

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 1997

6:30 P.M.

AGENDA

Blessing - Margaret Jay, Interim Associate Minister of the First Congregational Church of Wlfd.

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#288-303) Totalling \$5,234.31 - Tax Collector
 - b. Note for the Record Mayoral Transfers Approved to Date
 - c. Note for the Record Anniversary Increases (1) Approved by the Mayor to Date
 - d. Consider and Approve the Potential Use of the Parade Grounds by Wallingford Center, Inc. on June 8, 1997 as a Rain Date for their Country Craft Show Scheduled for June 7, 1997
 - e. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of \$2,992 to the Revenues Highway Safety Grant Acct. and to Expenditures Police Overtime Acct. - Dept. of Police Services
 - f. Approve and Accept the Minutes of the February 25, 1997 Town Council Meeting
3. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda
4. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD
5. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,645 from Contingency - Reserve for Emergency Acct. to Overtime Acct. - Animal Control Officer
6. Consider and Approve a Change in the Scope of Renovations to the Training Building at Central Fire Headquarters to Include the Addition of a Burn Room - Dept. of Fire Services
7. Report Out by the Mayor on the Status of the Sale of Town-Owned Property in Durham Which was the Proposed Site of a Municipal Golf Course as Requested by Councilor G. Tom Zappala

8. Consider and Approve Reclassification of the Water Quality Inspector Position within the Water Division - Personnel
9. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(5) and 1-19(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Personnel
10. Consider and Approve an Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and the Wallingford Management Union Local 17 of the CT. Independent Labor Union for the Term of 1997-2000 - Personnel
11. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$24,430 from Contingency - General Government Acct. to Various Salary Accounts within the Budget of the Town of Wallingford - Personnel
12. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$1,420 to Town of Wallingford Contribution Acct. and to the Youth Service Bureau Wages Acct. - Personnel

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 1997

6:30 P.M.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA

13. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(2) of the CT. General Statutes With Respect to Pending Litigation - Town Attorney's Office

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 1997

6:30 P.M.

SUMMARY

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Addendum

13. Executive Session - 1-18a(e)(2) - Pending Litigation 14-15

Waiver of Rule V

Approve Authorizing the Town Attorney's Office to
Settle a Lawsuit Against Highway Specialist and Bernard
C. Russo in Accordance with the Dollar Figure as
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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 1997

6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, March 11, 1997 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to order by Chairman Robert F. Parisi at 6:34 P.M. All Councilors answered present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Rosemary A. Rascati. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Assistant Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. were also present. Comptroller Thomas A. Myers was absent from the meeting.

A blessing was bestowed upon the Council by Margaret Jay, Interim Associate Minister of the First Congregational Church of Wallingford.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

Mr. Parisi extended congratulations to Gabriella Molluzza, Lauren Oaks and Courtney Ireland, students of Mark T. Sheehan High School, Choate Rosemary Hall and Lyman Hall High School, respectively, recently nominated as ambassadors representing each of their schools in Wallingford at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation Connecticut Leadership Seminar.

ITEM #2 Consent Agenda

ITEM #2a Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#288-303) Totalling \$5,234.31 - Tax Collector

ITEM #2b Note for the Record Mayoral Transfers Approved to Date

ITEM #2c Note for the Record Anniversary Increases (1) Approved by the Mayor to Date

ITEM #2d Consider and Approve the Potential Use of the Parade Grounds by Wallingford Center, Inc. on June 8, 1997 as a Rain Date for their Country Craft Show Scheduled for June 7, 1997

ITEM #2e Consider and Approve an Appropriation of \$2,992 to the Revenues Highway Safety Grant Acct. and to Expenditures Police Overtime Acct. - Dept. of Police Services

ITEM #2f Approve and Accept the Minutes of the February 25, 1997 Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Approve the Consent Agenda as Presented, seconded by Mr. Centner.

ITEM #3 Withdrawn

ITEM #4 PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked if there has been any change to the plan of not televising P.U.C. meetings?

Mr. Parisi responded that David Gessert, P.U.C. Chairman has taken the position that this is not the time to do it. The P.U.C. is changing the start time of its meetings to begin later.

Mr. Melillo asked if televising the meeting will put a strain on the budget of the Government Access Television department?

Mayor Dickinson responded that there are personnel and budgetary concerns. The schedule of meetings handled by the Government Access crew currently is very taxing to the staff. Another issue is the location of the meetings in relation to the cameras and equipment involved.

Mr. Melillo suggested rotating the schedule of televising ZBA, P&Z and P.U.C. meetings. Give each group a turn easing constraints.

Mayor Dickinson will consider Mr. Melillo's suggestion.

Mr. Melillo asked if there are any new developments in the area of our power supply situation with Northeast Utilities?

Mr. Parisi informed everyone that a special meeting of the Town Council will be held on Thursday, March 20, 1997, 6:30 P.M. at which time the director of Public Utilities will report out on the status of deregulation as one of the topics of discussion that evening.

Frank Wasilewski, 57 N. Orchard Street disagreed with the Mayor regarding televising the P.U.C. Meetings. He feels the service would benefit the community. On a separate matter he congratulated the Fire Chief for the lack of transfers from the Tires & Tubes line item account within the Fire Department's budget.

Mario Tolla, 69 Pond Hill Road congratulated the Parks & Recreation Department upon achieving their goal of moving into Fairfield Boulevard. He thanked Thomas Dooley, Director of Parks & Recreation for an excellent job. Although the site still does not meet Mr. Tolla's idea of the ideal location for a youth center, he did commend all involved for a great job done.

On a separate matter, Mr. Tolla stated that he has been having a problem with the trees adjacent to his yard obscuring his line of vision while exiting his driveway. This problem can be traced back to Mayor Carini's administration. Mayor Dickinson, Richard Doll,

Traffic Maintenance Officer and Henry McCully, Director of Public Works have all come out to view the area. Mr. Doll had performed an analysis of the situation and has concluded that Mr. Tolla should have a three hundred ten (310') unobstructed line of vision from the end of his driveway down the street in either direction. Two trees are blocking that site line; one is taken care of and the other is on Town property. He asked the Town to take the tree down.

Mr. Parisi asked the Mayor, if Mr. Tolla is entitled to the site line why hasn't the tree been taken down yet?

Mayor Dickinson responded, it is not as clear as that. The standard of measurement being used is for an intersection. That standard generally is not applied in all circumstances. In order to attempt to resolve some of the difficulty, that standard was applied to try and evaluate what the problem might be. Branches were trimmed on the tree. He asked if the problem improved after the trimming?

Mr. Tolla responded, ever so slightly.

Mayor Dickinson stated that he was not sure that a great deal more can be achieved. He will check on the site line requirements. There is serious objection from the neighbor on whose property the tree is located as to what will happen to the tree and the impact its removal will have on the area. The Town finds itself in the middle of the issue.

Mr. Parisi was of the opinion that safety would be the important factor in the issue.

Mayor Dickinson stated that he is aware of many driveways throughout the town that have less of a site line than Mr. Tolla has and he does not want to represent that the Town will apply a three hundred fifty (350') site line to every driveway access onto a highway in the community. He does not object to something else being done in a reasonable way.

Mr. Tolla was upset that the Traffic Maintenance Officer sent a letter stating that Mr. Tolla should have three hundred ten (310') of site line from the end of his driveway and is now being told that he should not expect to receive special treatment in requesting the tree be removed to restore the site line. The tree does not have to come down because every tree on the neighbor's property is trimmed properly except the one causing the problem.

Mr. Parisi stated that he will take a look at the tree.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville stated that he has a newspaper article that he would like the Council to review. He

will give a copy to the Town Council Secretary so that it can be passed along to them.

Philip A. Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street complimented the Mayor on the suit jacket he was wearing this evening.

ITEM #5 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,645 from Contingency - Reserve for Emergency Acct. to Overtime Acct. - Animal Control Officer

Motion was made by Mr. Rys, seconded by Mr. Centner.

Due to an employee's unexpected medical leave coverage had to be provided by the remaining support staff resulting in overtime costs. The transfer is required to cover the cost of the extra workload on the employees.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked for a more specific explanation of the issue.

Kathryn Lindemann, Animal Control Officer explained that the department is staffed by three employees. One individual is currently out on an unexpected medical leave and can remain out of work until April 4th. Busy periods require a staff of three and without the third person the other employees have to put in overtime to get the work accomplished.

Mr. Centner noticed that a report generated by the Animal Control Officer listed an inordinate amount of responses for racoon activity. He asked, what actions do you take when raccoons prevail in an area?

Mrs. Lindemann responded, when the department receives a call from the Police Department for public safety concerns, we capture the animals and bring them to the veterinarian to have them euthanized.

Mr. Centner asked, do you impound all that you catch or do you evaluate the animal to determine if they are harmful or not?

Mrs. Lindemann answered, we can determine whether or not they are a threat to the community by their behavior.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #6 Consider and Approve a Change in the Scope of Renovations to the Training Building at Central Fire Headquarters to Include the Addition of a Burn Room - Dept. of Fire Services

Mr. Rys read correspondence into the record from Chief Wayne Lefebvre to the Mayor (Appendix I).

Chief Lefebvre states in his letter that re-bidding the renovations to the training building has resulted in a savings of approximately \$85,000 to the Town.

Two portions of the project have yet to be completed; replacement of the basement stairs; construction of a separate poured concrete burn room. The stairway replacement will be put out for public bid soon. By constructing a poured-in-place concrete structure of approximately 15' X 20' the life of the valuable training facility can be extended indefinitely.

There is a need to change the current scope of this project to include this construction.

Mr. Rys made a motion to Move the Item for Discussion, seconded by Mr. Centner.

Mr. Knight asked, what is a burn room exactly?

Chief Lefebvre responded, it is a room in which we set fires and safely control the burning atmosphere which allows the firefighters to enter and train in an actual hot, smoky environment. Performing these training sessions in the present structure over the past twenty-three years has taken its toll on the building due to the nature of that structure.

Mr. Knight asked, how will you utilize the space that was formerly used as the burn room area?

Chief Lefebvre stated that the area will be used for hose evolutions, ladder training, rescue training, etc.

Mr. Centner asked, what do you expect the life to be remaining for the tower by reducing the training activity?

Chief Lefebvre stated that he fully expects to get an additional twenty-five to thirty years out of it. The exterior finish will have to be maintained but the roof should be good for another thirty years.

Mr. Doherty asked, what have we spent so far on the new flat roof, pitched roof, restoration of all exterior masonry, new stucco coating, painting and exterior doors?

Chief Lefebvre responded, to date we have spent about \$43,877. which includes engineering studies, environmental studies, the original architectural study conducted three years ago....close to \$44,000.

Mr. Doherty asked, how much was budgeted for this project at the onset?

Chief Lefebvre responded, we budgeted the project over two fiscal years. We originally budgeted \$16,500. In the 1995-96 budget we put in an additional \$120,000. That evolved because we had gone out to bid and got some astronomical numbers to do what we have done for the \$43,000 so we budgeted numbers to meet the bids that had already come in. We threw out the bids and re-bid again. By breaking the project down to several companies we have saved that amount of money over the original bids.

Mr. Doherty asked, what, approximately, is the final total they will come in at?

Chief Lefebvre stated, we will probably spend \$25,000 on the stairway and about \$25,000 to pour the concrete. We will also want to put some fire retardant or protective material so we do not damage the concrete. It may take a few more times of placing it out to bid to get the prices within the scope of where they should be on the project.

Mr. Parisi asked, do you at least know whether or not the project will come in over or under the projected cost?

Chief Lefebvre responded, it will definitely not go over. I will not allow it to. By proper management in bidding procedure we will be able to bring it in under what we have remaining. I fully expect to have a surplus.

Mayor Dickinson added, when this was planned it was to be a complete new structure. There was a pulling back from that because of bids but it has been a re-design of what we intend to do.

Mr. Parisi asked, do other fire departments use it also?

Chief Lefebvre answered, we have hosted the State Fire Academy on a number of occasions and we would like to do so again for a ladder apparatus training course next Fall.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Approve a Change in the Scope of Renovations to the Training Building at Central Fire Headquarters to Include the Construction of a Burn Room, seconded by Mr. Centner.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #7 Report Out by the Mayor on the Status of the Sale of Town-Owned Property in Durham Which was the Proposed Site of a Municipal Golf Course as Requested by Councilor G. Tom Zappala

Mayor Dickinson stated that currently, the Conservation Commission is looking at open space pieces. In order for the Town to receive the Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) approval on a

sale we need to have an idea of what else we would replace that open space with. I am anticipating our ability to move forward with it once we have an idea of what we might purchase, relative values, and identify a similar piece elsewhere that we want to exchange for the sale of the piece in Durham. We have not proceeded with appraisals because depending upon the length of time necessary to go through the process an appraisal may be stale. D.E.P. does not look favorably upon an appraisal that is more than six months old. I would rather have an idea of what property we would want to replace or exchange that property for and then move forward through the process that involves D.E.P. approval.

Mr. Zappala stated, nearly eight months have passed since the Council voted on selling the property. In looking at the minutes of the Conservation Commission meeting of January 30th the Durham property was never discussed. People want to know what is happening with the property.

Mayor Dickinson stated, in the interim we sent a letter to Durham asking if they were interested in purchasing the land. We have not yet heard from them. The focus of the Conservation Commission would not be what we want to sell but what we would want to acquire. They may feel that we shouldn't sell any open space regardless of where it is located. We are all interested in what pieces the Town should acquire.

Mr. Zappala responded, it is not the position of the Conservation Commission to decide whether to sell the land or not. The Council voted to sell the land and if the Conservation Commission would like to make suggestions to the Council that is fine. Yes, the process of replacing the property takes time but eight months have passed and the Conservation Commission never even discussed the issue at their meeting in January. Why should the First Selectman of Durham respond? He's collecting taxes on the property from us while enjoying the open space.

Mayor Dickinson responded, the Conservation Commission has a much broader focus than the property in Durham. Their purpose is to identify pieces of property in Wallingford that would be good for the Town to acquire. D.E.P.'s process is another issue in the whole chain of events.

Mr. Zappala stated that he has pointed out property in town that people are willing to sell us that totals more than one hundred forty-five (145) acres. Those people do not want housing built next to them. They would much rather see the land preserved as open space and will not wait forever.

Mayor Dickinson stated that a letter of intent to sell should be produced by the people who are willing to sell.

Mr. Parisi suggested that Mr. Zappala submit the letters of intent to the Mayor's Office as soon as possible.

Mr. Knight asked, if we sell the land do the restrictions that the Town has remain for the new buyer? Are they in perpetuity?

Mayor Dickinson answered, I believe the deed restrictions were for any future owner as well, not just for the Town of Wallingford.

Mr. Knight asked, how much value can this property actually have with those kind of restrictions?

Mayor Dickinson answered, the restriction is for residential use. The Town's difficulty is the open space requirements from the State. Those restrictions are separate and do not run with the land. Once D.E.P. allows an exchange for the property then the open space restrictions would not apply to it.

Mr. Knight asked, is the value based on dollars and not acreage?

Mayor Dickinson was not sure what the D.E.P. bases their analysis on.

Mr. Knight stated that it would be relatively important to know how D.E.P. values the property. Do they base the equality factor on dollars or acreage? This would be helpful to know.

Mr. Zappala stated, we have to replace the property with an equal amount of land.

Mr. Knight stated, it would be useful to have some number with which to work to know what we might get for the property in Durham so that when it comes time to purchase an equal amount of open space in Wallingford, we would know what the financial ramifications were.

Mayor Dickinson stated, yes, we would certainly want to know that but there is time in the process. We can make some rough estimates based on assessment records, etc.

Mr. Farrell asked the Mayor if he knew where the Town's parcel in Durham was in relation to Tri-Mountain State Park? It seems to be in that general area.

Mayor Dickinson responded, yes, it is in the area. I believe that Tri-Mountain State Park starts on the northerly side of Howd Road or Whirlwind Hill Road. I believe the Town owns the ridge on the south. The State may own along the very top of the ridge but I am not sure of that. We may own that ridge completely.

Mr. Farrell stated, our land may be contiguous with the State park.

Mayor Dickinson stated, at some point it connects with it.

Mr. Farrell stated, the D.E.P. is in charge of State parks and there is a history of the D.E.P. or some nature groups like the Nature Conservancy going out and buying contiguous parcels to State parks which may be a win/win situation here. We would be able to sell the property but possibly retain it as open space in a fashion. Is that something that you can look into, Mayor?

Mayor Dickinson responded, we can find out if there is any interest in that suggestion.

Mr. Doherty asked, can the Town Assessor give us a ball-park figure on this property?

Mayor Dickinson responded, yes.

Philip A. Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated, Chapter III, Section 5 of the Charter of the Town of Wallingford states, "The council shall have the power to take, purchase, hold, condemn, lease, sell and convey real and personal property..." It seems to me that the handling of the property that we own is really in the Council's hands. I think you should have a sub-committee of two or three people who are interested in property or open space to handle this rather than other people in Town...things seem to fall between the chairs. Witness what we have with Wooding, the property next door and the like. I believe we need a sub-committee for this project.

Albert E. Killen, 150 Cedar Street echoed Mr. Wright's statements with regards to the Council's purview to purchase, sell, lease land, etc. There is nothing preventing you from forming a sub-committee. You have gotten to where you have now because Mr. Zappala worked with a committee to see what could be done with the land. Although the golf course fell through the cracks you cannot ignore the fact that the committee did some very good work. If you are going to carry that on then you have the ability to name that committee and get going and not come back night after night for the same thing time after time.

Geno Zandri, Jr., 37 Hallmark Drive agreed with Mr. Wright and Mr. Killen. It is the Council's position to identify land in Wallingford that potentially could be purchased for open space. I recommend that you obtain estimates on both parcels. Although the dollar amount may not match up it would then just be a matter of the Town making up the difference one way or another.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked, how many State and local agencies are involved or concerned with the sale of the land in Durham from beginning to end? Is it possible that some federal agencies may have to be involved?

Mayor Dickinson responded, the D.E.P.; Town Council; Planning & Zoning, potentially; P.U.C. possibly; the P.U.C. has already taken action that they want some of the property. They want some of the land as a buffer. It probably wouldn't be necessary to involve the P.U.C. any longer but the other offices would still be involved.

Mr. Melillo asked, has any real estate companies who specialize in this type of property been consulted or contacted?

Mayor Dickinson responded, there has been no contact with real estate agencies. We do not hire real estate agencies to handle our property acquisitions.

Mr. Melillo asked, what office will coordinate all these agencies?

Mayor Dickinson answered, the Mayor's Office and the Council would be the predominate offices involved with seeing this through a process. For the purchase or sale of real estate the Town Council would make the final decision. They would evaluate information brought in and decide whether they wanted to sell or purchase a piece of property.

Mr. Melillo asked, how is the property being used presently?

Mr. Parisi responded, it is not being used at all.

Mr. Melillo asked, can any Wallingford citizen go out and walk around on the property? Can it be used for hiking?

Mr. Parisi responded, yes, a Wallingford citizen can go out and walk on the property and possibly even hike if they wanted to.

Mayor Dickinson stated, we are not encouraging any formal use because we do not have trails, it is not part of a formal recreation program of the Town. Passive uses are fine. We do not encourage recreational vehicles or anything that would disrupt the topography of the property.

Mr. Farrell asked the Mayor, when the weather gets better, can we go on a field trip? I think it may make sense for the Council to go out and look at the parcel.

Mayor Dickinson stated, if people are interested in going, that is fine.

Mr. Zappala stated, we do have a buyer for the land if we want to sell it tomorrow.

No action taken.

ITEM #8 Consider and Approve Reclassification of the Water Quality Inspector Position Within the Water Division

Motion was made by Mr. Rys, seconded by Mr. Knight.

Mr. Rys read correspondence into the record from Terrence Sullivan, Personnel Director which states that the position has been under review for the past several months by Roger Dann, General Manager of the Water & Sewer Divisions, his management staff and Mr. Sullivan, himself. The letter states that the position requirements and functions have evolved to a level which called for a close study of the work involved. New initiatives include aquifer district inspections, lead and copper monitoring, aquifer mapping and other regulatory changes. Both the union and Town agree that the position should be upgraded with a complete rewrite of the job description. A revised job description was presented to the Council for approval (Appendix II). The position change will require more education and experience. The two incumbent employees who currently occupy the position will realize an increase of \$.84/hr. at the maximum step for the labor grade.

Mr. Centner asked, what mechanism was used to come up with the labor grade for the position? Did you perform a comparison study of other towns?

Roger Dann, General Manager of the Water & Sewer Divisions responded, yes, we did do a comparative survey. We looked at other utilities for comparable-type of positions with comparable duties. We accumulated that information and used that as a starting point for determining where we felt the appropriate pay scale should be. We also had to look within our own unit within the Water & Sewer Divisions to make sure we retain a comparable standing within the utilities, themselves.

Mr. Centner asked, will this position require training or professional certification or anything else?

Mr. Dann responded, you will notice in the revised job description that there are certifications that are required of this position. The individuals in the position do have those certifications. They have obtained them in order to perform their duties. That is a difference between the proposed job description and that which preceded it.

Mr. Knight asked, in your analysis when you went to different or comparable utilities were some of them private?

Mr. Dann answered, yes.

Mr. Knight asked, how did you find the scales as compared to the public water authorities?

Mr. Dann answered, there was a wide range on this issue and in part I believe that to be because each utility seems to handle the variety of duties a little bit differently. We tend to put all the responsibilities into this position. Other utilities, either because of their size or other management decisions may break it up into several positions. I think that I can say that we are comparable at the starting to mid point of the salary range. We may be slightly lower than a private utility on the higher end of the spectrum although comparable to a municipal-type utility.

Mr. Parisi stated that the job description calls for an Associates degree from a recognized college yet on a graph included in the backup material to the Council, it calls for a high school education. He asked, which does it require?

Mr. Dann answered, the job description, as revised, calls for the Associates degree. It did leave open the possibility of a combination of other education and experience that may satisfy that requirement but we did upgrade the educational requirements to include an Associates degree.

Mr. Parisi stated, I understand that many times we accept an equivalent combination of education and qualifying experience but that is a tough bridge to cross to cover three years of experience and an Associates degree when, in fact, you are asking for a strong thorough knowledge of groundwater, hydrology, considerable knowledge of chemistry, biology, sanitation, etc., that section is contradictory. I would prefer that we stay with a degree and three years of responsibility.

Terrence Sullivan, Personnel Director explained, generally, we like to allow some flexibility to address the career candidate who might not have pursued an academic avenue yet who possesses tremendous experience that the Town could benefit from. We like to have that flexibility built into the job descriptions to attract a broader base of qualified candidates.

Mr. Parisi responded, I understand that but I think that you ought to be more specific as to how much experience you want. Right now someone with three years experience that you deem exceptionally bright qualifies yet in my eyes three years experience may not be enough.

Mr. Sullivan responded, I can appreciate your point however, if the Associates degree was planted by several more years of experience I think the Town would benefit from that as well. We are not trying to label people.

Mr. Parisi commented, by the same token how would we evaluate the background of the experience? How would we document how, in fact, deep the experience would be or how much it would serve? Is there

enough that we would be comfortable in bypassing the academic requirements?

Mr. Sullivan answered, we make these decisions routinely in recruiting and that is up to the appointing authority when they are checking their backgrounds and interviewing that the candidate possess certain experience. If a candidate came with six or seven years experience without certain college degrees but had certifications and could prove that they knew this material, they may make a great candidate for the Town.

Mr. Parisi asked, are there certifications available for this job?

Mr. Sullivan responded, the job description addresses two, three or four on the second page on the bottom under Special Requirements. Those are the kind of certifications that the Town requires.

Mr. Dann answered, those certifications are necessary in order to perform the responsibilities of the position. They don't necessarily require an Associates degree in order to get those particular certifications.

Mr. Parisi stated, I have no problem with anything here other than I would like to see the requirements of the job a little firmer. I like the academic aspect of it. It is a fairly important position. It could effect a lot of people if this person does not know what they are doing or if we take any risks.

Mr. Dann responded, we recognize what the responsibilities and requirements of the job are. If we were to look at the individuals who currently occupy the positions, one would meet the educational requirements for the Associates degree and the other one would not and yet both of them are capable of being effective in their position.

Mr. Parisi answered, don't misunderstand me, I am not against experience but I would prefer that it would be specific as to how much experience and, in lieu of the academic background, what other requirements should be met. I am not going to support this tonight just for that reason only, otherwise I have no problem with any of them. I feel we should just be a little more specific in that area.

Mr. Centner stated, the position of Water Quality Inspector is not a certified position. I understand there is underlying certifications required.

Mr. Dann answered, that is correct, it is not certified. That is our own job description.

Mr. Parisi asked, will the graph list a high school education or an Associates degree as a requirement?

Mr. Sullivan responded, if approved, it would be an Associates degree and three years of experience.

VOTE: Parisi, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Move Addendum Item #13 Up to the Next Order of Business so that the Council can Enter Combined Executive Sessions, seconded by Mr. Knight.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #9 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(5) and 1-19(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Personnel

ITEM #13 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(2) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to Pending Litigation - Town Attorney's Office

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Enter Into Both Executive Sessions, seconded by Mr. Knight.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Present in Executive Session Pertaining to Item #9 were all Councilors, Mayor Dickinson, Terrence Sullivan, Personnel Director and Thomas Sharkey, Asst. Personnel Director

Present in Executive Session Pertaining to Item #13 were all Councilors, Mayor Dickinson and Assistant Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Exit the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Centner.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #10 Consider and Approve an Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and the Wallingford Management Union Local 17 of the CT. Independent Labor Union for the Term of 1997-2000 - Personnel

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Approve the Agreement, seconded by Ms. Papale.

VOTE: Doherty, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #11 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$24,430 from Contingency General Government Acct. to Various

Salary Accounts Within the Budget of the Town of Wallingford - Personnel

Motion was made by Mr. Rys, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12 Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$1,420 to Town of Wallingford Contribution Acct. and to the Youth Service Bureau Wages Acct.- Personnel

Motion was made by Mr. Rys, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

WAIVER OF RULE V Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Waive Rule V of the Town Council Meeting Procedures for the Purpose of Approving Action Involving the Town Attorney's Office, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Approve Authorizing the Town Attorney's Office to Settle a Lawsuit Against Highway Specialists and Bernard C. Russo in Accordance with the Dollar Figure as Discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Papale.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

Kathryn F. Zandri
Kathryn F. Zandri
Town Council Secretary

Approved by: *[Signature]*
Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

March 25, 1997
Date

Rosemary A. Rascati
Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

March 25, 1997
Date