



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
TOWN OF WALLINGFORD
CONNECTICUT

WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.
MAYOR

May 18, 1989

Wallingford Town Council
Wallingford, CT 06492

ATTN: Albert Killen, Chairman

Dear Council Members:

Pursuant to Chapter III, Section 7 of the Charter of the Town of Wallingford, I hereby disapprove the Budget Ordinance approved by the Town Council at its meeting on May 9, 1989. I do not take this action out of disrespect or disregard for the Council and its hours of effort in reviewing the budget. Likewise, I do not take this action out of a belief that the additional \$649,147 approved by the Council will be wasted by governmental departments. I believe that all parties in the budgetary process intend to improve services and expand capabilities.

Unfortunately, it is not a time to expand capabilities. I believe it is necessary to resist the expansion of operational budgets until such time as the economy, revenues from state government, and revenues from the Wallingford GrandList adequately support such expansion. Our community is not receiving increases in revenue from sources other than local property taxation proportionate to requested increases in the Town budget. The proposed budget contains an increase of 7.1% for General Government, and an 11.8% increase in the Education budget. We cannot responsibly reduce expenditures below those amounts. Likewise, at this time we should not increase the budget in excess of those amounts.

With reference to the Education budget, there is great uncertainty regarding what action will be taken by the General Assembly on the Governor's proposed budget. If the General Assembly approves less money for grants to municipalities, we may have additional problems. If the General Assembly approves more money for grants to municipalities, I will recommend that funds so available will be appropriated to the Board of Education. In addition, we are confronted by capital

projects which are not funded in the 1989-90 Town budget. The cost of reorganization, the need to provide classrooms, has not been quantified and does not appear in the budget. Costs for public school roof replacement and handicapped accessibility, which will total approximately 4 million dollars, are also not funded in the 1989-90 budget. We will be obligated to appropriate funds for these projects during the next fiscal year after costs are defined. Our 1989-90 budget should not consume funds for operating costs when we are faced with both the funding of these capital projects and a reduced revenue stream.

The 1989-90 budget contains the budgets for our utilities including the Wallingford Electric Division. I do not agree with appropriating an additional \$145,000 from the Electric Division to General Government in order to supplement our revenues. Funds appropriated from the utility to General Government should adhere to the guidelines developed by the Town Auditors. Increases in appropriations should follow a 5% formula as illustrated in the auditors' five year cash analysis in order not to adversely affect capital projects of the Electric Division or force an increase in the electric rates.

For the reasons set forth above, I disapprove the 1989-90 Town of Wallingford budget as approved by the Town Council.

Respectfully,

William W. Dickinson, Jr.

William W. Dickinson, Jr.
Mayor

jms

5/18/89

5:45 PM

Kathryn Wall

RECEIVED ON FILE MAY 18 1989
AT 5:45 P.M.
ATTEST *Kathryn Wall*
TOWN CLERK

SPECIAL MEETING

WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, June 6, 1989

7:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approve Waiving of Bidding Procedure to Permit Emergency Purchase of Pump Motor for Durham Road Pump Station and Transfer of Funds to cover cost of Pump Motor.
3. Submission of Final Report to the Town Council by the Committee to Investigate the Computer Purchase and Purchasing Practices of the Board of Education.