spent on?

Mr. Nannoun responded essentially this documentation. They came down and did an overview of our system. This was an outline of what they would recommend to write up bid specifications so that all the phone companies could bid on this project.

Mr. Killen stated I never heard of anyone getting paid to say I will draw up some specs. Usually they have an idea of what you want and they draw up the specs once you award them the bid. To come down first and say before I even look at the job you have to give me X number of dollars and then I'll tell you what I'll do for them if you give me the contract, I'm unfamiliar with that sort of thing.

VOTE: Mr. Bradley, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Parisi Voted No; Mr. Adams, Mr. Solinsky, Mr. Zandri and Mr. Killen Voted Yes; Mr. Doherty Abstained; Mrs. Papale was absent.

Motion Did Not Pass

(Mrs. Papale arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, thanked the Mayor for opening the doors but wanted him to open them for all meetings.

Sidney Parker, 40 South Cherry Street, stated I've been following the discussion in the newspapers regarding the pollution in Wallingford. Is there anything we can do as a community to improve the quality of the air in Wallingford?

Mr. Killen stated the short answer is there is nothing we can do.

Mr. Parker stated I find that appalling. Recently I was pumping gasoline around South Main Street where it cuts into Elm and I had to gag from fumes that were coming across Colony Street right at me. It left me with a burning sensation down in my lungs for about two hours. My daughter occasionally uses Northfield Road which cuts into South Colony near Cyanamid. On the weekend she's noticed there's something in the air there which also bothers her.

Mr. Bradley stated the Town Attorney has stated there are state regulations that do govern industry. But I would never say no there is nothing we can do. It's people like you and the other residents that bring about change because you raise concerns. The standards can be made tougher. Never accept no for an answer.

ITEM 15. PUBLIC HEARING - Small Cities Community Development Block Grant

Mrs. Papale read the attached letter, dated March 22, 1989, from Donald Roe to Bert Killen.

Donald Roe stated the proposal has been quite well covered in the media and as you are aware we did hold our first public hearing at the Railroad Station about two weeks ago. I have a one page summary of where our thoughts are to date. I would anticipate that we will come back before you in two weeks to look for approval to go forward. The deadline is April 28. The minutes of our first meeting are available and I will send them out to the Council.

Mr. Killen asked if anyone from the audience had any comments on this issue. There was no one.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to move up Item 25. Seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 25. Discuss Air Quality Around the New Resource Recovery Plant Including Dollars for Testing. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Motion was made by Mr. Zandri to proceed with Phase I of the Air Testing Program as outlined in Proposal No. 01-007-89-R1, submitted by York Services Corporation, at a cost of \$9,900. Seconded by Mr. Doherty.

Mr. Doherty stated I've asked some representatives from American Cyanamid to come here tonight and make a short presentation which I would like to do right now.

Robert Leitzman, Plant Manager-American Cyanamid, stated we're not here to oppose this sampling, in fact, I'm all for it. We'll do everything we can to cooperate. Please recognize there are some problems in any sampling program regarding analyzing the data and the samples you take. It all has to be done very carefully because if it's not done carefully it can raise more questions than it can answer.

I've read through the York proposal and everything recommended to be done has already been done around the Cyanamid plant a number of times. We've had studies by TRC Consultants in 1984, the EPA was in three times (August and

September of 1984 and February of 1985). The results of these studies were all below the Connecticut hazard limit values as well as the OSHA allowable values for industrial operations. We also did a study with four residents where we placed samplers for 30 different chemicals inside and outside the house. We found nothing that was at a high enough level to indicate there was any problem. The highest levels were in materials we don't even deal with at the plant. Most recently in July and August of 1988, O.H. Materials did a lot of work around the plant as a result of the Conrail situation. Again, they found no levels that were above any limits as far as OSHA was concerned. The State DEP reviewed this information as well as did some of their own work and found we weren't responsible for the Conrail illnesses. We have a lot of information that covers a lot of years and it is all available.

Mr. Doherty stated I'm somewhat intrigued by your comments in the paper on April 7 regarding methylene chloride. What is that and why are you phasing it out?

Mr. Leitzman replied methylene chloride is used as a solvent to cover some of our plating materials we produce. We did not start using it until 1986 in very small quantities. We're looking for another method of plating the fibers and as soon as we find that it will be phased out. In any case, we're going to phase it out by the end of the year. But that is a fairly minor part of our emissions at the plant.

We're also studying ways to limit the release of formaldehyde. We've been working for years to improve the processes to reduce formaldehyde. It causes more odors than it causes any problem in terms of health risk. We installed a formaldehyde recovery system for several million dollars so that we can pick up the formaldehyde that otherwise might go off in the form of emissions. We're now in the process of upgrading and expanding it.

Mr. Doherty asked Mr. Parker to again state the problems he had mentioned earlier.

Mr. Parker reiterated what he said during the Public Question and Answer Period.

Mr. Parker then asked it is possible there is a release of certain types of gasses from Cyanamid which are not released during the week when they can be more easily detected.

Mr. Leitzman replied when you're pumping gas you are exposed to 3,000-5,000 parts per billion of benzine which is coming out of the gasoline itself. The transient odor complaints are received at the plant and we do address them. When somebody does have a problem we ask them to please call our office and we will go out and investigate it. It doesn't matter whether it's a weekend or at night. We don't change our operation or do anything differently on the weekend that we do during the day or during the night. I can't really comment on any odors or complaints that you might have suffered. There could be any number of sources. Please give us a call when you have a problem like that so we can get right on it and hopefully identify the source of the problem.

We've had 3 or 4 odor complaints this year so far and we've investigated every one of them. One of them dealt with methyl methacrylate that does cause an odor. In very low concentrations it's detectable as an odor. But it's not harmful unless it's in very high concentrations. It's just a difference between an odor and an exposure. That is the one that probably smells more than any other one. We have taken steps to minimize this.

Some people are very sensitive to some of these chemicals even if they're not harmful. Some people can react to the odor. I sympathize with that because I too am sensitive to a number of different chemicals. It's something we're putting a great deal of money and effort into eliminating.

Mr. Doherty asked what about toluene? Could that be causing problems?

Mr. Leitzman replied we collect the toluene at the plant and burn it in a boiler. There's very little toluene that goes out of the plant in the way of emissions.

Mr. Doherty said in the paper it stated more than 2.6 million pounds are released per year with Cyanamid accounting for more than 2 million pounds. Could you break this down for us?

Mr. Leitzman replied the 2 million pounds are all emissions from the plant, water as well as air. The air is 1.1 million pounds per year. All of these emissions are within permitted limits. Of this 1.1 million methanol is the largest one; 527,000 pounds per year. Formaldehyde is 73,000 pounds per year. The paper also stated we're responsible for 80% of the pollution in Wallingford and that is far from true. The automobile emissions in Wallingford is somewhere around 31 million pounds per year. If you compare us to that we're along about 5% of the pollution in Wallingford. I'm not minimizing the problem or the fact there is a lot of pollution going on at the plant that we have to work to control. I'm just pointing it out so you keep it in perspective. If there's a gray cloud up there it's not all ours.

Mr. Doherty stated this study would not just be aimed at American Cyanamid. We are looking at that whole area and not singling out any one party or company. I think the study is necessary in light of the fact that you do have these two new plants in that area since 1984 or 1985.

Mr. Holmes stated we also have to keep in mind that one mile south of the Wallingford town line there is a heavy concentration of industry. We seem to get a lot of pollution from the surrounding towns as well.

Mr. Solinsky stated in York's proposal they state if there is any proprietary operations they may not be able to get the information from that. Does Cyanamid have any proprietary operations?

Mr. Leitzman replied as far as the emissions are concerned all that information is available through Title 313 under the SARA law. We do have proprietary operations at the plant but I don't think any of the emission data is being withheld because of that. It's all reported.

Mr. Holmes asked how do they measure how much solvents have been released?

Mr. Leitzman responded the emissions are calculated based on a material balance. You know what you get into the plant and what you have left over and the difference is what your emissions are.

Vincent Avallone, One Ashford Court, asked if Cyanamid knew methylene chloride was a cancer causing producing product why did they start using it?

Mr. Leitzman replied I cannot answer that question because I was not here at that time. I suspect it's because methylene chloride is very good at what it does. It is a permitted process and it was approved on the basis that the plant would continue to look for alternatives.

Mr. Avallone stated the fact that it's not illegal doesn't mean that someone shouldn't search for a safer method.

Mr. Leitzman replied we didn't opt to take this as compared to another process. There wasn't any other process that worked. We are currently working on one that looks like it's going to work out.

Mr. Avallone asked do you plan to do any studies to see if the emissions from Cyanamid combined with the emissions from the trash plant may be harmful? Also, do you think this is something we should be concerned about?

Mr. Leitzman replied we haven't done anything like that. I think within the scope of the work the consultant is going to do perhaps that's something they'll look at.

Mr. Doherty stated you mentioned that in the tests Cyanamid had done you came up with higher levels of other chemicals that were not related to your particular processes down there. What other chemicals were found?

Mr. Leitzman responded when I say higher chemical levels I'm talking in very low concentrations. We discovered benzine, pentane, methyl chloroform and others that are extremely low.

Mr. Killen thanked Mr. Leitzman for coming.

Mr. Zandri stated I wanted to find out if the Council was interested in starting the testing program and then come back with a waiver of bid and a transfer of funds from contingency. Proceeding with the other phases would be dependent on the report from the previous phase.

Mr. Killen stated my problem is if we go forward with Phase I and it comes back an iffy situation we're still going to have to make the decision. Tests have already been made and we don't want to accept those tests. I don't know where it's going to end.

Mr. Zandri stated my problem is the testing that has been done in the past has been specific testing for specific companies. I think what concerns most of the residents in this town is what is the accumulating effect of all the emissions. Each could pass the state standards, but what about the total. I think the only way to get a fair test is to get an independent company to do the test and analyze the air in the general vicinity down there.

Mr. Doherty stated as long as the health complaints continue we've got to keep testing. And where are these other chemicals coming from that Mr. Leitzman mentioned? I think we should set aside some of the money from the host community benefits and every so often do a test.

Mr. Zandri stated all of the previous tests were done over a period of years and we've just had another industry locate in that area that's a known polluter -- the trash plant. So tests done a year ago are not up-to-date.

Mr. Solinsky added they're also changing chemicals.

Mr. Killen stated if the tests are obsolete why are we starting with Phase I and not going on to Phase II. I would rather spend \$10,000 knowing they were testing for something than going over things that people at this table seem to think are obsolete.

Mr. Zandri replied Phase I is just a preliminary set-up on this testing to find out what is existing down there, what certain plants emit, and the tests that they would recommend knowing that certain chemicals are being emitted in that area.

Mr. Doherty stated you just can't jump into it and say we're going to test for this. You need the analysis from the first stage. You need the experts to come in here and look at all the studies that have been done and all the potential sources, old and new.

Mr. Holmes stated I don't think there's any test that will be conclusive in everyone's mind. But if the people of Wallingford want this testing I'll certainly back it.

Mayor Dickinson suggested the Council determine from York whether it's possible for them to devise testing without a full blown review of all the old tests. They would have all that information to use in devising their tests, but the question is whether we want to pay for them to evaluate it all.

Mr. Zandri replied if you want to go to Phase II that's fine with me. But I did think their recommendation to go through these phases had a certain amount of merit.

Mr. Parisi asked is it possible for us to meet with York and ask some questions?

Mr. Zandri responded I'm sure they would be happy to come down here. But I think we need some direction as to which way we want to go, Phase I or Phase II.

A straw vote of the Council was taken and it was decided to go ahead with Phase I.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Table Item 25 until the next meeting.
Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 9. Consider and Approve Increase to Board of Education Special Fund Budget for 1988-89 of \$7,115 for the State Legalization Impact Assistance Grant (SLIAG) - Board of Education. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Jay Cretella we've just been informed we've received a new grant and this is the first installment. This is connected to the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act. The intent is to provide follow-up services to those people that were granted temporary status so they would not begin to fall on our welfare rolls. If they met the conditions of being legalized temporarily, they also had to meet a further condition which was to attend at least 60 hours of class in order to become familiar with English and history and government of the United States. I would like this put in the Special Fund Budget and listed separately so there's no confusion as to how these funds are being spent. We will need a new line item.

Motion was made by Mr. Adams to Amend the Board of Education Special Fund, Revenue and Expenditure Budget in the Amount of \$7,115. Seconded by Mrs. Papale.

Mr. Holmes asked will you be putting on additional staff to handle this?

Mr. Cretella replied it involves additional hours but I'm using the same staff.

Mr. Bradley asked what is an eligible legalized alien?

Mr. Cretella responded it is the name given to those who were granted temporary status as of May 1988, those that came forward and registered. There are 50 aliens registered in the Wallingford area.

Mr. Bradley asked under Project Design, is English as a Second Language a mandatory requirement?

Mr. Cretella replied yes and it must be taught with a focus on United States history and government.

Mr. Bradley asked it also says they are referred by the Catholic Charities. How are they referred or selected?

Mr. Cretella replied when the legislation was put forth no one knew how to deal with the problem of getting the illegal alien to register. Organizations throughout the country took on the task, one of which was the Catholic Conference of Bishops. They provided funds, personnel, etc. In Connecticut Catholic Charities and the International Institute in Bridgeport were the two organizations in our state that took on this task. They are now the ones who will make the referrals to us from the cities listed in the grant.

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, stated we should not be starting new programs.

VOTE: Mr. Doherty abstained; Mr. Parisi and Mr. Solinsky were absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 11. Consider and Authorize Mayor to Sign a Lease of Town Owned Property Located on Wharton Brook Drive for Use by Wallingford Community Day Care Center.

Mayor Dickinson stated this item has been withdrawn.

ITEM 12. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid for Traffic Consultant for Oakdale Center Project - Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mrs. Papale read the attached letter, dated April 5, 1989, from Linda Bush to Mayor Dickinson.

Linda Bush stated I received replies from four engineering firms and I recommend the Town hire Greiner Engineering. They are a Wallingford firm and we used them to do the traffic study at Townline Square. They were the second lowest bid at \$2,000. The gentleman that had the lowest bid is not from Wallingford and I am not that familiar with him.

Mr. Doherty stated last night we heard a presentation from Oakdale Center and they said they would be making \$1.5 million worth of road improvements. This is a major undertaking in that particular area. I think we should have our experts in place on this and it's money well spent.

Mr. Zandri asked will we have more control over the Oakdale recommendations by their traffic study because of the road it sits on.

Linda Bush replied we have control over all development technically. We might have a little more over this because the road out in front is town road. We want to make sure the road network can handle it in a safe and efficient manner. They have given us a traffic study with a great deal of proposed road improvements. The major one being a new interchange onto Wilbur Cross. No one at the town level has the expertise to assess whether they will work or even if the State will allow it. The purpose of this study is to give the Town a second opinion on what kind of traffic to expect on Hartford Turnpike if the P&Z approves the proposal.

Linda Bush stated the transfer would come from one of my salary accounts. I have a part-time clerk who is on social security and she doesn't want a raise. When the 1183 contract was settled money was transferred into this account to pay for raises. I don't have to give her one so I have money in that line. This is the only account I have any money in.

Mr. Killen asked is the request before you a request for a zoning change or a site plan?

Linda Bush replied it's for a special permit and site plan.

Mr. Killen asked are you familiar with the number of changes that have occurred down there in the last 25 years with that one parcel of land. If we come forward with this money, will they go forward with their plans? I don't want to spend the money if they are not sincere in their plans.

Linda Bush replied I can't guarantee that. My major concern is the office use not the theater use. The office will generate peak hour traffic when most people are on the roads.

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, stated I'm against that whole thing over there.

VOTE: Mr. Bradley voted no; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Waive Rule V for the purpose of making a transfer of \$2,000 for Item 12. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Transfer \$2,000 from Part-Time Clerical Acct. No. 7010-100-1350 to Professional Services-Traffic Study Oakdale Center Acct. No. 7010-900-9050. Seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Mr. Bradley voted no; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Move Up Items 21, 22, 23 and 24. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 21. Consider and Approve Additional Appointments to the Wallingford Recycling Committee. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mrs. Papale read the attached letter, dated April 3, 1989, from Mr. Parisi to Mr. Killen.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to nominate Walter Mordarski and David Adams. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 22. Consider and Approve Three Council Members to be Appointed to a Committee to Help Determine the Future Configuration of the Wallingford Public School System - Requested by Board of Education. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Mrs. Papale read the attached letter, dated March 31, 1989, from Robert Nicoletti to Mr. Killen.

Mr. Zandri and Mr. Adams volunteered. Mr. Killen volunteered Mr. Holmes who is also on the Educational Liaison Committee.

VOTE: Mr. Doherty abstained; Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 23. Consider and Approve Appointments to the Ad Hoc Committee for the Proposed Reorganization and Relocation of WPL-TV. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mayor Dickinson nominated Richard Nunn and Mark Velardi.

The Council nominated Robert Parisi, Stuart Palmer and Audrey Dibbern.

The Library Board of Managers nominated Mary Lou Williams, Bob Carmody and Richard Gaulin.

Mr. Killen stated we are short one name from the Council, but we'll start the Committee with the names presented. Mr. Killen named Dick Nunn as temporary chairman to call the first meeting.

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, stated he thought WPL-TV should stay at the Library.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 24. Consider and Approve Appointment of Peter Scott to the Inland/Wetland Commission for a 5 Year Term. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 16. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid for New Telephone System - Water and Sewer Division. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Roger Dann stated as a result of more discussions between ourselves and SNET, we now recommend only a 48 month lease purchase option rather than the 84 month lease purchase option. We've also been able to trim some costs from the system and feel we can fit the monthly payments for a 48 month lease into our budget. That would result in considerable savings over the life of the lease. The original purchase price would be \$14,168.

Mr. Holmes asked how many proposals did you elicit?

Mr. Dann replied we spoke with three firms, SNET, AT&T and Isotech. We are recommending the middle proposal of the three. With Isotech we felt we were not getting the same quality that we would get with the Merlin 2 system. Also, there were some complications particularly in the area of the transition where we would have to coordinate the changeover between the firm supplying the hardware and SNET to actually make the changeover. This also complicates the issue of system maintenance. If there is a problem, we wouldn't know who to contact first, the equipment supplier or SNET.

We have to replace the existing system because we've outgrown the capacity. We have 4 phone lines and at this time we need a minimum of 5 and probably would have to expand beyond that in the future.

Mrs. Papale asked is the phone system at Town Hall and the Merlin 2 system compatible?

Mr. Dann replied if in the future there was a desire to make our system function as a satellite to the Town Hall that would be possible from the perspective of the compatibility of the equipment. However, I am not sure the Town Hall system was set up with us in mind and that sufficient additional room is allocated in that system to handle the Water and Sewer Division offices.

Mr. Bradley asked who drew up the specifications?

Mr. Dann responded we didn't draw up any specific specifications. This is the same system the Electric Division has and we used that as a starting point for evaluating our needs and the capabilities of the system. We looked for systems that were similar in terms of features and abilities.

Mr. Bradley asked what is the future capacity growth of the system as far as lines?

Mr. Dann replied this system would initially be set up to handle up to eight lines. It can be expanded up to 56 lines.

Mr. Bradley stated your current vendor is SNET. Is there savings by using SNET with equipment, lines and whatever you currently have versus going to another vendor?

Mr. Dann replied there could be depending on the vendor. SNET will use the existing wiring in our building to the extent possible. Other companies may attempt to do that but it depends on the philosophy of the individual firm. By using the existing wiring we were able to reduce the system price by \$2,000.

Mr. Zandri asked have there been discussions regarding expanding the Town Hall phone system to use down there.

Mr. Dann responded I'm not aware of any discussion or intent in that regard. However, if that were ever a desire on the part of Town at least we would be compatible with it.

Mr. Zandri asked do some our field offices go through the town now?

NOTE: TAPE RECORDED OVER AT THIS POINT

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Table Item 16 until the next Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Solinsky voted no; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 17. Consider and Approve Waiver of Bid to Obtain Consulting Services to Write Specifications for Computer System - Water and Sewer Division. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 18. Consider and Approve Budget Amendment for the Water Division: \$7,500 Increase to Prior Retained Earnings and Increase Unappropriated Balance to Provide Funds for Settlement with Hogan Construction. Motion made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes and Mr. Parisi were absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Establish a New Account Entitled Hillhouse Avenue Settlement Costs for the Water Division. Seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes and Mr. Parisi were absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment for the Water Division: \$7,500 Increase to Hillhouse Avenue Settlement Costs Acct. No. 342-089 and Decrease Unappropriated Balance. Seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes and Mr. Parisi were absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

NOTE: TAPE PICKS UP AT THIS POINT

Mr. Killen recognized Bill Celata for his efforts to save a Wallingford resident's life yesterday.

Mr. Holmes recommended that Frank Adams set something up with the Board of Education and the Board of Education Liaison Committee to discuss their phone problems and see if we can come to some kind of mutually agreed upon conclusion.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Waive Rule V to Consider Transfers for the Fire Department. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Approve Transfer of \$4,000 from Physical Exams Acct. No. 001-2033-500-5760 to Contingency-New Yalesville Fire Station Acct. No. 029-2900-600-6530.

Mayor Dickinson interrupted and said that transfer has been altered. Our bond counsel indicates that adding money to a bonded project is not a proper approach. The alternative is to authorize the use of \$4,000 out of the Construction Contingency account for items to finish the station. As I understand it, we will have \$27,000 held in reserve because of problems with the contractor. Over and above that is an additional \$7,000 in contingency. The purpose of this is to allow the Volunteers to finish what hasn't been done and therefore allow them to occupy the station. I think they should provide a list of what they want to do for the \$4,000 and the items that were not included within the construction price should be indicated. These items would be add-ons and should be separated.

Chief McElfish stated this has been going on for two years now. We met with the Town Attorney last week and we thought it possible that we may go over the

amount that was appropriated if the change-orders that the contractor has submitted is approved. We don't feel they will be, but the Town Attorney advised me that he couldn't approve us going ahead and doing these repairs until we get the additional money.

Tom Myers stated if there is \$4,000 available in the Contingency account under the Yalesville Fire Station no transfer or action is necessary by the Town Council. The Yalesville Building account is a capital construction appropriation authorized by ordinance and the line item breakdown is within the jurisdiction and control of the Building Committee itself. If there is \$4,000 available, the Town Council does not need to take any action but simply should be advised that \$4,000 is going to be expended to make whatever corrections are necessary in order to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy.

Mr. Killen asked does anyone know that \$4,000 exists?

Chief McElfish stated yes it does. We didn't want to over expend any money and that is why the Town Attorney advised us to do it this way. We're just trying to find out how we can get these items done legally.

Mr. Killen asked do we know we have \$4,000 over and above what the contractor is seeking in increases for change orders?

Chief McElfish replied no. He wants \$41,000 in change orders.

Mr. Killen stated if he wins through arbitration where's the \$4,000 going to come from. If we approve it, we're stuck with it. You have to guarantee there's \$4,000 free and clear.

Ed Mik stated this has been a constant battle from the day we started. There is work under the contract that he has not completed which he says he has completed. There are change orders he has put in for totaling \$41,000, but the work was either not completed or never done. There are also credits that should be coming back to the town for items not completed or damaged. We made a punch list and the contractor said he was going to complete these items. He did not. We could be talking 2-3 years before this gets settled. We want to get this building completed so we can occupy the building.

Mr. Killen stated if this is not coming before us for any action, it's entirely up to you people. But if you commit yourself to spending the \$4,000, under our Charter you are liable for it. Please be aware of that. I'll give you a verbal blessing but I certainly wouldn't enter into the act.

Mr. Mik stated the Building Committee feels if this went to arbitration we would come out ahead on this. This building should have been completed in July.

Mr. Killen stated well you need no further action from us. If you have money in your Contingency fund, your Building Committee is empowered to spend those dollars. Later on if it gets to arbitration and we lose, you can always come back to whoever is sitting on the Council and plead your cause.

Mayor Dickinson stated the worst case scenario is the \$27,000 being paid to the contractor plus an additional \$41,000 in change orders. We already face that. We're also faced with a building that sits vacant while we pay all the utilities and maintenance on another building. The purpose of the building is to be used by the Volunteers. I think there is a definite municipal interest in having that building used and selling the old building. However, I don't think any items that were not part of the specifications for construction originally should be included within the expenditures on this. We can amend the ordinance and include the additional items, but we cannot authorize the use of contingency on items that were not originally approved.

Mr. Mik stated the Building Committee has looked at it from day one that if we have forgotten something in the plans we will go ahead and use the contingency funds. I think we just wanted to let you know the situation we're in right now and that we may be back.

Chief McElfish stated the work required to get into the building to meet the Certificate of Occupancy requirements would be around \$350.

Mayor Dickinson stated I think it would be appropriate for the Council to make a motion to authorize the use of the Contingency funds. But I don't think it would be appropriate to include items that were not part of the original project. We will have to amend the ordinance for that. I do think it is proper for the Council to take note of this problem and allow the Volunteers to use the money to see that they get into the building, recognizing that after arbitration we could have a deficit issue. That could happen anyway if all the questions go against us.

Mr. Killen stated we don't have to approve any of the money they spend out of contingency. They have free rein to it.

Mayor Dickinson stated the purpose here was in part to make sure everyone was informed of what the issue is.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Approve Transfer of \$2,000 from Physical Exams Acct. No. 001-2033-500-5760 to Utilities (Yalesville) Acct. No. 001-2039-200-2010. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

Chief McElfish stated we're paying utilities on two buildings.

Ed Mik stated this is one of the items that, by contract, is supposed to be paid by the contractor. We're going to fight for reimbursement from the contractor on this.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Appropriate \$4,000 from Physical Exams Acct. No. 001-2033-500-5760 to Worker Compensation Replacement Acct. No. 2032-100-1630. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Mr. Bradley and Mr. Doherty voted no; Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Mr. Bradley stated I would hope we get better communications and planning on these transfers to drop this stuff on this Council at this late hour. There's no excuse for this.

ITEM 19. Presentation for Length of Service Award Program for the Volunteer Firefighters.

Mrs. Papale stated I requested this for a few reasons. I think when anything is brought to our attention as Council people we should really check into it. Mr. Wall has been in touch with me and this has been put in our budget. I couldn't imagine the Council going through the budget and looking at the money put towards this without really knowing what it was all about. Mr. Wall consented to give us a presentation. This is a good way for us to learn first hand about the program.

Tim Wall stated we will give a brief introduction of what we've done, we have a video tape, we have some people from the public that would like to speak and we will field questions from the Council. You each have a black folder which contains information I received today along with some correspondence. Our Committee has been working for 1 1/2 years to obtain information throughout the state and country on an awards program for volunteer firefighters. We talked with fire chiefs, public officials, representatives from insurance companies and other agencies.

Bill McGovern stated all the programs we looked at so far have 4 basic components: 1) a monthly stipend which you receive after a set number of active years, 2) disability insurance, 3) life insurance and 4) some sort of workmen's compensation. A point system will determine who will receive these benefits. Points will be awarded for call attendance, training attendance, monthly business meeting attendance or department functions such as fundraisers or open houses. We will determine the point system at a later date.

Mrs. Papale asked who would be in charge of the point system?

Mr. Wall replied the Training Officer or the Fire Chief of the volunteer companies, along with the assistance of Chief McElfish.

Mr. Parisi asked are you proposing a specific plan tonight or are you open to suggestions.

Mr. Wall responded we're just giving a presentation of what we found, what we obtained and who we talked to.

A video tape was shown at this time.

Mike Saul stated I've been involved with the volunteers for about 20 years and I think the time has come where we have to give serious consideration to a way of enhancing the overall quality of our volunteer fire service. The training levels we expect of our personnel far exceed what we expected 5-10 years ago. We set goals for volunteers and they should be just as well trained as their career counterparts. We want them to become Emergency Medical Technicians. We look at some of our older members of our service and we make him an honorary

retired member. Somehow a plaque and thank you seems inadequate. I think a length of service award program will help attract new members. It's working in other towns and I think it can work here.

Edward Mik, 416 Main Street, stated I believe this program is one of the many tools we need to attract volunteers. The State of Connecticut has recently recognized there is going to be a problem with volunteers in the future. Comments have been made that if we come before you and ask for this to be funded the next thing you know the library volunteers will be coming before you for the same thing. I had a library problem last night at three in the morning - nobody answered the phone.

Ken Creed stated this is a very serious thing that this committee is asking and please give it a lot of consideration. There's a lot of bugs that have to be worked out but we have to start some place.

Bill Celata stated we expect a lot from these people. We take them away from their homes during dinner, holidays, family gatherings, etc. After awhile they ask why should I keep doing this. A program like this would give them the incentive to keep going and to serve.

Jay Woron stated the 1985-1986 Annual Fire Report states, "The Town of Wallingford is extremely fortunate to have over 150 volunteers who serve the 4 volunteer fire departments. It is conservatively estimated that the Town saves over \$1.5 million annually in personnel costs by these dedicated and trained firefighters." This is three years later so I'm sure the savings is much more. If you compare the cost of the program to what the Town is saving, I'm sure it is well worth it.

Mr. Solinsky asked would this be retroactive for the service the volunteers put in?

Mr. Wall responded it could be looked into.

Mr. Adams asked are you going to set up a committee to look into the specifics? Are you going to initiate the program next year or are you going to build in money for a period of five years to build up some sort of a balance?

Mr. Wall replied we recommend a fund be started in the amount of \$20,000; \$5,000 in each volunteer fire department. We would like two Council people, Chief McElfish, a representative from each volunteer fire company and 2-3 people from the public to sit on a committee and establish a program. Tom Radcliff of Volunteer Firemen's Insurance estimated the program will cost \$39,700 for the first year. This includes 115 members at \$150 per month at the retirement age of 65, rewarding all the volunteers for past service, and a \$10,000 life insurance policy which is in effect at all times. They would come in and set up the entire program.

Mr. Zandri asked is this a fixed cost from year to year?

Mr. Wall replied Mr. Radcliff said your first cost would be your highest.

Mr. Adams stated so you would be setting this up as an investment fund for the pension. In five or ten years the interest will pay off the people who are receiving the benefits and you'll still have the money in there working to continue the program without additional funding.

Mr. Parisi asked is there any history on other plans as far as whether they become more expensive or less expensive over the years?

Mike Saul replied if you do not increase the benefits at certain intervals, such as raising the amount of retirement to be granted or lowering the retirement age it is conceivable you could reduce your funding input. The only reason you would have an increase is because it's successful. We're looking at 120 people now. We'd like to have 150.

Mr. Bradley asked what is the average stay for a volunteer today?

Chief McElfish replied it's usually around 4-5 years and that's when they become a very active part of your organization. We spend a lot of time and effort to retain our volunteers.

Mr. Bradley asked how would you handle disputes?

Mr. Wall replied it would probably be handled between the fire chief of the volunteer department and Chief McElfish with a representative to oversee this.

Mr. Doherty asked is that your goal, to try to get to 150 men? What happens if after 10 years of trying this particular program, you're still at 115 or less?

Chief McElfish replied if we still have 115 people in 10 years, you're going to have a very active fire department. The problem is what's going to happen if we don't have the program, we lose people and we get down to 10-15 people. That has happened in a lot of other communities. The main purpose of this is to maintain what we've got.

Mr. Zandri asked has there been any consideration by the volunteers on some sort of matching funding? A certain amount of money is put in by the volunteers and then the town would match that.

Mr. Wall replied that has not been looked at by this committee.

Mr. Saul stated I would never ask an active member of my fire company, that put's in the hours that he does, to contribute to his benefit program.

Mrs. Papale asked what exactly is the \$20,000 going to be a start of? What would that \$20,000 do to start this program and how long before this program would be in full force?

Mr. Wall replied the program would start January 1. If we establish a program and find out it's going to cost \$40,000, that's half the fiscal year. Then we would have to come back for more funding. We're seeking \$20,000. If you want to give us \$30,000, we'll be glad to take it.

Mrs. Papale thanked the volunteers for their presentation and for staying so late.

Mr. Wall stated we have started other programs to retain and recruit volunteer firefighters. We started the Volunteer Firemen's Association, we have a Chief who includes us in decision-making of our volunteer firehouses, and we have established an annual awards program where we honor a volunteer firefighter for his or her activity for that year or past years. When we looked for a program we did not set out to reinvent the wheel. We found out what was available and what was accessible. We are asking you to consider the \$20,000 funding for a program. We are asking you to establish a committee to look into this and make the final decisions. We would like you to look at the overall program. Don't just look at one issue or statement, but the entire package. This is a retaining program, a rewarding program and an attraction program. It is recommended that you have funding in place before the program is actually started. It is also recommended that you go with an outside agency.

Mr. Wall thanked the Council for the opportunity to present the program. He then stated the Committee would be available to answer any questions at a later date also.

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, suggested this be discussed a long time before starting the program. There's too many questions left unanswered. He felt this would increase the burden on the taxpayers.

Vincent Avallone, One Ashford Court, asked what benefits do the volunteers have now?

Mr. Wall stated we receive insurance if someone becomes injured or killed at the scene.

Vincent Avallone asked are you covered by Workmen's Compensation and what are the benefits based on?

Mr. Wall replied yes we are covered.

Chief McElfish stated the volunteers have the same Workmen's Compensation benefits as any town employee.

Mayor Dickinson replied I believe this is based upon employment. This is true for the auxiliary policemen also.

Mr. Avallone asked is disability included in this insurance policy? Does the person have to be disabled while fighting a fire?

Chief McElfish stated if a person becomes disabled anywhere he would still be carried as an active volunteer and would qualify for the award program.

Mr. Avallone stated I'm certainly in support of you guys getting something, but I don't think enough has been presented here for anything to be voted on.

Mr. Killen stated this is just a presentation.

ITEM 26. Discussion and Possible Action on Council's Participation in Negotiations Regarding Wallingford's Host Community Agreement with Members of the Local Trash Plant Project. Motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mr. Zandri read the attached resolution into the record.

Motion was made by Mr. Zandri to adopt this Resolution which would establish a Negotiating Team which would include the Mayor and any Council Members who indicate a willingness to participate. The Negotiating Team would report to the Full Council which would have the final authority in deciding what action the town would take regarding any agreements with respect to CRRA, the landfill and the other four towns in the Wallingford Resource Recovery Project. Seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mayor Dickinson stated I really don't think this is workable. As you know only certain people are eligible to be in the Policy Board meetings. In addition, much of the discussion does not occur at a meeting. Thus far we've had no indication from most of the other communities what they're going to do. It's just not a formal negotiating session. I don't know how something like this would be effective and also, I don't think there's a unified viewpoint on the Council. How do we present something to other towns when everyone's got a different view? Ultimately, whatever the final position is, or whatever looks to be the final position, the Council is going to see it. If people don't like it, they'll disapprove it. But I don't know how you can have nine people go in and even pretend to have a position that the other towns could understand.

Mrs. Papale stated my first question is would it be allowed?

Mayor Dickinson replied I don't believe that's possible. These are Executive Sessions and I represent Wallingford and Bert Killen is my designated alternate. Under the current Policy Board there's only one designated alternate and Executive Sessions only include specified people.

Mrs. Papale stated I can understand the frustration of the Council because we only know what's going on by reading the paper. If I went to your office after one of these Executive Sessions, would you be able to answer my questions or fill me in as a Council member?

Mayor Dickinson replied I generally have told you. Right now I don't know any more than you people know other than I have a letter from CRRA, which I'll distribute, and I'd be interested in your response to the letter. And I'd be happy to go over these items in Executive Session, but we had a go around about that earlier in the year and there was resistance to holding an Executive Session where everyone could talk.

Mrs. Papale stated if we had an Executive Session after every time you attended a Policy Board meeting, maybe that would be a start of us knowing what's going on. There are six items on here. If we sat down and discussed these with you and told you exactly what we thought as a majority, wouldn't you go there and . . .

Mr. Killen interrupted and said what's going on there is almost nothing. Nothing is going to happen as long as we keep doing what we're attempting to do this evening. The other side is sitting there waiting for us to make up our mind as to what the heck do you want.

Mr. Parisi stated maybe we could present a united front if we could reach some sort of a consensus back here between the Mayor and the Council.

Mr. Killen stated I've put everything on the agenda having to do with this plant that's been requested of me. So you can't say that nobody has had an opportunity to say what we want. The items have been on the agenda and they've been discussed pro and con. We're not getting anywhere.

Mr. Zandri stated one of things that concerns me is we don't have a united front. That's one of the goals I would like to accomplish which is to have a meeting in Executive Session so that we can go up there with an idea that everybody agrees with. I feel a lot of time has been wasted. They're finally going to come to an agreement up in Hartford, it's going to come back here, and we're going to reject it. We'll be right back where we were four months ago. Unless we can agree on a strategy from this end I think we're just wasting our time.

Mayor Dickinson stated I couldn't agree more. We should sit down and find out what the majority view is and look for those benefits. I think that's great. That's a little different than trying to go as a group and negotiate. But I certainly think a common ground position could be hammered out and then we go with that. But to date I don't think there was a willingness to hold an Executive Session and do that.

Mr. Zandri stated I haven't heard there was any unwillingness.

Mr. Bradley stated back in November or December I put together a proposal which came before this Council and got voted down. Also at that time I think I alluded to the Mayor and the Council that we should get together and work on coming up with a united front. There's been nothing.

Mayor Dickinson replied Ed you were the one who prevented the Executive Session. The very purpose of that Executive Session was to review this whole issue and what had been told us by CRRA and what the Town should do. You were one of the ones who prevented the Executive Session. Don't turn around now and tell me, "oh nothing's been done". That was why we had to have all the individual meetings thereafter.

Mr. Bradley replied I did not prevent that Executive Session. What I said was I would not relinquish my rights to challenge that. I did not vote yes, I did not vote no. So don't say that I prevented it.

Mayor Dickinson stated now we're dealing with semantics. Wasn't it your position that resulted in the Council adjourning that evening?

Mr. Bradley replied no, my Chairman adjourned it.

Mayor Dickinson asked but wasn't it your position that resulted in the Council adjourning?

Mr. Bradley replied it was my Chairman's interpretation.

Mayor Dickinson stated we're dealing with semantics. Regardless of who you want to place the blame on, the result was we couldn't hold an Executive Session. So don't turn around and say nothing's happened as if someone else has failed.

Mr. Zandri asked can we have an Executive Session, is there any problem with having an Executive Session on this?

Mayor Dickinson replied I think we can schedule an Executive Session for the next meeting. You can digest the letter you have there and we'll go over where things stand. I don't know anymore than you know except for that letter. But I have to ask that we don't end up with all this going right to the public and having discussions of it. If CRRA wants to make it a public issue or some other town does, then fine. But it's not in our interest to go running out and telling the press what all the details are. It will all get picked apart by a variety of interests that are just waiting to do it.

Mrs. Papale asked if in Executive Session we came up with a few ideas that a majority of the Council would like to have discussed at your Policy Board meeting, would you be willing to go up there with that even if you didn't agree?

Mayor Dickinson replied I am willing to present the view from the Town that will get a majority support. But that means majority--that means everyone's probably going to compromise some.

Vincent Avallone, One Ashford Court, stated I've heard Mr. Killen's position for a long time that we shouldn't even try to get anything other than what was originally contracted for. I don't know if that's changed now, but that bothered me a great deal. I also felt that was the position of the Mayor. I felt the Mayor was doing whatever negotiating for this Town that was going on and it seems like there wasn't any negotiating going on. I don't consider negotiating waiting for a proposal from CRRA.

Mr. Killen replied it's never been my position that we should never get any more than that. My position had been that legally that's all we're entitled to. It's only recently that CRRA has said things have changed and they will not try to hold us to what was there.

Mr. Avallone stated right now there's proposals above and beyond what we were entitled to through contract. I don't think this Council or the Mayor had anything to do with that. I think there was strong opposition.

Mayor Dickinson stated it was Vicon's bankruptcy that has made it possible.

Mr. Avallone stated even after Vicon's bankruptcy your position was the same. I never heard the Mayor up until recently. I think this entire Council has been remiss in not seeking information from the Mayor. And if nothing has been going on up at those Policy Board meetings then shame on you.

Mr. Parisi stated if we can agree to have an Executive Session then that's a major step for everyone. I wonder if it's wise at this point to start pointing fingers when we're trying to move forward.

Mr. Avallone asked is the Mayor bound by the decision of the majority of the Council?

Mayor Dickinson replied I've answered that question before and I'm not going to repeat my answer. I represent the Town and I will do so to the best of my ability.

Mr. Parisi stated I hope we go into that meeting and there will be a lot of give and take. And I hope that when the meeting is over a very firm majority will have spoken and I would hope there would be parameters where a prudent diligent person speaking for the Town will be able to work within.

Mr. Avallone asked if there is a counter proposal do you expect the Mayor to come back with that proposal to you or do you say we have given you our opinion now do whatever you want in the heat of negotiations?

Mr. Adams stated the Mayor said a couple of minutes ago that he wanted to bring up the majority feeling of the Town.

Mr. Killen stated my understanding of negotiating is you sit down and try to reach an agreement on something. You don't go up there saying my town sent me up here and this is what they want, no more no less. That is not negotiating. Common sense would say the Mayor would come back with the counter proposal. That's what he's been doing all along. One thing you fail to realize is they're not just interested in what Wallingford wants. These meetings have to do with hiring Ogden Martin, the problems that are going on, etc. There's a lot more that goes on there that concerns the entire 5 towns as an entity—not just what Wallingford wants down here.

Mr. Avallone stated I've disagreed all along with what you've asked for for this town and I'm afraid you're going to settle for less. My fear is that you guys don't even care enough to see to it that your proposal is made and that any counters come back to you. I hope it doesn't happen.

Mr. Zandri stated I will withdraw my motion with the understanding that we will have an Executive Session at our next meeting dealing with this topic.

Motion Was Withdrawn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 a.m.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:
Katrina M. Manley, Council Secretary

Approved:

Albert E. Killen, Chairman

Date

Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

Date