

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 27, 1997

6:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Consider and Approve the Appointment of William Austin to the Regional Planning Commission - Planning & Zoning
 - b. Note for the Merit Increases Approved by the Mayor
 - c. SET A PUBLIC HEARING for June 10, 1997 at 7:45 P.M. to Approve a List of Municipal Projects to be Submitted to the State of Connecticut Under the Neighborhood Assistance Program
 - d. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$80.00 from Maintenance of Vehicles Acct. #012-9000-501-5000 to Transportation Reimbursement Acct. #012-9000-300-3201 - Youth Service Bureau
 - e. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$300 from Youth Projects Acct. #012-9000-600-6600 to Office Expenses & Supplies Acct. #012-9000-401-4000 - Youth Service Bureau
 - f. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$135.00 from Youth Projects Acct. #012-9000-600-6600 to Meetings, Seminars and Dues Acct. #012-9000-701-7990 - Youth Service Bureau
 - g. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$29,900 from Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 to Various Accounts within the Water Division Budget
 - h. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds Totalling \$15,000 from Various Accounts within the Water Division to Water Treatment Expenses Acct. #641-000
 - i. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$7,000 from Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 to Employees Pension & Benefits Acct. #926-000 - Water Division

- j. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$8,900 from Sludge Disposal - Tipping Fees Acct. #645-000, \$1,500 from Outside Services Employed Acct. #923-000 and \$6,000 from Employee Pension and Benefits Acct. #926-000 for a Total of \$16,400 Which is Transferred to Various Labor Accounts Within the Sewer Division Budget
- k. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$4,000 from Employee Pension and Benefits Acct. #926-000 to Electric, Gas & Misc. Utilities Acct. #643-000 - Sewer Division
- l. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,000 from Property Insurance Acct. #924-000 to Misc. General Expense Acct. #930-000 - Sewer Division
- m. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,500 from Workmen's Compensation Acct. #925-001 to Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 - Sewer Division
- n. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$1,900,000 to Sales Power Adjustment Acct. #455, \$1,870,000 to Purchased Power Acct. #555 and \$30,000 to Gross Earnings Tax Acct. #048-1 - Electric Division
- o. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$2,650 from Customer Records & Collection Expense Acct. #903 to Property Tax - North Branford Acct. #408 - Electric Division
- p. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,500 from Customer Records & Collection Expense Acct. #903 to Interest Expense - Customer Deposits Acct. #431 - Electric Division
- q. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$20,000 from Property & Casualty - Gen. Government Acct. #001-8030-800-8250 and \$10,000 from Property & Casualty - Education Acct. #001-8030-800-8260 for a Total of \$30,000 to Self-Insurance Workers Compensation Acct. 001-8035-800-8310 - Risk Manager
- r. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000 from Hypertension - Fire Acct. #001-8035-800-8410 and \$10,000 from Property & Casualty - Education Acct. #001-8030-800-8260 for a Total of \$20,000 to Hypertension - Police Acct. #001-8035-800-8400 - Risk Manager

3. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

4. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

5. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in an Amount Totalling \$9,034.00 from Various Accounts Within the Public Works Dept. Budget to Recycling Contract Acct. #001-5015-901-9021 - Public Works
6. Report Out by the Director of Public Utilities on the Status of Electric Deregulation in Connecticut
 - a. Current legislation
 - b. Dave Penn Study (Oct. 1996)
 - c. New Hampshire Model

As Requested by Councilor David. J. Doherty

7. Report Out by the Chairman of the Conservation Commission on the Status of the Town-Owned Land in Durham and The Commission's Efforts to Identify Open Space for Possible Purchase by the Town as Requested by Councilor G. Tom Zappala
8. Report Out by the Director of Parks & Recreation on Public Interest for a Skateboard Facility as Requested by Councilor Richard J. Centner, Jr.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on a Request that the Mayor Provide a Report Which Defines the Necessary Requirements and Costs for 911 Calls to be Answered and Dispatched from Within the Town of Wallingford as Requested by Vice Chairman Raymond J. Rys, Sr.
10. Consider and Approve Appointing a Three Member Committee of the Council to Meet With Habitat for Humanity
11. Remove from the Table to Enter Into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 10-153d; 1-18a(e)(5) and 1-19(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Personnel
12. Remove from the Table to Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ratification of the Consolidated Pension Plan for Management and Supervisory Employees of the Town of Wallingford Effective 2/5/95 to 6/30/2002
13. Remove From the Table to Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ratification of an Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and Fire Union Local 1326 - Personnel
14. Remove From the Table to Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$90,793 from General Government Acct. #001-8050-800-3230 to Various Accounts Within the Fire Department's Budget to Fund the Firefighter's Contract for F.Y. 1996-97 - Personnel

15. Remove From the Table to Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$187,733 from Accrued Expenses Acct. #001-8050-800-3230 to Various Accounts Within the Fire Department's Budget to Fund the Firefighter's Contract for F.Y. 1997-98 - Personnel
16. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the CT. General Statutes With Respect to the Sale/Purchase of Property - Mayor's Office
17. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(2) of the CT. General Statutes to Discuss Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Litigation
18. Consider and Approve the Settlement of Pending Litigation - Town Attorney

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 27, 1997

6:30 P.M.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA

- #6d. Discussion Regarding the Potential for Electrical Power Shortages During the Summer - Director of Public Utilities

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 27, 1997

6:30 P.M.

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Addendum

6d. Discussion Regarding the Potential for Electrical
Power Shortages During the Summer

8-11

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 27, 1997

6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 27, 1997 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Vice Chairman Raymond J. Rys, Sr. at 6:30 p.m. All Councilors answered present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Rosemary A. Rascati with the exception of Chairman Robert F. Parisi who was at home ill and Councilor David J. Doherty who was attending to personal business. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. arrived at 6:34 P.M.. Town Attorney Janis M. Small and Comptroller Thomas A. Myers were also present.

A blessing was bestowed upon the Council by Rev. Leonard Williams, Chaplain at Gaylord Hospital.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ITEM #2 Consent Agenda

ITEM #2a Consider and Approve the Appointment of William Austin to the Regional Planning Commission - Planning & Zoning

ITEM #2b Note for the Record Merit Increases Approved by the Mayor

ITEM #2c SET A PUBLIC HEARING for June 10, 1997 at 7:45 P.M. to Approve a List of Municipal Projects to be Submitted to the State of Connecticut Under the Neighborhood Assistance Program

ITEM #2d Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$80.00 from Maintenance of Vehicles Acct. #012-9000-501-5000 to Transportation Reimbursement Acct. #012-9000-300-3201 - Youth Service Bureau

ITEM #2e Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$300 from Youth Projects Acct. #012-9000-600-6600 to Office Expenses & Supplies Acct. #012-9000-401-4000 - Youth Service Bureau

ITEM #2f Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$135.00 from Youth Projects Acct. #012-9000-600-6600 to Meeting, Seminars and Dues Acct. #012-9000-701-7990 - Youth Service Bureau

ITEM #2g Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$29,900 from Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 to Various Accounts Within the Water Division Budget

ITEM #2h Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$15,000 from Various Accounts Within the Water Division to Water Treatment Expenses Acct. #641-000

ITEM #2i Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$7,000 from Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 to Employees Pension and Benefits Acct. #926-000 - Water Division

ITEM #2j Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$8,900 from Sludge Disposal - Tipping Fees Acct. #645-000, \$1,500 from Outside Services Employed Acct. #923-000 and \$6,000 from Employee Pension and Benefits Acct. #926-000 for a Total of \$16,400 Which is Transferred to Various Labor Accounts Within the Sewer Division Budget

ITEM #2k Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$4,000 from Employee Pension and Benefits Acct. #926-000 to Electric, Gas & Misc. Utilities Acct. #643-000 - Sewer Division

ITEM #2l Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,000 from Property Insurance Acct. #924-000 to Misc. General Expense Acct. #930-000 - Sewer Division

ITEM #2m Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,500 from Workmens' Compensation Acct. #925-001 to Power Purchased for Pumping Acct. #623-000 - Sewer Division

ITEM #2n Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$1,900,000 to Sales Power Adjustment Acct. #455, \$1,870,000 to Purchased Power Acct. #555 and \$30,000 to Gross Earnings Tax Acct. #048-1 - Electric Division

ITEM #2o Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$2,650 from Customer Records & Collection Expense Acct. #903 to Property Tax - North Branford Acct. #408 - Electric Division

ITEM #2p Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,500 from Customer Records & Collection Expense Acct. #903 to Interest Expense - Customer Deposits Acct. #431 - Electric Division

ITEM #2q Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$20,000 from Property & Casualty - Gen. Government Acct. #001-8030-800-8250 and \$10,000 from Property & Casualty - Education Acct. #001-8030-800-8260 for a Total of \$30,000 to Self-Insurance Workers Compensation Acct. #001-8035-800-8130 - Risk Manager

ITEM #2r Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000 from Hypertension - Fire Acct. #001-8035-800-8410 and \$10,000 from Property & Casualty - Education Acct. #001-8030-800-8260 for a Total of \$20,000 to Hypertension - Police Acct. #001-8035-800-8400 - Risk Manager

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Approve the Consent Agenda as Presented, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Mr. Zappala stated for the record that he would abstain from voting in protest to the number of items placed on the consent agenda.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; Zappala abstained; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #3 Withdrawn

ITEM #4 PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue stated that he was not happy with not only the number of items placed on the consent agenda but with the fact that over \$3 million was being transferred in total without the Council reviewing the items with department heads. One transfer alone is in the amount of \$1.9 million and gives no indication what so ever as to where the funds are coming from. He suggested that the Council review all the transfers towards the end of the fiscal year and not place them on a consent agenda. The public has a right to know why and from where the funds are being transferred.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville echoed Mr. Sheehan's comments stating that the consent agenda had too many items on it. He inquired about a \$250,000 planned expenditure in the upcoming budget for aerial mapping of the Town.

Councilor Knight explained how the Town has not had an aerial mapping of it performed since the early 1960s. Yankee Gas is mapping part of the Town for their own purposes and asked if while the plane was in the air did the Town want to take advantage of that fact and have its area mapped? Doing so while the plane was already up would result in a cost savings to the Town. A fair amount of the cost is for digitizing the information.

Mayor Dickinson explained that the bid for the service still has not been put out to the public yet. The bulk of the cost is in the translation of photography to scale maps which show the height of hills and depths of swales, etc.

Mr. Centner pointed out that the original request for funds was for \$50,000 higher and the Council reduced the request at budget time.

Mr. Melillo next stated that he has read an article in the local newspapers that Cytec has been cited as having the second highest level of toxic chemicals discharging into the air by its plant in the State. What is being done about it?

Councilor Knight explained how Cytec has reduced the level of emissions of such chemicals over the last few years. One must also note that Wallingford has two major highways running through

it from which vehicles traveling along them are contributing emissions into our air. Cytec holds an open public meeting each year to which the residents of Wallingford are invited to attend. Cytec has been a pretty good industrial customer of the Town. The Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) monitors Cytec's emissions and Wallingford's air on a regular basis. Cytec has lived up to every letter of the law and spirit of D.E.P.'s written regulations.

Mr. Melillo pointed out that the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of Environmental Protection do not see eye to eye on certain regulations.

Mr. Farrell agreed stating that the Federal E.A.P. and Connecticut D.E.P. agencies disagree on whether or not the State is meeting the correct Federal standards.

With regards to the proposed interim computer system purchase, Mr. Melillo stated that the computer system could end up costing the taxpayers well over \$2 million and is cautious of the purchase.

Geno Zandri, Jr., 37 Hallmark Drive asked if there had been any talk of potentially leasing the Pierce Generating Plant?

Mayor Dickinson stated that he was not aware of any plan to do so.

Raymond Smith, Director of Public Utilities stated, at the last P.U.C. meeting there was some discussion about ideas for future uses of the Pierce site. No conclusions were reached but one of the options could be in the future a leasing of the site, probably not the station itself as it exists, but perhaps the site.

Public Question and Answer Period was declared closed at this time by Vice Chairman Rys.

Motion was made by Mr. Centner to Move Agenda Item #8 Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #8 Report Out by the Director of Parks & Recreation on Public Interest for a Skateboard Facility as Requested by Councilor Richard J. Centner, Jr.

Mr. Centner asked that the item be placed on the agenda for the purpose of updating the public on the matter. The item has been open since the ordinance has passed and he would like a report out on precisely how much interest has been generated on the item since that time. He would like to bring closure to the matter.

Thomas Dooley, Director of Parks & Recreation informed everyone that the Youth Service Bureau has taken over the project. Since October 22nd they have met with Mary Mushinsky and the conversations have centered around the ordinance and the ways that they would deal with the fine. A registration drive to form an association was held which only drew twelve people to it. The department has been in contact with an individual by the name of Dawn Esposito of Fairfield regarding the happenings on the matter within the State. Presently, there seems to be no movement on the issue anywhere since everyone is sitting back and waiting to see what is going to happen with the liability issue that has been raised with the Wilton, CT. case. The department at the present time is going ahead with its skating program at Doolittle Park on Tuesday evenings during the summer. Other than that there is nothing new to report.

Mr. Centner asked, how many people participate each week in the Tuesday night skate at Doolittle Park?

Mr. Dooley responded, approximately 100.

Councilor Knight stated that he would like to hear from Mary Mushinsky about what the State intends to do to address the liability issue in light of the Supreme Court decision of last year or the year before regarding the Waterbury case. Without answering that these facilities are going to be a very expensive proposition. The court decision has really put the towns behind the eight ball.

Mr. Renda stated that he has checked with California, Florida and Maryland. To construct the type of facility that the children want would cost approximately \$250,000 - \$500,000 including liability insurance. We cannot afford a project of this expense now. We have other projects on our agenda that have to be completed first. Perhaps down the road some time we may be able to do something but between now and then we could begin to collect and thoroughly investigate the matter. We must also have enough participants to warrant the project as well.

Ms. Papale asked for an explanation of what the Tuesday night skates are at Doolittle Park?

Mr. Dooley explained, the Doolittle parking lot is closed down; it is street swept; a disc jockey is brought in and it is essentially like an open ice skate night but on rollerblades. You can also get a free ice cream sundae.

Ms. Papale asked, then there is a place to go for the people of Wallingford who want to rollerblade and skateboard?

Mr. Dooley responded, we do not encourage skateboarding. It is designed for rollerblading.

Ms. Papale stated, after what has taken place and seeing that there was such a small number of people that showed up for registration, it goes to show that this ordinance was something that should have been done and is working. The skaters uptown were not families recreating together but people who were there just to be there. I am not sorry that the ordinance has worked and I believe that the police department is keeping a very good eye on the matter.

Mr. Zappala found it hard to believe that only twelve people showed up at the registration session when the auditorium was packed at the time the Council was discussing the issue. Are we going to forget about what happened last Fall and only put the emphasis on the fact that only twelve people showed up for registration?

Mr. Dooley responded, no. One way to determine whether or not municipal dollars should be spent is to find out how many people are actually going to take advantage of the program offered. There is no way to determine how many people we are actually going to be building something for. It is a very expensive proposition.

Reginald Knight, 21 Audette Drive stated that the children of this town should be allowed to skate uptown or downtown. They are being discriminated against by the Town for not being allowed to travel through the center of it like anyone else. Bicyclists ride their bikes on the sidewalk through the center all the time which is a violation of the sidewalk ordinance and no one bothers them. The children have the right to skate. The Council has pushed through the ordinance discriminating against the downtown children and now the Town is trying to get out of it one way or another by talking about building a facility for them. There is no need for it. Let the children skate, I have not heard of anyone being injured yet. One Councilor mentioned that there was no discrimination going on. Between the time when the first boy was arrested and the second one now, there have been skaters skating downtown, right past City Hall and a policeman standing out at the corner doing nothing about it. I see adults riding their bikes past him as well with nothing being done. I see a Wallingford Transit Authority sign stating there is no parking between Elm Street and Main Street but the Choate people park there every day and no one does anything about it. I have witnessed a mother being told by a Choate security guard that she cannot park where Choate people are parked on a Wallingford public street. There is discrimination here. If people are endangered by the skating then they are endangered all over the Town, not just in the center of it. It does not become lethal simply because they are skating downtown.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville agreed with Mr. Knight and stated that the ordinance should be repealed. The Town is not liable if a skater injures someone uptown while skating, the party doing the skating is liable. It was never a matter of liability to the Town.

ITEM #5 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds an Amount Totalling \$9,034.00 from Various Accounts Within the Public Works Dept. Budget to Recycling Contract Acct. #001-5015-901-9021 - Public Works Dept.

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

This amount is the exact sum needed to finish the recycling contract with Stratford Baling Corporation for the fiscal year.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #6a Report Out by the Director of Public Utilities on the Status of Electric Deregulation in Connecticut with Regards to Current Legislation

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Hear the Report, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Raymond F. Smith, Director of Public Utilities stated that the restructuring legislation for this year has been tabled; shelved; put away. They could not come to any consensus where the bill would be acceptable with all the issues involved. It was a very complex subject that is extremely difficult to tackle in Connecticut considering what has occurred with the nuclear power plants in the State. The current legislation is dead. Will it be resurrected next year? It is possible. The major stumbling block was the unbundling of the rates.

Frank Wasilewski, 57 North Orchard Street stated that he thinks this issue will hang on for another two years.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville stated that one of the problems is a lack of cooperation between State and Federal agencies. They seem to lack dedication in working together to come up with legislation that will work for everyone.

David Gessert, Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission explained that one must look at the interests of the State and Federal government. You will see some diversing opinions when you begin to look closely at the situation. There are a lot of strong competing interests.

Items #6b & 6c were tabled until Mr. Doherty was present at a future meeting to ask the questions he had on these two items.

Motion was made by Ms. Papale to Table Agenda Items #6b & 6c, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty & Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly

carried.

ITEM #6d Discussion Regarding the Potential for Electrical Power Shortages During the Summer - Director of Public Utilities

A presentation was facilitated by James LaChance, Distribution Emergency Plan Administrator and Myra Humphries, Team Leader, Media Relations of Northeast Utilities (NEU) System to give everyone an update on how the company plans to address the State's power needs/demands as summer approaches.

Mr. LaChance explained how Northeast Utilities' ability to import power into the State has improved this year due to system upgrades/improvements made since last year. NEU has about 2,600 megawatts (mw) of generation that is not available to us in the State due to the three Millstone plants currently out of service. Normally they run about 6,800 mw of generation which is more than enough to supply the State and still export some to their Massachusetts and New Hampshire properties. The Millstone (nuclear) Plants are still down and NEU hopes to have the largest of the three units, Millstone III, back on line late this year. CT. Yankee Plant is down and will not be returned to service ever. By June 15th NEU will be able to import about 2,500 mw of power into the State on their three primary feed lines. NEU should be able to serve the State for three days at an all-time high peak demand of 5,750 mw. NEU can import power from New York Power Pool, Hydro Quebec and New Brunswick if need be.

Mr. LeChance next reviewed load shed and customer usage. The highest peak for load demand is reached at approximately 12 Noon to 1:00 P.M. and tapers off very slowly until about 8:00 P.M. The equipment has to run long and hard for a long period of time to maintain the peak. He reviewed the OP4 Load Relief Plan which is a fifteen step plan NEU takes to back off on their load demand to serve the peak. The early stages of the plan calls for enacting "conservation days"; asking the customers to conserve as much electricity as possible prior to an expected peak problem. At the second level of the plan NEU issues a "power caution" alert which is an internal step taken by the utility, itself, to prepare for a potential problem. Step nine is the issuance of a "power watch" similar to a severe storm watch issued by local weatherstations. Step fifteen is the "power warning" phase of the plan during which customer participation is critical. The utility called for three conservation days last summer.

Last year NEU had a reserve of 470 mw at this time; this summer they have more than 1,000 of additional reserve with 1,500 mw. All New England states share the wealth or burden of power supply as members of NEPEX (New England Power Pool) and can call for the OP4 plan to be put into effect through CONVEX (CT. Valley Electrical Exchange) in Newington.

Myra Humphries explained the OP4 Plan step by step again to make sure that everyone understood the measure carefully. When NEU gets to step fifteen, "power warning", this is the stage where customer participation is critical. It can make or break the utility. It is the step where the utility asks that the customer turn off or conserve as much of their electricity as possible or the company will do it for them. Last summer NEU never got to issuing a "power watch" or "power warning".

Mr. Centner asked if NEU's lines can accommodate the importing of electricity?

Mr. Smith assured Mr. Centner that they could.

Mr. Centner then asked, how long will planned maintenance be suspended during a power warning?

Mr. LeChance responded, the maintenance crews are asked to refrain from doing anything that will compromise the system until we are out of the woods during a peak demand.

Mr. Farrell asked, what are the chances that one or more of your major facilities counted on for reserves may be out of commission and what will that do to your margin of error?

Mr. LeChance responded, the mix of generation that NEU has been running for the past two years is a much older generation. It is fossil fuel. The two newest units that NEU commissioned are thirty years old. Can we have failures? Absolutely. Have we done any maintenance on our two big units, yes. Yes, we are going to have some forced outages but we have 1,500 mw reserve to cover it. We are going to have to have three things happen on a peak load day at a peak load time to wipe out our reserves and cause us to load shed and/or involuntarily disconnect. Are we going to have some tight moments this year, probably. We will continue to monitor the system constantly.

Mr. Knight asked, what if our three importers of electricity experience the same heat wave as we do and cut back on their supply to us, what will happen to us?

Mr. LeChance responded, the power comes in to us from the west through the coal fields of Pennsylvania. If they get into trouble we have a firm commitment of 1500 mw. Last year we saw that commitment honored when they were getting into trouble and had to load shed. For the transfer to go to 0 mw, they would have to be in so deep....we may pay them to bring on excess generation that they probably don't need just in case we do. We have done that in the Albany, N.Y. area. If they cut us by 500 mw we can cover that amount with our 1,500 mw reserve. We are also bringing four more units back into our New England power supply totalling 250 mw

of generation that was retired.

Mr. Gessert asked if the Navy generation units were still available to supplement the system?

Mr. LeChance responded, last year NEU brought in the largest Navy deployment of generation since the Viet Nam war. They were located at the Groton Sub Base parking lot and tied into the Groton utility system. The generation was never run last year for it was never needed.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked, what is the plan for the Pierce Plant?

Mr. Smith responded, the Pierce Plant is a Wallingford decision. We have chosen to cooperate with NEU and CMEEC to keep it open at least through this summer. At the end of the summer we will have to look at the analysis again. We will deal with it on a month by month basis. For the long range plan we will have to look at what our options are for the Pierce Plant.

Dave Cantos, 4 Meadows Edge Drive asked what the long range plan of the utility was?

Mr. LeChance responded, Millstone III is not an old unit, it should be back on line by the end of the year and will be run for as long as its license will allow.

Mr. Farrell asked, is the moral of the story, perhaps we should consider building a state-of-the-art generating facility so we are not so dependent on this mumbo jumbo?

Mr. Gessert responded, a lot of people at John Street feel the same way. In the future the only way you can guarantee your own destiny is to have your own generation. The Pierce Plant site is an asset and could be utilized for additional generation and we will explore every possibility from the economic standpoint to the generation standpoint to try and ensure that that asset continues to benefit the people of Wallingford.

Mr. Farrell stated, you have my support for strongly considering it for I think that it is in our long term interest.

Mayor Dickinson stated, as I understand it the power is shared in Connecticut and New England. For us to ever represent that we were self-sufficient would be a misrepresentation. I don't want anyone to walk away from here thinking that we could put up a plant and Wallingford will always have power regardless of what happened around us. That is not the case.

Ms. Humphries informed everyone that CONVEX has a web page on the

internet. For those individuals who would like to access it you can do so by typing the address www.cvx.com. That will give anyone visiting the site the current status, the current forecast, etc. The site is active all the time and will be throughout the summer.

Mr. Smith stated, the public can get a sense of what is happening for the day or week ahead in New England and CT. by visiting the site.

ITEM #7 Report Out by the Chairman of the Conservation Commission on the Status of the Town-Owned Land in Durham and the Commission's Efforts to Identify Open Space for Possible Purchase by the Town as Requested by Councilor G. Tom Zappala

Jeff Borne, Chairman of the Conservation Commission reported that the commission was re-established in January of 1997 and were charged with:

- a. developing an inventory of existing, undeveloped open space land remaining in the Town and
- b. to prepare a report identifying and ranking said lands.

The commission began work on its task in February and continues to develop their ranking criteria. They are currently moving forward with their inventory. To date, the commission has investigated 1,200 acres of land encompassed by eighteen parcels. These lands range from 6 acres to 400 acres in size. At this point the commission's inventory criteria includes these general elements:

1. the commission is interested in lands with diversified habitats and ecosystems such as:
 - a combination of uplands, meadows, woodlands, ponds & streams
 - lands contiguous to other existing open space properties
 - lands encompassing and providing access to water bodies
 - lands adjacent to developed areas to provide vegetational and wildlife buffers and refuges
 - lands known or capable of supporting critical habitats and/or threatened species that may still remain in Wallingford
 - lands with cultural and historical importance to the Town (i.e., trap rock ridges; prime farm lands; river green belts particularly on the major streams of the Quinnipiac River and the Muddy River)

Regarding the status of the Durham land, the commission field inspected the property probably six weeks ago. It consists of about 240 acres of forests, fields, streams, wetlands, a major trap rock mountain ridge is encompassed by the Mattabasset Trail which is part of the CT. Forest and Park Association's blue trail system. It contains certain critical habitats. The State views the parcel as a very special property. We have had letters from the Town of Durham expressing their interest in acquiring this land when the Town chooses to dispose of it. That is a summary of my report.

Mr. Zappala stated, in August 1996 the Council voted to sell the land in Durham and replace it with an equal amount of land in Wallingford. The commission should be focusing its attention on the Fitzgerald Property consisting of 154 acres. I know that it can be a long process but I feel that some action should be taken shortly or quickly because the available land in Wallingford will be developed soon. What will the next step be?

Mr. Borne stated, he would like to see the inventory complete. The commission does receive letters from people in Town who are making them aware of the fact that they are interested in speaking with the Town about possibly selling their land. The commission is charged with ranking the properties and we would like to cover the most significant ones so that when the Town is ready to make a selection that we have identified the properties that are of the most importance to the Town.

Mr. Zappala understood where the commission was coming from but stated that the land will not be available for a long period of time. Anyone who owns land in town knows how much of a demand there is for it to be developed and we could lose some potentially good parcels.

Mr. Farrell asked, in terms of doing an inventory, are you going to give the Council the assessed values of some of these properties? Can we rank them not only by their criteria that the commission used but also by the preliminary assessment of how much we might have paid for them? The assessed price can often be way off from what people may want, but it may be some beginning criteria to help us rank them of how important they are and how available it is to the Town. If it is valued at a prohibitive price than most likely it moves down the list.

Mr. Borne responded, to date we have been looking at lands blindly in terms of assessed value or any kind of dollar value. That is probably the healthiest way to do the ranking because if we ranked the land on the basis of certain natural or physical features when it comes time to make a decision it could be that one parcel is viewed as more valuable to the Town by the Conservation Commission but maybe because of cost or availability in some fashion it would be better to buy another parcel instead. That is part of the idea

around trying to complete a ranking system.

Mr. Farrell asked if someone could attach that data to the information when it is presented to the Council for action in the future?

Mayor Dickinson saw no problem with Mr. Farrell's request.

Mr. Farrell asked, by referring to the historical and cultural value earlier, do you mean archeological as well?

Mr. Borne answered, yes.

Mr. Farrell asked, has the State given you access to those restricted files that deal with prehistoric indian sites?

Mr. Borne responded, no, they have not. In our inventory that is something that we still want to do and we have not contacted the State on that particular criteria yet.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked if it is true that the Town of Durham has expressed a great deal of interest in acquiring the land from Wallingford?

Mr. Borne responded, the Town of Durham did send a letter expressing interest that if Wallingford wished to sell the property Durham would be interested in talking to the Town about it.

Mr. Melillo asked if anyone was helping the commission?

Mr. Borne answered, no. A lot of people recognize that the parcel we own is valuable for a number of different reasons and I doubt that the value is going to diminish significantly if the Town does not rush into selling it. In fact it may increase.

Mr. Melillo pointed out that the land the Town will purchase to replace the Durham parcel will also increase respectively.

Mayor Dickinson explained, in order for the Town to sell the Durham property we have to know what we have to purchase. The Conservation Commission is assisting the Town in coming up with a list of properties that we may be interested in purchasing. We are not in the position to just sell the Durham parcel because the State D.E.P. must approve the sale and they will not do so unless we are replacing it with a similar piece of property, hence we need to know what we want to purchase before we proceed to sell, if we want to sell.

Mr. Zappala stated, according to the State the Town of Durham has the right of first refusal to the property.

Mr. Knight asked if the State has expressed any interest in obtaining the property since it is contiguous to one of its own parcels? Have we had any contact with the State to see if they are, in fact, interested?

Mr. Borne responded, the commission has not had any contact with regards to the acquisition of land, however, it is a good point and perhaps the State should be contacted. It is my understanding that the State never has any money available to purchase property but it can't hurt to ask.

Mr. Farrell noted that the State has, in the past, purchased parcels that are contiguous to their property. It is not a total impossibility.

No action taken.

ITEM #9 Discussion and Possible Action on a Request that the Mayor Provide a Report Which Defines the Necessary Requirements and Costs for 911 Calls to be Answered and Dispatched from Within the Town of Wallingford as Requested by Vice Chairman Raymond J. Rys, Sr.

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Hear the Report, seconded by Mr. Centner.

Mr. Rys explained that there has been a lot of contact from the public regarding the 911 issue therefore he feels that, with the support of the Council, they direct the Mayor to submit a report to keep the 911 system here, in Wallingford.

Mayor Dickinson responded, I am willing to provide that report, the aspects of it are in the process now and I am hoping that in the relatively near future we can have the report.

Mr. Rys explained that this is basically to put to bed the idea of going outside the Town with our 911 system.

Mr. Knight asked, will the report examine various alternatives?

Mayor Dickinson answered, if you mean dealing with a single dispatch area, yes. I don't picture us having two dispatch centers in town.

Mr. Centner asked, do you envision retaining C-MED in their present role for some ambulatory services?

Mayor Dickinson answered, the role C-MED plays now would not be replaceable by anything, to my knowledge. They perform regional dispatch for medical emergency purposes and I think we would not be in a position to in any way change that.

Mr. Melillo expressed his approval of keeping the 911 system in the Town.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #10 Consider and Approve Appointing a Three Member Committee of the Council to Meet with Habitat for Humanity

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Appoint Councilors Farrell, Knight and Zappala to the Committee to Meet with Habitat for Humanity, seconded by Mr. Centner.

Sam Sargent, Member of the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of the Wallingford Region explained what the function of the committee will be at the request of Ms. Papale.

Mr. Sargent stated, Habitat would like the committee to come up with a way that Habitat could acquire one of the pieces of property to build a one or two-family house. To come up with some method of acquiring the property that works both for Habitat for Humanity and the Town of Wallingford. Habitat has recently learned that Wal*Mart intends to make a major donation to our effort in Town if we can move the project along and start construction this summer.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEMS #11, 12, 13, 14 & 15

Motion was made by Mr. Centner to Remove Agenda Items #11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 From the Table, seconded by Mr. Knight.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #11 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 10-153d; 1-18a(e)(5) and 1-19(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Personnel

ITEM #16 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to the Sale/Purchase of Property - Mayor's Office

ITEM #17 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(2) of the CT. General Statutes to Discuss Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Litigation

Motion was made by Mr. Centner to Enter Into the Executive Sessions, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Present in Executive Session for Item #12 were all Councilors with the exception of Chairman Parisi and Councilor Doherty; Mayor Dickinson, Atty. Small, Terence Sullivan, Personnel Director and Atty. Dennis Ciccarillo.

Present in Executive Session for Items #16 & 17 were all Councilors with the exception of Chairman Parisi and Councilor Doherty; Mayor Dickinson and Atty. Small.

Motion was made by Mr. Centner to Exit the Executive Sessions, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12 Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ratification of the Consolidated Pension Plan for Management and Supervisory Employees of the Town of Wallingford Effective 2/5/95 to 6/30/2002

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

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; Papale, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #13 Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ratification of an Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and Fire Union Local 1326 - Personnel

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

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #14 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$90,793 from General Government Acct. #001-8050-800-3230 to Various Accounts Within the Fire Department's Budget to Fund the Firefighter's Contract for F.Y. 1996-97 - Personnel

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

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #15 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$187,733 from Accrued Expenses Acct. #001-8050-800-3230 to Various Accounts Within the Fire Department's Budget to Fund the Firefighter's Contract for F.Y. 1997-98 - Personnel

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

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #18 Consider and Approve the Settlement of Pending Litigation

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Authorize the Town Attorney to Settle the Case of Key America v. Town of Wallingford as Discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Authorize the Town Attorney to Consent to the Settlement in the Case of Pierlioni v. Town of Wallingford as Discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

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

VOTE: Doherty and Parisi were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:07 P.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

Kathryn F. Zandri
Kathryn F. Zandri
Town Council Secretary

Approved by:

Robert F. Parisi

Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

6-17-97

Date

Rosemary A. Rascati
Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

6-18-97

Date