

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 14, 1998

6:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call
2. Correspondence
3. Consent Agenda
 - a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#263-273) Totaling \$3,292.50 - Tax Collector
 - b. Approve and Accept the Minutes of the March 10, 1998 Town Council Meeting
 - c. Approve and Accept the Minutes of the March 17, 1998 Town Council Meeting
 - d. Approve and Accept the Minutes of the March 24, 1998 Town Council Meeting
 - e. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 from Snow Plow Truck with Equipment Acct. #001-5015-999-9901 to Purchase Professional Services - Custodial Acct. #001-5015-901-9014 - Public Works Dept.
 - f. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$886 from Snow Plow Truck w/ Equipment Acct. #001-5015-999-9901 and \$414 from Repairs to Structural Steel Buildings Acct. #001-5015-999-9128 for a Total of \$1,300 to Other Pay Acct. #001-5015-101-1700 - Dept. Of Public Works
 - g. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$2,256 from Van w/Accessories Acct. #001-5015-999-9919 and \$2,744 from Snow Plow Truck w/Equipment Acct. #001-5015-999-9901 for a Total of \$5,000 from Purchase Professional Services - Tree Contracts Acct. #001-5015-901-9023 - Public Works Dept.
 - h. Consider and Approve a Transfer of \$1,500 from Pool Maintenance Acct. #001-4001-560-5110 to Office Supplies Acct. #001-4001-401-4000 - Director of Parks & Recreation

(OVER)

- i. Consider and Approve the Partial Release of Utility Easements and Right of Way - Town Attorney
 - j. Consider and Approve a Five Year Lease Between the Town of Wallingford and the New Haven Society of Model Engineers, Inc. For a Portion of the Basement of the Railroad Station Building - Town Attorney
4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda
5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD
6. Consider and Approve the Acceptance of a \$2,500 Donation from Fleet Bank and the Appropriation of Said Funds to Expenditures and Revenues Acct. Of the Intergenerational Garden Program Special Fund - Youth Service Bureau
7. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$16,687 from Athey/Mobile Sweeper Acct. #001-5015-999-9126 and \$3,313 from Repairs to Structural Steel Building Acct. #001-5015-999-9128 for a Total of \$20,000 to Overtime Acct. #001-5015-101-1400 - Public Works Dept.
- Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$238,976 from General Wages Acct. #001-2005-101-1000; \$603 from Purchased Services - Custodial Acct. #001-2005-901-9013; \$251 from Purchased Services - Collect. Acct. #001-2005-901-9026; \$164 from File Cabinets Acct. #001-2005-999-9910; \$698 from In-Car Video Acct. #001-2005-999-9912; \$99 from Overhead Projector Acct. #001-2005-999-9925; \$277 from Dictation System Acct. #001-2005-999-9927; \$327 from Fax Machine Acct. #001-2005-999-9929 and \$53,600 from Consolidated Pension Plan Acct. #001-8020-800-8080 for a Total of \$294,995 to Police Computer System Acct. #001-2005-999-9935 - Dept. Of Police Services
9. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$126,489 to Federal Funds Computer System Acct. #058-5800-200-9000; \$32,116 to State Funds Computer System Acct. #058-5800-200-9001; \$126,489 to Federal Funds Acct. #058-1040-050-5020 and \$32,116 to State Funds Acct. #058-1040-050-5010 in the Narcotics Forfeiture Funds Budget - Dept. Of Police Services
10. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$58,417 from Consolidated Pension Acct. #001-8020-800-8080 to Fire Dept. Computer System Acct. #2030-999-9997 - Dept. Of Fire Services

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11. Consider and Approve Clarifying the Vote Taken at the March 31, 1998 Special Meeting on the Quinnipiac Street Project. Motion to Waive Public Bidding and Allow the Contractors (Under State Bid) on the Quinnipiac Corridor State Project to Perform Work for the Town Including Sidewalk, Roadway, Water Main and Other Streetscape Improvements Including Period Lighting from Route 5 to the Quinnipiac Street Bridge as Designed and Planned by the Town Engineering Department - Mayor's Office
12. SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 7:45 P.M. on a Proposed Ordinance Entitled, "Nuisance Cat Ordinance" as Requested by Ordinance Committee Chairman Stephen W. Knight
13. SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 8:00 P.M. on a Proposed Ordinance Entitled, "Open Burning Ordinance" as Requested by Ordinance Committee Chairman Stephen W. Knight
14. Report Out on the Status of the Simpson School Property, Particularly the Condition of the Roof as Requested by Councilor Tom Zappala
15. Discussion and Possible Action on the Town Engineer's Involvement with the Community Pool Renovation Project as Requested by Councilor Tom Zappala
16. Consider and Approve the Televising of All Special Town Council Meetings as Requested by Councilor Geno J. Zandri, Jr.
17. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(5) of the CT. General Statute Pertaining to Pension Negotiations - Personnel
18. Consider and Approve Ratifying a Pension Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and IBEW Local 457 Non-Hazard Pension Plan - Personnel
19. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(5) and 1-19(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes Pertaining to the Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Personnel
20. Consider and Approve a Contract Between the Town of Wallingford and IBEW Local 457 Clerical Unit Electric Division Contract - Personnel

(OVER)

21. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the CT. General Statutes Pertaining to the Purchase, Sale and/or Lease of Property - Mayor

Consider and Approve the Purchase of Real Property or Authorize the Town Attorney to Proceed in the Manner Provided by Section 48-12 of the CT. General Statutes to Commence Condemnation of Said Real Property - Mayor's Office

23. SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 8:15 P.M. to Conduct a Public Hearing, Consider and Act Upon a Proposed Bond Ordinance and Appropriation for the Acquisition of Various Parcels of Real Property by the Town of Wallingford - Mayor's Office

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 14, 1998

6:30 P.M.

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23. SET A PUBLIC HEARING for 4/28/98 at 8:15 P.M. to Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider and Act Upon a Proposed Bond Ordinance and Appropriation for the Acquisition of Various Parcels of Real Property by the Town of Wallingford - Mayor

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 14, 1998

6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, April 14, 1998 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairman Robert F. Parisi at 6:33 P.M. All Councilors answered present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Rosemary A. Rascati. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr.; Corporation Counselor Adam Mantzaris and Comptroller Thomas A. Myers were also present.

A blessing was bestowed upon the Council by Gene Riotte, Deacon, Holy Trinity Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ITEM #2 Correspondence

A letter from Nathaniel Palmer, 15 Malchiodi Drive, Wallingford was read into the record (Appendix I). Mr. Palmer expressed his feelings on the issue of televising special meetings. He is in favor of televising Town Council Meetings to give the elderly and students the opportunity to view the important decisions being made at the meetings.

ITEM #3 Consent Agenda

ITEM #3a Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#263-273) Totaling \$3,292.50 - Tax Collector

ITEM #3b Approve and Accept the Minutes of the March 10, 1998 Town Council Meeting

ITEM #3c Approve and Accept the Minutes of the March 17, 1998 Town Council Meeting

ITEM #3d Approve and Accept the Minute of the March 24, 1998 Town Council Meeting

ITEM #3e Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 from Snow Plow Truck with Equipment Acct. #001-5015-999-9901 to Purchase Professional Services - Custodial Acct. #001-5015-901-9014 - Public Works Dept.

ITEM #3f Consider and Approve a Transfer Funds in the Amount of \$886 from Snow Plow Truck with Equipment Acct. #001-5015-999-9901 and \$414 from Repairs to Structural Steel Buildings Acct. #001-5015-999-9128 for a Total of \$1,300 to Other Pay Acct. #001-5015-101-1700 - Dept. Of Public Works

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ITEM #3h Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,500 from Pool Maintenance Acct. #001-4001-560-5110 to Office Supplies Acct. #001-4001-401-4000 - Director of Parks & Recreation

M #3i Consider and Approve the Partial Release of Utility Easements and Right-of-Way - Town Attorney

ITEM #3j Consider and Approve a Five Year Lease Between the Town of Wallingford and the New Haven Society of Model Engineers, Inc. for a Portion of the Basement of the Railroad Station Building - Town Attorney

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Approve the Consent Agenda, Items A-J, seconded by Mr. Centner.

VOTE: All ayes, motion duly carried.

ITEM #4 Withdrawn

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville referred to what he termed the "temporary exclusivity agreement" with Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. for a feasibility study of the Pierce Plant site. He suggested that the Town keep the other five firms who submitted proposals for the study informed on the matter and to let them know that, as time goes by, those same firms can submit bids to generate electricity from the site since the Town has not entered into anything legally binding. He asked the Chairman what he thought of this suggestion.

Mr. Parisi responded, you are right, my understanding is exactly what you said. We approved it last meeting; it has been approved, I believe to a person, and that night we understood that we are not bound to act in any way. If they (Pennsylvania Light and Power Co.) makes their presentation and the Council, as a majority, isn't satisfied or doesn't it and they vote accordingly, that will be it. It would be up to the P.U.C. to keep the others firms informed. We ld convey that to the P.U.C.

Mr. Parisi asked that a memo be sent to the P.U.C. expressing the Council's appreciation for participation on the part of the other bidders and stating that, in no way is the Council bound to this (exclusivity agreement); convey the thought that we are not really locked into anything.

Mr. Zandri stated that he has spoken to Raymond Smith, Director of Public Utilities on this topic this past week and at the next Council Meeting Mr. Smith will report out in executive session to explain exactly how the P.U.C. arrived at their decision to recommend Pennsylvania Power and Light Company for the feasibility study. This will be helpful to the Council.

Mr. Melillo stated that he thought that Mr. Zandri's suggestion that the Electric Division donate \$250,000 to the Wallingford Girls' Softball League is a great idea. The youth of our country has tremendous promise. Actions such as this encourage the youth to stay active in sports and away from drugs.

Andy Kapi, 6 Deme Road spoke to the issue of the Pierce Plant site as well. He stated, about two and one-half hours into the discussion on the topic last week, Atty. Janis Small made the comment referring to a clause in the agreement and she may have used the words, contract negotiations, or she may have said something else but the language is, once these folks, (Pa. Light and Power Co.) decide that the site is appropriate or feasible for them, the Town will be advised promptly in writing and the exclusivity agreement between the parties shall automatically continue into a detailed development agreement between the community and the developer. You could use detailed development agreement

or contract negotiations, it amounts to the same thing. The way I read it, the ball is in their court and say they decided the site was fine for them, we are bound to a period of contract negotiations. The savings grace possibly in that clause is that, however in no event shall the parties be obligated to negotiate beyond six months from the execution of this agreement. That would seem to apply that we have the right to pull out. By the same token, we were told that the reason for signing this exclusivity agreement was to demonstrate good faith in negotiations. Couple those two concepts together legally, I am wondering what their stance would be if they decided they wanted to build on this site and we raised objections during the negotiation phase? I am wondering if there would be a possible charge to us of not negotiating in good faith? I am a little more threatened by what happened last week, in terms of the inevitability of it, then the Council seems to be. I am happy to hear comments tonight that you do not feel obligated to vote for this agreement should it go to the phase of them putting forth a contract for your approval. Overall, for this kind of decision, the Charter indicates that the agreement does have to be approved by the Council, but it does not say anywhere that the P.U.C. is to be the sole negotiators for this type of agreement. I would look to see a more active role from this Council and I don't see anything in the Charter which proscribes the Council from having representatives on a negotiating committee along with the members of the P.U.C. I would think that this is a momentous decision. To be fair to everyone, this is not a final proposal nor is it even an attempt at where their plan for this is actually going but there is language in here that indicates some possible downside. Obviously, there are tax incentives involved here and that is the carrot. The "stick" is language like "define available fresh water from community and projected rates". I would like someone from the Water Division here to make a report to the Council as to what long range implications this has for our water supply, what could be made available to them and what should not.

Mr. Parisi replied, that will all be part of the study.

Mr. Kapi stated, I would like this information to be discussed in a public forum prior to the night of the vote. This is simply a suggestion. This type of information is not something that should come out for the first time on the night of the vote when this is presented to the Council.

Mr. Parisi stated, pertaining to the approval (by the Council), I am sure that I asked the question very distinctly, "are we in any way binding ourselves?" and I believe that the answer was, "no".

Mayor Dickinson explained, we are bound to allow them to look into the feasibility of the site. Beyond that we are not bound.

Mr. Parisi stated, we are not bound in any way. I am sure that I asked that question.

Mr. Kapi asked, we are not bound automatically to continue into a detailed development agreement?

Mr. Parisi replied, I don't believe that we are.

Mayor Dickinson explained, there could be an effort to negotiate an agreement. If it is not successful, you are not obligated to sign an agreement. We are obligated to negotiate but that does not mean that we will meet an agreement.

Mr. Kapi responded, if the reason for the exclusivity agreement was given that it is to demonstrate good faith in negotiations, I am just wondering if they are liable to couple those two concepts and say that if we decide their plan is not something that we want to go with, what liability we are exposed to. I know that is a gray area.

Mr. Parisi stated, I have no qualms making the statement that the feeling of this Council was that we are not bound. That is my position, they can say what ever they want to and do what ever they want.

Mr. Kapi stated, some of the potential downside, which I hope would be discussed publicly in a hearing before the night of the vote would include; the fresh water supply, the cooling system that requires lots and lots of water...

Mr. Parisi reminded Mr. Kapi that the issue was covered.

Mr. Kapi asked, what do you mean by covered; it is not in the contract, it is not in a plan; it is not decided.

Mr. Parisi explained, we have to let the process go forward.

Mayor Dickinson added, as the Town Attorney reported last week, the Town Attorney's position on this is that the Town is not obligated to enter into an agreement. If we don't agree with them, yes, we make an effort to negotiate, if we don't reach an agreement then that is it.

Mr. Kapi stated, O.K., I appreciate that. I would, however, like to see some type of public outreach here because, unlike the experience with the Trash Plant, which I don't believe any of us want to replicate, I don't believe the way to have this happen is to have a decision on a given night and some of these points be raised and then the concerns of the citizens come afterward. There are people who live on those streets; South St., East St., John St., Valley St., So. Cherry St.; they are going to have, in addition to traffic and the dislocation in their neighborhoods for the effort to build this thing, there is going to be residual effects. There is going to be, however they do this, from what ever water supply, there is going to be steam in the air. There are going to be some miserable summer nights and in addition to that there are particulants in the air from the Trash Plant. When the steam and particulants combine in the air, you will not have farm fresh dew in the morning, you are going to have grime and something that is pretty dirty.

Mr. Parisi stated, I have every confidence that, at the proper time, there will be more than a sufficient explanation. Just like two years ago when we were threatened with the loss of supply of power and the rolling black out effect we might witness with brown-outs and things, there was an excellent attempt made to inform the public and I am sure that the very same procedure will be followed.

Mr. Kapi asked, will that be something like a direct mailing to the people...?

Mr. Parisi responded, I think we did a special television presentation; there were numerous articles in the paper; I think the P.U.C. has an in-house newspaper that went out. There was a lot of publicity. I am sure that will be followed again.

Mr. Kapi stated, one thing about this that is threatening in the long term from my perspective is that, we don't have control of this, in a sense, once it is in play because it is a marketing venture. It is based on someone's idea of power demand and the fact that natural gas, at this moment in time, appears plentiful. If you think back twenty to twenty-five years ago, I don't think that anyone would have looked at the nuclear power situation and anticipated what would be that case today. They may be into the second ten year lease of this agreement and find that conditions have changed and suddenly oil or some synthetic oil or something is a better solution to their needs. That could happen tomorrow but that means that nothing stands between us and another smoke stack then perhaps a permit from D.E.P.; something

that is essentially beyond our control. This is a momentous decision and it is a carrot and stick approach and I very much understand the tax incentives aspect but there is a downside and I think this Council is honor bound to delve into that downside.

Mr. Parisi stated, all I can do is assure you, that will be done. That is all I can do at this point. There is nothing to do until the study is completed.

Mr. Kapi asked, if they send a letter notifying the Town, in essence, that they find the site feasible for their plant, that means that we are going into that negotiation phase, can we then schedule a public hearing that is prior to the vote?

Mr. Parisi stated, there will be ample publicity. I cannot believe that the newspaper would allow this to go by without having comments or quite lengthy articles.

Mr. Kapi stated, a lot of what we do is exposed to the public and betrayed by media but beyond that is essentially what we do and what you do as Councilmembers. I would really want to see Councilmembers represented in that negotiation phase if it comes to that because you were elected to make those kinds of decisions.

Mr. Parisi stated, we are elected to make what ever decision comes up within our term anticipated or not, expected or not expected.

Mr. Kapi stated, it would be appropriate, based on our past lessons in particular with the trash plant, that this time we get all of that out on the table ahead of time.

Claudia Dunton, 22 Grandview Avenue stated, in two weeks you are having a meeting on the Nuisance Cat Ordinance. I read the articles in the newspaper; I wish for you in the next two weeks to consider these two items; first, the feral cats; to post their photo in the paper and then, if no one claims them, to euthanize them. When other communities are trapping, spaying, neutering, vaccinating and releasing them in the same area as long as (there is) a sponsor..., secondly, please think about this; we need to have a town-wide free or much more inexpensive spayed/neutered/vaccinating program to nip it at the bud. This was not in the newspaper. In two weeks I will be back to speak about this and I just wanted to make my feelings known.

ITEM #6 Consider and Approve a Donation of \$2,500 from Fleet Bank and the Appropriation of Said Funds to Expenditures and Revenues Acct. Of the Intergenerational Garden Program

Mr. Rys read a letter from Donald Roe, Program Planner, into the record stating that the Youth Service Bureau was awarded a cash prize of \$2,500 from Fleet Bank in recognition of the Intergenerational Garden, a program sponsored by the YSB with the cooperation of the Housing Authority and the Wallingford Police Department.

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

Ms. Papale asked where the garden area is?

Mayor Dickinson stated, he believed the area to be the garden located by Lyman Hall High School in the Housing Authority area.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville stated, other banks should follow Fleet's example.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #7 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$16,687 from Athey/Mobile Sweeper Acct. #001-5015-999-9126 and \$3,313 from Repairs to Structural Steel Building Acct. #001-5015-999-9128 for a Total of \$20,000 to Overtime Acct. #001-5015-101-1400 - Public Works Department

Correspondence from Henry McCully, Director of Public Works explains how his department has responded twenty-six (26) times for snow or ice conditions since November 14, 1997. On fourteen (14) of these responses, he had at least eighteen (18) employees report. On the other occasions, employees were called in to sand icy areas throughout the town. In addition, per union contract, whenever a call-in occurs after hours, those employees who are called in get a minimum of four (4) hours at time and one-half and double-time on Sundays and holidays. The overtime account is also used for clean-up in parks on weekends during summer use, Celebrate Wallingford (2 days), setting up the showmobile, lining the fields on weekends, working with contractors on road reconstruction projects and emergency call-ins (trees, limbs, pot holes, etc.)

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

Mr. Knight asked, how does this winter track with the last two (winters)?

Mr. McCully replied, this is total overtime, not just for snow and ice but it does reflect on how much; most of our overtime is snow and ice. In 1991-92 it was \$85,000; 1992-93 it was \$190,000; 1993-94 it was \$227,000; 1994-95 it was \$80,000; 1995-96 it was \$277,000 and 1996-97 it was \$141,000. I budgeted \$123,000 for this fiscal year. Overtime has always been a guessing game. Do I request more overtime and if we have a mild winter then it is unnecessary budgeting, etc. Traditionally, we have always under-funded the account and then relied on transfers and things like that to make up for it, if needed, in the end.

Mr. Zandri asked, are the dollars you are requesting for dollars that had already been expended or for potential through the end of the year?

Mr. McCully responded, this is for use until the end of the year. We will be bringing in people on the weekends to clean up the parks for picnics and we will also be bringing people in for make-up softball games to get people through the season for rain-outs, etc. We are going to start reconstruction of Highland Avenue and we like to keep our people working within hours of the contract. It is not a lot of overtime but it is an hour here, an hour there and it does add up.

Mr. Zandri asked, do you plan on using overtime for street sweeping?

Mr. McCully responded, not all the time but when we want to sweep the center of town such as the Town Hall and Simpson Court, the best time to do it is very early in the morning when there are no cars there. To post this whole area would be very inconvenient for people using the bank, coffee shop, etc.

Mr. Zandri stated, some of the examples cited is another argument that I have had talking about contracts and negotiating flex time and these are some of the instances that are good examples for why flex time would be

something beneficial for the Town to negotiate in future contracts. We, as a Council, should be pushing for it. Have we started any street sweeping yet?

Mr. McCully answered, yes, we started right after the first week of April. The roads we have scheduled to be paved; the Westview Hills area; the Wooding Road area; we started sweeping in there.

Mr. Zandri asked, what is normally the duration of time that it takes to get the whole town swept?

Mr. McCully answered, last year it took us a little over two months.

Mr. Zandri asked, do you normally start that at a given time or do you use the weather as a.....

Mr. McCully replied, we use the weather as a barometer. We have experimented, last year we started early. We swept subdivisions close to Public Works and in the event that it snowed we would use straight salt on the roads so that we would not have to go back and do it. When people see the sun shine and are beginning to spend time outside, everyone wants their roads done at once. We do have a rotating system. A long time ago we would start in the center of Town and work our way out but the community has expanded so much that the outskirts of Town are getting swept first rather than other areas. We are trying to keep everyone happy.

Mr. Zandri stated, the weather has been favorable this year and I am a little bit disappointed that we are not a little farther along with our sweeping program.

Mr. McCully stated, we can't until it stops freezing. Our sweepers are winterized and put away for the winter and to go through all the problems of de-winterizing them, getting them out of the garage, we can't sweep early in the morning and if we can't get them out for eight hours if it is twenty-eight (28) degrees at 7:30 a.m. when we start, we can't sweep. We have spray water to keep the dust down and if you start spraying water while it is cold enough out we will have cars sliding all over. It is driven by the weather and it is also a matter of, when we de-winterize them and break them out we like to keep them out and not have to do it twice.

Mr. Parisi asked, what was the final cost for the sweeper that you had budgeted for and purchased?

Mr. McCully replied, we originally budgeted \$120,000; the actual price was \$144,000 and we took advantage of a \$45,000 trade-in on our ten (10) year old sweeper. The reason we were able to get so much for the trade-in was because three other companies jumped into the game of bidding for the sweeper. We figured we may be able to get \$15,000 for the sweeper so the \$45,000 was outrageous; it looks good but you're not really getting \$45,000 for your sweeper, they just raise the price of the sweeper.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated, I have noticed in numerous areas in town this year that it seems as though we have a lot more silt, or mud or what ever in the sand. There is just a lot more dust and a lot more left on the roads after you are done sweeping. Is this the same supplier (of sand)?

Mr. McCully explained, before the last snowstorm, I would venture to say that Public Works probably could have swept the whole Town of Wallingford in a week because there was absolutely no sand on the roads at all. We had a lot of heavy rains and it was washed away. Right at the end of spring, you have a snowstorm that lasted off and on for

two days and we did put down a lot of sand and we have not had any torrential rains over a period of time to wash any of that into the catchbasins.

Mr. Wright stated, it seems as though there is silt, mud or what ever mixed with the sand this year than normally.

Mr. McCully stated that someone on staff goes out to the quarry to inspect the sand before it is purchased. IF we are not happy with it during the season; if we get any bad loads, we can always go to the next bidder. We had prompt delivery of the sand and good quality. Once the sand is on the side of the road, you have the grit and small stones wash out of it and you are left with more of the fine sand on the side of the road.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #8 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$238,976 from General Wages Acct. #001-2005-101-1000; \$603 from Purchased Services - Custodial Acct. #001-2005-901-9013; \$251 from Purchase Services - Collect. Acct. #001-2005-901-9026; \$164 from File Cabinets Acct. #001-2005-999-9910; \$698 from In-Car Video Acct. #001-2005-999-9912; \$99 from Overhead Projector Acct. #001-2005-999-9925; \$277 from Dictation System Acct. #001-2005-999-9927; \$327 from Fax Machine Acct. #001-2005-999-9929 and \$53,600 from Consolidated Pension Acct. #001-8020-800-8080 for a Total of \$294,995 to Police Computer System Acct. #001-2005-999-9935 - Dept. of Police Services

An overhead/computer presentation was facilitated by Chief Douglas Dortenzio and Officer Frank Sabo (Appendix II).

The Police Department's existing computer system is an IBM AS400 Model D35, vintage 1990-91. Its current storage capacity is 3.9 gigabytes, which is the amount of storage commonly found in PCs (personal computers). The system configuration includes twenty-eight (28) dumb terminals and twelve (12) personal computers which are being retained and will be used in the new configuration.

The topography used on the existing system is a four (4) megabit per second token-ring network. The department's difficulties with the current system includes: insufficient storage capacity; reliability issues which include increasing mechanical failures; maintenance agreements are no longer available; lack of redundancy for operational assurance, and no capacity for graphical applications; no capability for remote connectivity; low capacity, manual tape back-up system; processing bottlenecks related to increasing service calls; software can't meet present and future needs, and lastly, the year 2000 problems.

The department's business is moving more and more towards mobile data which provides up to date critical information to officers while they are actually in their vehicles. The new system will not accomplish that, it will only set the stage to do so in the future. For the last several years the federal government is moving to something called NIBRS (National Incident Based Reporting System). It is actually detailed information; fifty-two (52) data elements plus or minus have to be calculated for every reported crime. They are looking to have the department transmit that information to Hartford and from Hartford to Washington, D.C., on an electronic basis to get away from all the paperwork that is associated with this monthly requirement. NCIC (National Crime Information Center) has been around for a long period of time; every car that is stolen, every missing child or person, every firearm that is stolen, is reported to NCIC. They are also changing the manner in which they do business in Virginia. It is a national system

which all police departments in the United States rely on heavily. We need to make some changes internally in order to be able to stay with this critical piece of information when the year 2000 comes. The industry is also going to imaging which will allow us to do digital mugshots and transfer those from agency to agency the way newspapers send photographs electronically. In this day and age we need to make sure, through mug shots, that we are identifying the right person before we pursue with further prosecution. We sometimes wind up with very time-sensitive investigations; we had one here a week or so ago that required us to have someone start driving to another town while a police car starts driving from the other direction to pass off a photograph through the window of the car to race back to Wallingford with to hopefully meet the time frame in that particular case. In this case it worked out well but if we had to go to Greenwich or half-way to Greenwich, we never would have made it. Mapping is also something that is becoming commonplace in police business; it is used to change the deployment of radio cars and allocate resources based on an analysis of crime and where it is occurring. It allows the department to do pattern recognition and actually chart out where the trends happen to be moving from neighborhood to neighborhood. It is not long held secret that law enforcement generally does not eliminate crime, it is most successful in moving it. Normally, the information flow is in arrears. If the problem has moved on it takes us a period of time to realize what has actually transpired as a result of resource allocation. It is just another tool (mapping) which is becoming commonplace so that we can re-allocate resources and stay ahead of the curve.

The new equipment will help the department to eliminate the problem they have at the present time with their sole reliance on a single machine by going to four (4) redundant servers. There will be enhanced security and audit features with the programs that are being put into place and the greater storage capacity to eliminate the problem that the department has experienced in the last seven or eight years with their increasing service demands exceeding their storage capacity.

The new software will: be modular in design to facilitate future growth requirements; possess safety enhancements for both the employees and community; address the year 2000 problem; be easy to use - familiar with windows interface; integrate with Motorola radio systems; exhibit multi-departmental capabilities; design flexibility for end-user customization and 32-bit design - windows NT application. New features of the software will include: digital E-911 interface; COLLECT/NCIC interface; be NIBRS compliant; digital imagery; bar coding; State forms interface; case tracking; scheduling/absentees; accident reporting; fleet management; gang/m.o. tracking; mapping; mobile data/AVL capability.

Enhancements to the software will affect the areas of: Police, Fire, EMS, dispatching and records management capabilities; citation management; unit safety tracking; intelligence/narcotics; property evidence; word processing; training records; warrants; business/alarm file; GEO base; wrecker rotation; master name inquiry; criminal history; equipment inventory.

At this time a brief presentation was held on the new software.

Fire Chief Peter Struble was next to speak on the topic explaining how the Department of Fire Services was given an opportunity to participate in reviewing the software specifications. The department identified the features that it needs, specifically, with a computer-dispatched system where the primary is a target for us but also in fire station management. When the request for pricing went out, the department's needs were incorporated into that as was reflected in the presentation. Representatives of the department have visited a lot of sites and have not seen anything that even comes close to this system. If the two departments had researched systems and put together their own

requests, they would have come up with the same system because the two departments have found that their needs are very close and very similar and that applies to their database needs as well.

Chief Dortenzio stated, \$158,000 of the transfer request to buy the system is a proposal to use the money that the department has taken away from drug dealers in Wallingford, recycle it and put it to good use with a system that would allow the department to go back out and chase them a little further.

Ms. Papale stated that she was unable to attend the demonstrations offered on the system due to her employment obligations however, her colleagues have filled her in on the subject matter. She was glad to see the two departments have incorporated each other's needs into the proposal. She asked, what is the fate of the 9-1-1 system, will it be in the Police or Fire Department?

Chief Dortenzio responded, the ratio of police calls to fire calls is about ten to one (10:1) in favor of the police department handling the greater volume. This system is made by Lucent Technologies who has just won the State of Connecticut bid back in November or December to change out all of the telephone equipment for all of the 9-1-1 centers throughout the State. They have already started the process which they estimate to take about fourteen months. The software is designed to work in tandem with the equipment. This software has the capability of reading the telephone company's subscriber information; the number that you are calling from, the address, the resident who is associated with the billing records for that telephone, etc.

Mr. Zandri questioned the location of the equipment and when it is expected to be up and running?

Chief Dortenzio explained that the equipment will be housed at the Police Station and it is expected to be up and running by the end of the year.

Mr. Zandri stated that he is glad to see the modernization of the equipment; it is something that is very important for the community and a positive move on the Town's part. He asked, how is it that \$53,600 is available in the Consolidated Pension fund?

Chief Dortenzio deferred the question to Comptroller Thomas Myers.

Mr. Myers explained, when preparing the 1998 budget we were advised by our actuary to budget for pension contribution. Two months ago that same actuary advised the Town that it was not necessary to contribute for the current fiscal year therefore the Town is not contributing.

Mr. Zandri asked, the dollars were budgeted but not paid out and that is why they are available?

Mr. Myers answered, yes.

Mr. Rys stated, it was stated during the demonstration at the Police Department that this system can later on have the ability to, if so needed, to go to management within the Electric, Water and Sewer and Public Works Departments. Is that correct?

Chief Dortenzio responded, that is correct

Mr. Rys asked, will they be able to perform fleet management and dispatch functions if so desired?

Chief Dortenzio, replied, if so desired, yes.

Mr. Rys indicated that he supported the purchase whole-heartedly for it will increase the record-keeping capabilities of the department; the safety of the community and will make it easier for the men out in the field for they will be able to receive more information quicker; response times should be cut down considerably.

Chief Struble stated, the response times can be cut down, especially with the volunteer units. In a combined setting the initial dispatch for the volunteer units will experience a twenty to thirty seconds "shaving" off of time getting their tone alerts out so they can activate faster.

Mr. Rys stated, if used properly, the community will definitely benefit from this and we will perhaps be able to save a lot more people and cut down on crime considerably. I support it.

Mr. Knight stated, this system has so much more storage capability, you will be inputting a tremendous amount of information regarding individual buildings, etc. You had budgeted for some of that work to be done. Is it enough to your satisfaction that this system is going to be utilized at peak efficiency?

Chief Dortenzio mapping and electronic mug shots are not on the system at this time. We have a room that is eight by ten (8 X 10) with about 20,000 mug shots in it. This will allow us to store it and avoid the cost of photographic film processing and storage but it will allow us to tailor our searches. Over a period of time we are not going to try and scan all the existing photographs; it would not make sense for us to do that. We take enough of them on an annual basis that regular "customers" will have their picture taken enough times that we will not need to scan back the old ones. Existing data; we will look to not only migrate what we have but some of the material we have had to take off line for the last two successive years for lack of storage. We will look to put some of that back on the system.

Mr. Knight stated, you, Chief Struble, do have a data entry project ahead of you.

Chief Struble replied, yes, but when we go to a combined setting we are going to have an immediate benefit of the current databases that the police have which will be transferred over to the new system. We currently do not have those databases. We only have to add our information to the existing database. We will be appending an existing database with the information that is pertinent to the Fire Department operations. Hydrant locations will be overlaid onto the existing database so that we have a more accurate location of a hydrant for a particular building.

Mr. Knight asked if the department has budgeted for that.

Chief Struble replied, we have budgeted in terms of the medical pre-ridal instructions and things like that are standard operating procedures that need to go on to the software. We walk into this with a lot of information that we will be receiving that are currently on databases that will be brought over by the Police Department. We need to build it and we need a place to store and we need an accurate and quick way to retrieve it. We will, for the first time, have the ability to start to build it.

Chief Dortenzio stated, it could take one year from today's date for every bell and whistle to be on line and fully populated.

Mr. Knight stated that he hoped that the departments will have the resources that will be to take full advantage of this unbelievable system.

Mr. Centner concurred with Mr. Rys; the seminar or demonstration was very thorough and, in addition, he learned a lot about the department's regulations pertaining to record keeping. Do we have the appropriate protection measures against computer "hackers" and viruses, etc.?

Chief Dortenzio replied that he is not sure anything is secure. It is a balance between how much money you want to spend for how much risk you want to take on. We have found an appropriate balance and have a number of security protocols in place. Part of the overall package is anti-virus software that can be distributed across the network; a number of security features; some disaster recovery programs, etc. We have taken as many prudent precautions as we can take at this point given the number of dollars that are involved.

Mr. Centner asked if the hardware will be run with uninterruptable power supplies?

Chief Dortenzio responded, yes. We do have our own generator which kicks in seven seconds after a power failure and many devices are put on systems that will provide us back up electrical service. For that seven second delay we have bridged that gap with an u.p.s. (uninterruptable power system) device.

Mr. Centner asked, is this configuration something that can be adapted to the new upcoming high speed internet to take advantage of?

Chief Dortenzio stated, we are on the internet on a regular basis with the Department of Justice, F.B.I. and a number of other law enforcement agencies. The industry is still in a little bit of chaos with respect to modems and which way they are going to go; we are going to stick with some of the more stable systems, not some of the cutting edge devices. It costs more money than proposed here to go to cutting edge and it is not necessarily stable. I can't afford to lose some emergency calls or lose the system for some sort of a technical glitch. Internet service or access in our building at the present time is restricted to only one or two devices. There are some security concerns I have with access through the internet. We will proceed very cautiously in that respect.

Mr. Farrell asked, if you do get the laptops in the patrol cars, do you envision the officers filing their reports out in the field or they are coming back to the police station and doing them at that point?

Chief Dortenzio responded, doing the reports in the field. We are actually going to start looking for some grant monies; we have gotten notice that later this month the Department of Justice is going to come out with additional funding which may lend itself to the acquisition of mobile data this system is capable of providing. It was designed to go in that direction. It is an advantage to both me and the town to keep our law enforcement officers in the field. It is a decided advantage for them to be able to stay in the field and to be able to give them the tools they need in order to stay there and to perform their job adequately. It also has an impact on labor costs for the town.

Mr. Renda stated that he is a strong supporter of both the Fire and Police Departments. What ever tools or materials are needed to make their jobs easier, he supported it.

Reginald Knight, 21 Audette Drive asked if the staff has all the necessary training for the new equipment?

Chief Dortenzio stated, they don't have it all; they have a familiarity with Windows appearance of software products which predominates the marketplace today. To the extent that we don't need to train them on something that looks very cryptic which is what we currently have. We avoid the training costs associated with the look and the feel of the software product. It has some new features that they are not used to but they will pick up in short order because some of this is practiced on a daily basis. We will have to provide some instruction. We have made arrangements for this company to come in and not train every employee. What we will do is train a small nucleus of employees and have them train their comrades. This "train the trainer" system has worked well in the past and will help reduce our operating expenses.

Reginald Knight asked, will there be more than one operator helping the dispatcher at one time?

Chief Dortenzio responded, there are two dispatchers working on the shifts. The dispatcher inputs the address and does not need to do anything else to search the databases for those hazards. It is triggered by the address and the location.

Reginald Knight asked if photographs can be sent via wire to the police cruisers or fire trucks?

Chief Dortenzio responded, that would require the use of cellular technology in conjunction with the computers or use a proprietary radio frequency. It is cheaper to do it with cellular technology; that is what we are looking to follow this project. There is a potential for some grant funds at the federal level. We received a notice within the last week or two that later this month they will release public information about how much money and who can qualify and if we have to come up with part of the funds ourselves.

Reginald Knight wished Chief Dortenzio luck with the new system.

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue stated that it is a very good system and he supports it. He asked, is there enough funds left in the general wage account to meet payroll to the end of the year?

Chief Dortenzio responded that he feels confident there are sufficient funds. Funds are available due to the process of filling positions, the time of the year the positions may be filled, when a candidate enters the police training program, when they exit the training programs, etc. All of this leads to surpluses during the year.

Mr. Sheehan stated, it seems as though the Town is not going to contribute towards the pension fund this year, only the employees.

Mr. Myers replied, that is correct.

Mr. Sheehan asked, how much was budgeted by the Town for its' share of contribution to the pension fund?

Mr. Myers answered, approximately \$1.1 million.

Mr. Sheehan asked, is that going to go back into the general fund at the end of the year or are you just going to replace about \$112,000 between the Fire and Police Departments?

Mr. Myers replied, any money not transferred from that pension budget, if not used for another purpose, will revert back to the general fund balance.

Andy Kapi, 6 Deme Road commended Chief Dortenzio on an excellent presentation and asked, among other questions, are there backlogs of paper documents that have to be scanned, stored and archived?

Chief Dortenzio replied, we do have some backlog. It is difficult to stay current with it. We dedicate labor to microfilming on an as needed basis. Most of our records, with the exception of State forms, is already electronic and has been for a number of years. It is storage-intensive and has created a different problem for us which brings us here tonight.

Gene Letourneau, 1098 Durham Road asked, there are zero dollars for the present fiscal year for the pension fund?

Mr. Myers answered, correct.

Mr. Letourneau asked, if the present system crashes, is the Fire Department going to have any type of back up system?

Chief Dortenzio stated, there are four file servers. Each individual dispatcher uses one; the third one handles the supplemental databases; our typical record management such as mug shots and that sort of thing; the fourth file server is just a redundant server that we are acquiring just in case one of the primary file servers fails. There are four separate systems. They are four different stand alone components. We are going to be using certain types of technologies that will write the data across several different discs on several different machines and we do daily tape back ups as well of all of our data for preservation purposes. We have built as many reasonable redundancies into the system as we can.

Mr. Letourneau asked, is everything going to be at the police department or will there be any type of system, mike-wise, communication-wise at the fire department?

Chief Struble answered, tonight's discussion is mainly around the software and hardware. The basic game plan for the computers is that they would be located at the police department and there would be a built-in redundancy there to prevent what is commonly called a computer crash. Beyond this point there is still a lot of planning and discussion that needs to be done.

Mr. Letourneau asked, is the CAD system that was shown on the video tonight the same system that we were going to get anyway through the State grant or is it a separate system that is incorporated in the system that the Town is purchasing?

Chief Dortenzio asked, when you are talking about the State money, are you talking about E 9-1-1?

Mr. Letourneau responded, yes. E 9-1-1 is currently owned by the State that we have at the fire house. Those systems are going to be upgraded on an eventual plan to CAD systems. If none of this would have occurred, we would have gotten a CAD system at some date.

Chief Struble explained, you are correct in saying that there is State money. That money is buying new digital equipment which, unlike the current 9-1-1 equipment that we use which is analog and in a computer which is about the

size of a dishwasher, is going to be P.C. (personal computer) based run on a Microsoft NT operating system. That equipment is not designed to be computer aided dispatch equipment. It is basically designed to take the place of what the current 9-1-1 equipment does, do it digitally and there are some enhanced features because it is p.c. based. It is not in any way a CAD system. It is a call taking piece of equipment which would give an address line and basic information about the address and then it is set up to integrate into other p.c. based CAD systems like this. That will dovetail into this new CAD/software. There is more than likely going to be some dollar savings because S.N.E.T. is basically using Lucent Technologies software and hardware in their E 9-1-1 equipment that they are providing. We are using the same software in the CAD system that we are proposing here.

Mr. Letourneau stated that the lap top computers would prove to be an asset to the Fire Department rather than have to tear off the sheets in the trucks.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street wanted to know what percentage of the Police Department's general wages was the \$238,000.?

Chief Dortenzio could not respond without looking at the total wage figure in the budget book.

Mr. Wright asked, have we always had this kind of a figure available?

Chief Dortenzio replied, it is a little higher this year than in previous years. We generally have some, somebody always leaves during the course of the fiscal year. How fast we can replace that individual has a number of variables.

Mr. Wright asked, how much is left in the pension fund account?

Mr. Myers answered, in the general fund, \$800,000.

Mr. Wright stated, then we can look to some benefits from all of this over taxation that we have talked about for all these years? If we have all of that money left in there, how are we going to spend it?

Mr. Parisi asked that Mr. Wright stay on the matter of the computer.

Mr. Wright stated, I hope that we will be taking good care of the cash cow.

Wesley Lube, 15 Montowese Trail asked, six to nine months ago we had both the Fire and Police Chief here telling us at great length why we have to go into a reasonable planning for a 9-1-1 system? If we are now spending this money, doesn't mean that they are now committed to keeping the 9-1-1 here, in Town.

Mr. Parisi stated, the Council made it very clear that night that the 9-1-1 system will stay in Wallingford.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked if there would be any problems with IBM if we switch over systems?

Chief Dortenzio answered, no.

Melillo asked, why couldn't both the Fire and Police Departments get their own 9-1-1 systems?

Mr. Parisi stated, we are not that far yet.

Chief Dortenzio explained, this is not something that we can control this evening. This is something that is done on a national level with the telephone companies and is not a part of our discussion this evening. WE can't control it even if we wanted to.

Mr. Parisi concurred with Mr. Kapi and Mr. Centner and the others; stating that this was a fine presentation. He also wished to commend the individuals before the Council tonight for the manner in which they worked together on this program. He commented, it isn't always possible for two service units that have, in a sense, been stereotyped as being competitive, work as well as the two departments did on this matter.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Transfer funds in the amount of \$238,976 from General Wages; \$603 from Purchased Services - Custodial; \$251 from Purchased Services - Collect.; \$164 from File Cabinets; \$698 from In-Car Video; \$99 from Overhead Projector; \$277 from Dictation System; \$327 from Fax Machine; \$53,600 from Consolidated Pension Plan which totals \$294,995 to Police Computer System, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #9 Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$126,489 to Federal Funds Computer System Acct. #058-5800-200-9000; \$32,116 to State Funds Computer System Acct. #058-5800-200-9001; \$126,489 Federal Funds Acct. #058-1040-050-5020 and \$32,116 to State Funds Acct. #058-1040-050-5010 in the Narcotics feiture Funds Budget - Dept. Of Police Services

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #10 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$58,417 from Consolidated Pension Acct. #001-8020-800-8080 to Fire Dept. Computer System Acct. #2030-999-9997 - Dept. Of Fire Services

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

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street asked, what is the total figure we are going to be spending here? How much was budgeted for this project in addition to all of what we are putting in now?

Chief Dortenzio replied, the combined total for Police hardware and software and the Fire software is \$485,414.

Chief Struble stated, the hardware component costs for the Fire Department is \$26,600.

Chief Dortenzio added that up to be approximately \$511,000.

Mr. Wright asked, other than the figures in the transfers, was there a fair amount of money in the budget already?

Chief Dortenzio replied, there was \$158,000 on my side of the budget that we took away from drug dealers.

Mayor Dickinson stated, there is no money budgeted in the current budget. That is the reason for these transfers.

VOTE: All ayes, motion duly carried.

The Chair declared a five minute recess at 9:12 P.M.

The Council re-convened their meeting at 9:18 P.M.

ITEM #11 Consider and Approve Clarifying the Vote Taken at the March 31, 1998 Special Meeting on the Quinnipiac Street Project.

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Waive the Public Bidding and Allow the Contractor (Under State Bid) on the Quinnipiac Corridor State Project to Perform Work for the Town Including Sidewalk, Roadway, Water Main and Other Streetscape Improvements Including Period Lighting from Route 5 to the Quinnipiac Street Bridge as Designed and Planned by the Town Engineering Department, seconded by Mr. Knight.

Lucille Trzcynski, 262 North Elm Street stated, I have a sincere interest in what happens in downtown Wallingford and that is why I am here tonight. As you know the ISTE A Funding comes directly from the Federal Government to the State and is distributed as projects are presented to the various towns once their projects have been approved. Can someone tell me, what part of this entire project is being paid for by this grant and what is the total dollar amount?

Mayor Dickinson responded, it is my understanding that the State has approximately \$1.6 million at this stage for the remaining work; \$500,000 of that is on AmTrak.

John Thompson, Town Engineer replied, the current contract with the State is for approximately \$1.7 million of State and Federal monies. There is an additional \$507,000 that has been already funneled to AmTrak for their railroad upgrade work. That is approximately \$2.2 million.

Mrs. Trzcynski stated, it is my understanding that the AmTrak portion of the project was taken out of the Quinnipiac Corridor project and is no longer a part of that, is that correct?

Mr. Thompson answered, yes.

Mrs. Trzcynski asked, what funds are coming from the State that are being expended; what items are being paid for by the State on specifically the Quinnipiac Corridor Project? AmTrak is out of it and the bridge also became a separate entity.

Mr. Thompson stated, there are approximately ninety or so items in the construction contract. The State and Federal government are paying for all the work with the exception of the water main system improvements which is being paid for entirely by the Water & Sewer Division and the Town of Wallingford is paying for a percentage of the enhancement improvements around Wallace Park; about \$13,000 for the Town's share for that portion of the work.

Mr. Thompson went on to say, the only two items that are not being paid for out of that \$1.7 million is the \$13,000 for the enhancement and the \$250,000 or so for the water main improvements. The rest of it is State and Federally funded.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, I believe the State is paying for the reconstruction of Quinnipiac Street; enhancements around Wallace Park.....

Mr. Thompson stated, the majority of the improvement costs around Wallace Park are being paid for by the Town. The State is paying for the concrete curb, a portion of the concrete sidewalk, a portion of the underground electrical network and a portion of the ornamental street lights.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, what is the Town paying for around Wallace Park?

Mr. Thompson answered, a portion of the brick sidewalk, some of the amenities that are being installed on the corners and a percentage of the ornamental lights.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, what are the improvements on the Quinnipiac Corridor Project that the Town is paying for on the north side of Quinnipiac Street between Bull Ave. and Washington Street?

Mr. Thompson replied, under the existing contract the Town is paying no additional monies. Under the original contract the Town was paying no monies for the roadway portion of Quinnipiac Street. Under the requested modification that we came to two weeks ago, the Town would be paying 100% of those additional costs.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, what are those amenities that the Town will be paying 100% for under the Quinnipiac Corridor Project (QCP)?

Mr. Thompson replied, within the existing contract limits we have proposed to the State that we install an additional thirty-four ornamental lights along the north side of Quinnipiac Street from the Ward Street intersection easterly along the north side adjacent to Wallace Park, only on the north side, and then from Valley Street to Washington Street the ornamental lights would be installed along both sides. We would have a uniform ornamental light treatment from the intersection of Ward all the way up to Washington as part of the basic contract.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, what is the total amount of that payment?

Mr. Thompson replied, the estimated cost for that work is about \$120,000.

Mrs. Trzcienski asked, why was it determined that Quinnipiac Street would have to be completely reconstructed and not just paved?

Mr. Thompson replied, when the Town decided to do the QCP the original plan was not to undertake full depth reconstruction of the roadway. It was envisioned that we could go in and do a simple milling and overlaying of the pavement. As we began the design process, we noticed that the sub base was actually coming up through the pavement because the top surface was so thin. There was nothing to mill. The underlying base was a spongy clay

base and it was determined that it was not suitable for milling. A recommendation was made that the road be constructed. A decision was made to do the full depth reconstruction in lieu of the overlay.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated that the issue ever came before the Council in those terms. She has read the Town Council Minutes from 1994 to date and it was never discussed. The corings were done in the Spring of 1994 at which time it was determined that the road would have to be reconstructed.

Mr. Thompson replied, it was probably late Spring or early Summer of 1994 when the determination was made.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated, four years would have allowed us plenty of time, had it been explained to the Council clearly, to do the design work for undergrounding the utilities, the TCI cable and the telephone wires, correct?

Mr. Thompson replied, that is probably true.

Mrs. Trzciensky asked if the matter of undergrounding the utilities ever brought before the P.U.C.?

Mayor Dickinson replied, not to my knowledge.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated that she has read all the minutes of the P.U.C. since 1993 and never was it discussed. Why wasn't it brought before the P.U.C.?

Mayor Dickinson stated, it was never envisioned as part of the project.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated, on six occasions since 1993 when questions, brief or otherwise, were raised by Councilors and citizens alike, namely, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Doherty, Mr. Lube and Mr. Wright about streetscape design, the Mayor repeatedly and consistently maintained that this project was basically one dealing with road paving and signalization and that there were no monies available for streetscape amenities other than those around Wallace Park which would be paid for through the ISTEA funding. As late as July 29, 1997, only eight months ago, that was the position that was taken. So when was it decided that these streetscape amenities were a plausible move to make?

Mayor Dickinson replied, in January when the issue of sidewalks from Route 5 to Washington Street was presented to the Engineering Dept. At that time the department looked at the condition of the sidewalks and reported that they could not do the sidewalks without doing the pavement from Route 5 to Washington Street. The Town Engineer indicated, if we are going to do the pavement, the water main and the sidewalks, it could also be possible to do streetscape enhancements.

Mrs. Trzciensky asked, what committee or group voted on or made that decision; something that so greatly affects the Town of Wallingford? What committee or group was apprised of that issue and was allowed to discuss it and make that decision?

Mayor Dickinson replied, the Town Council and that was at the last meeting.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated, so, at the last meeting when it was presented to the Town Council as a total picture; when the Town Council was informed that had did they not vote to proceed with this project, State funding would be lost. That

s the time that the discussion about a project so important to the Town; the way it looks, the way it is perceived by citizens and townspeople alike; that is the first time that it came up for discussion?

Mayor Dickinson answered, that was the first time the issue regarding streetscape was outlined by John (Thompson); the additional work, yes.

Mrs. Trzciensky asked, was the group that has been so active for so many years in working to enhance the downtown and to revitalize the downtown; the group that has been involved since day one and dollar one with the revitalization the green, parade grounds and Center Street; were they ever apprised of the situation and was their input ever sought?

Mayor Dickinson answered, I don't know; my office had no contact with W.C.I. (Wallingford Center Inc.) and it wasn't until fairly late that we received word from the Town Engineer as far as the feasibility on all of this.

Mr. Thompson stated, when the Mayor asked me about the constructability of these improvements in late January, we talked not only about the financial impact of doing it but how best to do it. At the last Town Council Meeting we talked about the fact that it was my recommendation that before any decision is made about going ahead, I wanted to talk to the State and the contractor to see if there was a mechanism to have that work accomplished under their contract. To talk to the Council or anyone else would have been premature. Tonight, I am still grappling with whether or not we can get this accomplished in a timeframe consistent with that contract. Other than some conceptual sketches, I don't have a design to share with anyone.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated, it was not made clear to me and I wonder if it was made clear to the Council that this was in its conceptualization stage and not in a position to be voted for and monies approved tonight for what I and everyone in here tonight believes is a feasible. Unless I am ignorant, it is not clear to me that this has been presented as a conceptualization of a possibility. To me, we are voting on whether or not we are going to approve streetscape design from Bull Ave. To Washington St.

Mayor Dickinson stated, you are right, that is what the issue is. We would not be here except that the Engineering Dept. is moving at a very rapid pace and feels that they are able to keep up with that pace. At an earlier time I would not expect to be in this position. To allow this to lapse without an honest effort and an effort to obtain the funding and see these improvements to fruition, we would be derelict in our duties as public officials.

Mrs. Trzciensky stated, the Town Council is under the gun here. It is true that we will lose State funding for this project if we delay. There are several issues that concern me, however and one of them is, we had four years to plan this properly. Four years! And to insinuate that he is moving rapidly now on these last amenities is to place a burden on him that he should not have to bear. He may not mind but it creates a problem for the rest of us. I submit to the Council and the citizens of Wallingford that a golden opportunity has been lost to a generation of taxpayers. For it is required by the State that this be a twenty year road. We have to construct what is a twenty year road. We had the opportunity and it was missed. One public hearing would have raised the issue in plenty of time; even one Council meeting where you were all fully informed and believe me I had to research this; it was not easily gleaned. I had to go through all of the minutes to understand really what was going on. I can't hold you accountable for not being fully apprised of the situation; the Council is not responsible. At one P.U.C. meeting; at one Council meeting it could have been brought up. If in 1994, 1995, 1996 someone could have picked up the phone and asked W.C.I., "what do you think", they would have gotten a very clear and concise answer. But none of that happened. The fault does not lay

with the State, the State sets its parameters and the State moves ahead. The fault does not lay with the D.O.T.; the fault does not lay with the Council; the fault lies directly with the office of Mayor; number one for poor planning, but mostly for the arrogance in not believing that this should have come before the Town of Wallingford for open and forthright discussion that would have led to an enlightened and timely decision rather than an expensive fiasco with which no one is happy. (Applause)

Frank Wasilewski, 57 N. Orchard Street asked, what are we doing from Bull Ave. to the Quinnipiac Street Bridge?

Mr. Thompson explained, that was a 420' section of road that was almost intentionally omitted from either the Quinnipiac Street Bridge Project or the QCP. In discussions with the Mayor it appears this is an opportunity to close the gap on that one section of road that no one had addressed in either of the projects. In talking with the State and contractor, they agreed with the philosophy that we could do something with that section. We developed a plan for milling and resurfacing in that section of Quinnipiac St. We hope to have a new travel surface from the interchange area all the way to Route 5 if we are successful in advancing the project as we have presented it to the Council.

Mr. Wasilewski stated, I have not heard anyone mention the gas pipes in the ground.

Mr. Thompson stated, as soon as we have the survey completed and base plans developed for the remainder, we will get it out to all the utility companies. We have been in contact with Yankee Gas Co. over the past five years. The utilities will have the opportunity to get their facilities upgraded as part of this so that we don't have to tear up the road in the foreseeable future.

Mr. Wasilewski stated, at the last meeting you (Mr. Thompson) stated that the State of Connecticut would be on site the next day with heavy equipment to get started and that Wallingford better get on the ball or we are going to be penalized. I have not seen a piece of equipment on Quinnipiac Street yet and it is two weeks later.

Mr. Thompson stated, we met the next day with the State, contractor and town departments to discuss some modifications to the start up work program. Once the Council voted to authorize the additional work, that necessitated some design revisions by other entities that now have completed that work. We have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow so that they can actually begin the installation work.

Mr. Wasilewski stated, forget about the period lights; let the State of Connecticut do their roadwork, the Sewer Division put in their pipes, we can take care of Wallace Park very nicely with landscaping, new curbing and new sidewalks. If you drive up and down Quinnipiac Street, there are many things that should be torn down for example, the coal towers, the dress factory, etc. There are a lot of things on Quinnipiac Street that don't call for period lights and bricks in the sidewalks. Fix the road, put good curbing and sidewalks in, plant some pear trees. Don't go with all this underground stuff, it is a waste of money.

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue stated, being at the last meeting, the Council voted on hiring the present contractor who is doing the QCP to do the work from Washington St. to Route 5. You had a waiver of a bid and you had another waiver of bid to give the Water & Sewer \$200,000 to put pipe in from Route 5 down. There were a lot of motions that night; a lot of talking; it was basically a two and one-half hour "who's on first base". I read this now and at that night it was proposed, period lighting from Washington St. to the park. If I am not mistaken you voted that

Down. Here it is again; you are going to try and do it again. I want the motions read into the record that were voted on that night regarding this issue. Since the item was not televised that night, I want the people informed now.

Mr. Parisi stated, we can't do that tonight.

Mr. Sheehan asked, you can't spend five minutes to do that tonight?

Mr. Parisi stated, no, and the record is on file for anyone to read.

Mr. Sheehan stated, this item is to consider and clarify the vote taken on March 31st and you are telling me that you are not going to tell me what the votes are or what you voted on?

Mr. Parisi stated, we can't read the motions from the last meeting, no.

Mr. Sheehan argued, you are clarifying your vote...in other words, who ever was not at the last meeting, the hell with them. If they didn't get it out of the paper then the hell with them?

Mr. Parisi replied, no, not at all.

Mayor Dickinson stated, the reports in the newspaper varied with what the people on the Council felt they voted for, in addition, there was some question as to whether the waiver of bid was included in the motion. It was necessary to put the matter before the Council again in order to clear up questions that we were hearing from Councilmembers as well as what was reflected in the newspaper articles. Here we are.

Mr. Sheehan stated, you had motions; amendments to motions; two motions at the same time you were voting. You were supposed to clear that up. Mr. Zandri made a motion to put everything under ground from Route 5 down.

Mr. Parisi stated, that was voted down and this motion is exactly why.....

Mr. Sheehan stated, why do you have to say, that is right? Don't you think you should be reading what the vote was so that everyone is clear? Are we going to go through another two and one-half hours of who is on first again?

Mr. Parisi stated, we are going to vote on this motion right here which is very clear and very concise which sums up what we were doing at the last meeting, no more, no less.

Mr. Sheehan stated, I get confused here; a lot of people get confused. It seems to me you make this up as you go along to fit the circumstance. You tell me that after two and one-half hours of discussion that it comes down to six lines and that is going to clear it all up. The young lady stood up and talked for fifteen minutes about what you did and how bad it was planned and you listened and I only want to know the simple thing, what each vote was and each thing you voted on; not one blanket thing that covers it all. I would like the motions read and what you voted on that night.

Andy Kapi, 6 Deme Road stated, there is a taped record of last week's meeting; I have copies. I paid for this microphone. There is one thing you did last meeting, Mr. Chairman, on a parliamentary basis that I think deserves attention because, unwittingly, you added to some confusion. In recalling Robert's Rules, when someone makes a

otion that has a basic sense to it, you can qualify that motion with an amendment but I think it is within the power of the Chairman to rule out of order an amendment to a motion that contradicts the sense of the motion. If someone made a motion that all men are created equal and someone amended the motion with the language, "except orange people and Hungarians", that would be a basic contradiction of the sense of the motion and you, as Chairman, could rule that out of order and say that you would entertain that question as a follow-up motion after this motion is voted on. Mr. Centner and I are Hungarians, that is why I used Hungarians. Mr. Zandri made a motion last week that was an all or nothing motion which said, we are going to do it right for the entire length of the project. You entertained an amendment from Mr. Centner that contradicted that all or nothing sense of Mr. Zandri's motion by saying that we are going to do it for half. I believe that is where a whole lot of the confusion came from. As Mrs. Trzciensky stated, one public hearing could have avoided this collision path of being put up against the wall and having to expense State monies not knowing whether we all agreed, including the interested and impassioned participants like Mrs. Trzciensky not knowing that we all agreed on a plan, I would like to amend what she said that one public hearing could have avoided that; to say that one televised public hearing could have even better avoided that.

Wes Lube, 15 Montowese Trail asked, in your procedural rules, am I wrong that if there is a motion on the table like Ray Rys has just made and someone cannot subsequently make a motion which is not on the agenda without waiving Rule V (of the Town Council Meeting Procedures)?

Mr. Parisi answered, you can only have one motion on the table.

Mr. Lube asked, once that is voted on, can another motion be made that is not on the agenda without waiving Rule

?

Mr. Parisi answered no.

Mayor Dickinson explained, the agenda does not set the number of motions; it only indicates what the subject matter is at issue. The agenda is not meant to limit what number of motions there are or may be. An agenda is necessary under F.O.I. (Freedom of Information Act) to alert people to a subject matter. Motions are made to move business along; if no motion is made, no business is done. That is a common confusion. A motion does not have to appear on the agenda; the subject matter does.

Mr. Lube stated, is one must waive Rule V to make a motion on a subject that is not on the agenda, then Mr. Rys' motion under 2a at the March 31st was not on the agenda; it was a subject that was separate from the agenda. He asked if the Council had a copy of the minutes from that meeting in their possession tonight? He read from the agenda that there was to be discussion regarding road and streetscape improvements to Quinnipiac Street between Route 5 and the Quinnipiac Street Bridge. Mr. Rys' motion was that period lighting be placed in the work area of Route 5 to Washington Street and to also include period lighting around the park. That portion was not on the agenda. It was another subject entirely; the subject matter was Quinnipiac Street. Then he went on to say that sidewalk, road improvements and water main work included in that said area, in other words, around the park. In no way was that intended. The motion was completely out of order because there was no waiver of Rule V preceding the motion.

Mayor Dickinson stated, the subject matter was Quinnipiac Street improvements. The park is part of that project and gitimately part of that discussion because the park is in the State project that is on Quinnipiac Street.

Mr. Lubee stated, you are compounding the problem tonight when you are talking about a motion that is supposed to be intended to correct any misunderstandings yet, the motion says that it is for period lighting from Route 5 to Quinnipiac Street bridge. That is one straight line that does not include the triangle around Wallace Park but if you think it does, then you are reading something into it that I don't see there. I would ask you if this is a correction, what, in this motion, is different from the subject matter that you are correcting?

Mr. Parisi stated, I will not say that there is anything different, it is a clarification.

Mr. Lubee asked, how does it clarify, what is clearer in this motion than in the other one?

Mr. Parisi replied, if you watch the tape like we did, I think you would understand what we are trying to do. There were motions that night all over the place and I agree with what Mr. Kapi was saying. What we are trying to do is clear it up. I think this does it very nicely.

Mr. Lubee asked, how are you clearing up the lighting around the park?

Mr. Parisi replied, because it is part of the Quinnipiac project.

Mayor Dickinson stated, the lighting around the park is not in question at all, it is already part of the State and Federally-funded project. What is stated here are the improvements which is subject to the additional appropriation of money; improvements that are in the process of design by the Engineering Department. This does not deal at all with the Quinnipiac Street project as funded and approved by D.O.T. (Dept. Of Transportation). This is additional work and that is why the motion begins with a motion to waive public bidding that allows us to add this work to an existing contract at the unit prices bid by the State of CT., a contractor chosen.

Mr. Lubee stated, I would imagine then that the Engineer's reference to the fact that the Town is paying for the major portion of that lighting around the park is because the State was willing to pay for what it would have cost to ordinary lighting around the park and we are paying the extra to get the streetscape lighting.

Mayor Dickinson stated, it is a different program that is funding it. Enhancements funds are funding that portion of the program versus which is another type of ISTEPA funding. The park is being funded under a separate program which requires a twenty/eighty percent (20%/80%) funding disparity. I don't believe the federal government participates in that at all.

Mr. Lubee stated, we are very fortunate that we have subsidies that we can apply to this lighting. I am in favor of the lighting if we were paying for one hundred percent (100%) ourselves. That park is a keystone to the western entrance to the Town; it is long overdue for improvements. It was said at the last meeting that this underground electrical could be done under the sidewalks as it is done in most other streets that are being built anew. They no longer put the electrical under the streets, they put it under the lawns and sidewalks in order to avoid having to interfere with the street surface in future years. Inasmuch as the sidewalks are the last thing that are going to be going in on this project, is there any reason why we cannot put the PVC at every telephone pole across the street and then the various wires, cable, telephone and electrical utilities solve their problems all under the sidewalk that the Town is going to be building.

Mr. Parisi stated, we went through all of this at the last meeting.

Mr. Lube stated, they said it could be done at the last meeting and then you people vote entirely differently.

Mr. Parisi replied, I don't think we did. I think we voted pretty much what we wanted to.

John Thompson, Town Engineer, explained, yes, all four utilities would have to design a distribution network along both sides of the street. They are telling me they need eighteen months to do that design. Our project is scheduled to be completed in approximately fifteen months. To say that it could be done, it can be done but it is going to mean delaying completion of the other contract or the timely prosecution of the construction work under that contract and if we do that that is the situation when we become at risk for all the penalties associated with the lighting. Can it be done? Absolutely, but it presents the Town significant financial risks.

Mr. Lube asked, is there any reason why we could not ask the contractor to put an eight inch (8") PVC across the road at each present hole location and left it then available for cable and SNET to utilize when and if they do design their system eighteen months from now? We would have made the provisions for them to design their system and utilize those PVC pipes. What is wrong with that?

Mr. Thompson answered, it is not that easy. We cannot mix high voltage electrical with low voltage telephone or a distribution network for T.C.I.

Mr. Lube suggested putting more pipes.

Mr. Thompson answered, it could be done but, again, it is a design issue. For the utilities to do this in an effective fashion, they need time to do it. We don't have the luxury of time. The work is imminent, we cannot now go back and ask to defer or delay it without exposing ourselves to financial penalty.

Lucille Trzciensky asked that the Council vote for all of the improvements that have been suggested on the agenda and to eliminate the period lighting except for around the park where there are no utilities. It will be a fiasco, ludicrous and laughable to any corporation, retail business or resident coming into Wallingford. When you put up period lighting you try and create an ambiance. There is no place in the world where period light would truly exist next to telephone poles. Please do not do that. Do the road, pave it, put in the brickwork, put in the pear trees, but please do not hold Wallingford up to ridicule by also including the period lights.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville asked, what is the "other streetscape improvements" listed in the motion?

Mr. Parisi replied, those were all explained.

Mr. Thompson explained, there will be new roadway pavement, curb, water mains, drainage modifications, brick and concrete sidewalks, ornamental street lights and flowering pear trees.

Mr. Melillo stated that he would like to see all the entities that will be involved with the gas lines coordinate their work for the safety of the public.

Mayor Dickinson stated, other communities have done this type of project including Branford and Wethersfield.

Mr. Centner stated, my concern as of the last meeting was whether or not we can do any undergrounding, anywhere of any of the utilities and my amendment to Geno's motion was from Washington Street to Route 5. We are hearing on a different night clarifying it but I will still ask the question; Is there any area that we can underground without jeopardizing the project?

Mr. Thompson replied, after the last Council meeting when you acted on the motions, I discussed with the Mayor, "what if we could do something?; a block, a half a block; if we could reach some kind of compromise that would make some linkage to the removal of the overhead utilities? I walked the area again, focusing on the block between Cherry St. and Route 5 as a possibility. Presently, there is only one utility that crosses over the railroad tracks and that is an electrical service that connects to the Chinese restaurant and Stone Travel. In speaking with Wallingford Electric Division the possibility exists that electrical services can be moved. SNET and T.C.I. also stated that it was possible to move their services in this one block area. Last week I sent out plans to all the utility companies asking for specific confirmation; could the design be done within a three to four month time frame and construction be done in a schedule consistent with the needs of the remainder of the QCP? Wallingford Electric and T.C.I. indicated they could do it. SNET, when push came to shove in a commitment, failed to indicate whether they could do it in a schedule consistent with the needs of the overall project. I don't want to walk away from the possibility for fear that we would be accused in the long run of walking away from the opportunity. I don't want to belabor the issue of undergrounding but if it can be done, even if on a one block portion.....I believe that if we have an opportunity to do it, now is the time to do it. I have been spending a lot of time with the utilities to make certain we are not missing an opportunity. I have no commitment but we are trying every conceivable way to get something done to remove the chaos and confusion of the overhead wires in this one block.

Mr. Centner asked, if we vote on tonight's measure, would you still continue on that endeavor? What mechanism do we, as a Council, have to ensure that?

Mayor Dickinson replied, the issue would be appropriating funds from Electric to accomplish their work or possibly that we would have to contribute with the other utilities but we would have to come back for that funding.

Mr. Zandri asked, is the sidewalk work along Quinnipiac Street from Bull Ave. To Washington Street being done by the contractor; is that being paid for by the ISTEPA funds?

Mr. Thompson responded, yes. The Town is only responsible for a twenty percent share of the sidewalk around the park. All the other conventional concrete sidewalk within the remainder of the project is being paid for by State and Federal monies.

Mr. Zandri stated, I will vote against this for I feel that the utilities definitely belong underground and I would not want to do any of this project without the utilities underground.

Mr. Zappala stated, I was going to vote against it because of the look of the lights and poles and wires; I think it will look ridiculous. Now you are saying there is a possibility that you may be able to do it in a specific area. It seems as though you go one way and then come back with something else.

Mr. Thompson stated, two weeks ago when I came to the Council I explained what we were trying to do. I might have contributed to some of the confusion when I said that we could do some undergrounding. We can control the undergrounding of utilities with respect to Wallingford Electric Division but I-SNET, SNET and TCI do not work to accommodate our schedule. We, more so, have to work to their schedule. These other utilities have made that option of undergrounding all of the utilities impossible within the context of the schedule we have for Quinnipiac Street Corridor of the extension of the project west to the Quinnipiac Street Bridge or to the East to Route 5. I don't know if it is going to be doable but when I say, no, I can't do it, I want to be absolutely certain that I have explored every single option and opportunity so that we can never be accused of not pursuing every viable alternative. Right now I am pursuing every opportunity to get those utilities in that one block done and the only reason that I am pursuing that is because there is only four services in that block. The next block down between Cherry and Washington Street there are thirty services. Your motion should be to proceed with the project as it is currently envisioned but hope against hope that we do have the option and opportunity to do something within the Cherry St. to Route 5 block.

Mr. Zappala stated that he does not want to do anything to jeopardize the project, itself. Is there any possible way that this could be accomplished later?

Mr. Thompson stated, once we totally re-construct the road, in order for the utility companies to develop a distribution network underground, it would entail digging up the road and sidewalk and going into each of the individual's property. We are trying to do this project once and get a useful life out of the road without anyone putting trenches in our new roadway system.

Mr. Zandri asked, what is the estimated cost for the sidewalk portion of this project for the ISTEPA funds?

Mr. Thompson answered, about \$92,000. For both sides of Quinnipiac Street within the project limit.

Mr. Zandri asked, if we were to eliminate that and forfeit that work and pick that \$92,000 up ourselves then potentially we could put those utilities underground?

Mr. Thompson answered, possibly, however, we still need to have a design for each of the utilities distribution network. The Electric Division needs street crossings which would mean pipes across the street.

Mr. Zandri asked, how many street crossings in that length do you think you would need to accommodate the utilities? One, two, maybe three crossings?

Mr. Thompson responded, probably four per block.

Mr. Zandri asked, why? Once you brought your utilities over to the other side of the street you would then use your sidewalk as a means of distribution for that side of the street.

Mr. Thompson replied, it is my understanding that the utilities do not want to maintain a separate parallel distribution network on both sides of the street and that is essentially what would happen if we had one crossing per block.

Mr. Zandri stated, under normal circumstances maybe, but we are talking exception to the rule in this case. It can be done if we want to do it. We are talking \$92,000.

Mr. Thompson stated, it is not only the money but getting that system designed so as not to impact the schedule. Bear in mind, the Town turned over the scheduling of the construction activities when we executed the Town/State agreement to turn over the administration of this project to the State. As a Town I suppose we have a certain right to go in and change contract items but if we start impacting the overall sequence of operations of this contractor or the work elements of it, we will be placing ourselves at risk.

Mr. Zandri stated, I am not talking about changing the contract at all but eliminating a portion of it. I don't see how our eliminating the sidewalk portion of the work would effect their portion of the project. They could finish their road work, we would not have them do the sidewalks and we could have all the time in the world to design our underground system in those sidewalks except for the crossings which I think we could do with a minimum amount of crossings and therefore be able to underground the utilities and pick up the sidewalks as a separate Town project.

Mr. Thompson stated, with all due respect, I think you are greatly over-simplifying taking out a major element of the work and how it fits into the overall project. What would we leave for construction purposes? We do have utilities going under the sidewalk now as part of this project? We would be tearing up and putting in temporary sidewalk; we would have a disruptive situation which I feel would be creating far more problems then we would be solving.

Mr. Zandri stated, the only utilities under the sidewalk will be the lighting.

Mr. Thompson stated, we are putting new storm drainage underneath some of the sidewalks; new water services; traffic interconnect conduits; distribution network for the ornamental street lights. There is a number of elements of construction that are taking place within the curbed back of walk area.

Mr. Zandri stated, you are disrupting the existing sidewalk with part of this project. I am saying not to finalize or finish the sidewalk until we can get the underground designed and finish it as the last part of the project. Separate it out from this project entirely. I can't see how we would be affecting their construction schedule by doing that.

Mr. Thompson reiterated that Mr. Zandri is over-simplifying the contractor's work program and his responsibility to maintain the work area. It will still take about eighteen months to have the utility companies design a network.

Mr. Zandri stated, you have to have the will to accomplish something. If you have the will to get something accomplished there is always a way to do it. That also includes not losing the dollars to put our heads together but I find a reluctance here on the part of the administration to try to work this thing out and I think it can be worked out. It concerns me, like Mrs. Trzciensky stated, once this is done it will be done and it will be there for many, many years to come and we are being short-sighted here on whether or not we can get this done. If there is a possibility it can be done we should at least look at it.

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Move the Question, seconded by Mr. Centner.

VOTE TO MOVE THE QUESTION: Papale, Zandri and Zappala, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Zandri, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12 SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 7:45 P.M. on a Proposed Ordinance Entitled, "Nuisance Cat Ordinance" as Requested by Ordinance Committee Chairman Stephen W. Knight

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #13 SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 8:00 P.M. on a Proposed Ordinance Entitled, "Open Burning Ordinance" as Requested by Ordinance Committee Chairman Stephen W. Knight

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #14 Report Out on the Status of Simpson School Property, Particularly the Condition of the Roof as Requested by Councilor Thomas Zappala.

Mr. Zappala stated, my main concern is not what we are going to do with the school, my concern is the roof. If we are going to do anything with the building at all we should be concerned with the roof. What condition is it in now; are we going to leave it the way it is without damaging the interior of the building?

Henry McCully, Director of Public Works stated that there are no leaks in the roof presently. We have had some vandalism but other than some cleaning up, which will be a rainy day project for his crew, will take place. Other than that the building is dry and secure. The floor was perfectly dry; I have walked the entire building. I have my men go on the roof after a heavy rain to check it out. We will continue to monitor the roof and will take the necessary steps anything major happens.

Mr. Zappala stated that he wanted to make sure the building was staying dry and was not leaking causing damage to the interior as has happened in the past with another building.

Mr. Zandri stated, the sidewalk in front of the former Simpson School is all blacktop.

Mr. McCully explained, that is the Engineering Department's ongoing sidewalk replacement program. Until they can get to do the permanent repairs, they put a leveling coarse of asphalt to make it safer for pedestrians until they can get to replace it.

Mr. Zandri asked, any kind of a schedule as to when it will be taken care of?

Mr. McCully stated, that is the Engineering Department's area. They hire a contractor. They put out a bid for sidewalk replacement every year.

Mr. Zandri stated, it is an eyesore. It is the Town's property and should not be in the condition that it is in.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street asked, what is the current plan for the school?

Mayor Dickinson stated, once a decision has been made regarding design and location of the Senior Center, we would then be in a position to have the Council vote regarding Simpson School.

Mr. Wright asked, once it is decided that the Senior Center will not be going to the Simpson School property then we can get rid of the property or what ever?

Mayor Dickinson answered, assuming there are no problems identified with the Silk Street, Washington Street site of the Senior Center and that renovations or new structure can be located there, then we would not need the Simpson School site.

Mr. Wright asked if the work on the Senior Center is progressing rapidly? A decision should be made soon on the Senior Center, no?

Mayor Dickinson stated, once that decision is made we can make a decision shortly after that regarding Simpson School.

Mr. Wright reminded Mr. McCully to check the south side of the roof at 88 S. Main Street.

Mr. McCully replied, after July 1st that roof will be replaced.

ITEM #15 Discussion and Possible Action on the Town Engineer's Involvement with the Community Pool Renovation Project as Requested by Councilor Tom Zappala

Mr. Zappala stated, in talking to the Friends of Community Pool group, it was suggested to me and because I strongly believe it, the Town Engineer should be involved in the renovations to Community Pool because he has knowledge of what will be done to the base part of the pool. His expertise and knowledge should be used to be part of the committee working on the pool.

Motion was made by Mr. Zappala that the Town Engineer be Involved with the Community Pool Renovation Project as Part of the Committee with Henry McCully and Tom Dooley, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Mr. Parisi asked if funds are in the budget for a project clerk?

John Thompson, Town Engineer stated, \$20,000 was put in as a budgetary estimate. We just opened the bids today for a Clerk of the Works, Construction Inspector for that project. The bids came in considerably higher than what was estimated. We had viewed the option of going outside as a first choice; somebody as a full time inspector on that project. As an alternative, because I share your concerns Mr. Zappala that this is a very important, very sensitive construction project, that somehow resources need to be made available from the Town Engineer's Office to provide resident inspection services throughout the construction of that project. Once it is covered, you're right, we will not have an opportunity to go back again. This is an acre of paved surface and it is my belief that we need to protect our investment of almost \$2 million and to the extent that I can make the resource available out of my office, I will do that. If we can't hire, we will have an inspector sign from my department.

Mr. Zappala stated, we are filling the higher end of the pool. Like the Friends of Community Pool group, I, too, am concerned. We have to make sure that what goes in underneath as fill is the right product.

Mr. Knight stated, you may have noticed that R.A.C. has subcontracted most of the piping and filtration to Scott Pools who, as far as I am concerned, is the pre-eminent builder of swimming pools in this State and probably ranks up there in the New England and Northeastern area. I have every confidence that they are going to make sure that this project is done right. I can vouch for work that I have seen done by Scott Pools, it is excellent. I would expect that to follow.

Mayor Dickinson stated, your motion does not go to what we are discussing. Your motion is to have the Town Engineer sit on the committee; the committee being, Henry McCully and Tom Dooley. The Town Engineer is speaking to the involvement of the department in construction and inspection with some supervision. It is a different issue than being on the committee.

Mr. Zappala stated, my concern is; I am not taking away from Henry McCully or Tom Dooley's knowledge. My concern is, the Town Engineer can be an eye on the operation which is very important. I am expressing the urgency of the members of Friends of Community Pool which have spent a lot of time to study what will go on with the renovation of the pool; they show concern. By having the Town Engineer involved, it will give us an extra measure of security to know that we are getting the right job done.

Mayor Dickinson stated, Engineering is planning on being directly involved. The motion suggests that the Town Engineer be on the committee. I don't know that he has the time to be on the committee. The supervision/inspection issues in the field will be part of what his department will take on. I hesitate to say that necessarily he should sit at the committee meetings.

Mr. Parisi pointed out that the Council cannot make a motion to direct Mr. Thompson to sit on the committee.

Mr. Thompson stated that he has interjected his position and individual work effort into the pool committee. He has worked with Mr. Dooley on the design; he has participated in a working with Mr. Dooley and Mr. McCully as this project has evolved. The Town Engineer's Department will oversee the construction inspection.

Motion and second were withdrawn.

Motion was made by Mr. Zappala that the Council Recommend the Mayor to Make Sure the Town Engineer Gets Involved and that the Pool be Satisfactory to Everybody, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated, there is no committee; there is no requirement for any reports because there is no committee. This is going to be handled by Tom Dooley who tells me that he does not have to report publicly to anything; he does not have to keep any minutes; there is no requirement for this to be handled in a manner such as the school expansion; nothing. Just pray.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville commended Mr. Zappala for bringing up this item. It is an excellent idea. The Town Engineer should oversee the project. He recommended that a committee be formed since there is none at this time and that the Town Engineer serve as a member.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #16 Consider and Approve the Televising of All Special Town Council Meetings as Requested by Councilor Geno J. Zandri, Jr.

motion was made by Mr. Zandri that All Special Town Council Meetings be Televised, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Mr. Zandri stated that he feels that it is the right thing to do to have all of the Town Council Meetings televised. He was not concerned how the special meetings were handled in the past; I think that we have to look at what we should be doing in the future here. We should be setting an example as far as leadership is concerned. We are here to serve the public and it is one of our responsibilities to keep the public informed.

Mr. Zappala stated, the last meeting we had was a good example. It would have been beneficial to the public for them to see what transpired at the meeting which was not televised. It was a very important meeting. The people of Wallingford would be interested to know what will be done with the Pierce Plant and the Quinnipiac Corridor Project. It was televised but did not come out too well. It would have been beneficial to have our staff do it. We owe it to the people; they like to see us and what happens. Surprisingly, a lot of people watch these meetings.

Mr. Farrell stated, this is not a bad idea as a general concept but the issue should be addressed at budget time. The net result of passing this tonight would be that the other Boards that are currently televised would not get the kind of coverage that they are currently getting. What goes on at Planning & Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings are also as important and I don't want to see that coverage cut back at this time. I would like Mr. Zandri to bring this up at budget time again and re-visit it then.

Mr. Centner stated, the televising of special meetings has merit. Like anything else, the economy is a scale. The more use you get out of equipment and hardware and the people that are already here, the less impact on cost is. I understand that the labor is a variable item but the equipment is here and it depreciates and wears out whether you use or not. If we are called out here to act in a governmental capacity, I would rather see it be televised. I will be voting in favor of it.

Mayor Dickinson stated, the issue is more of a staffing issue. We have one person who handles the editing and those types of duties and the issue of overtime and over work that results from the kind of time necessary that Scott Hanley (Manager, Government Access T.V.) has to put in is very central to the issue of how much time we can spend. That goes into Mr. Farrell's comment about the ability to handle the current schedule with other Commissions and Boards.

Don Roe, Program Planner stated, we have one full-time staff person involved with Gov. Access T.V. Special meetings, in and of themselves, does not represent a major work load or addition; it has to do more with how much lead time we would have to schedule the part-time staff that are camera people and operators. That is not as easy as everything looks. It would appear, given how invisible it all is to us. On short notice, having to schedule a special meeting can be very difficult and time consuming. My suggestion would be to have this taken up at a future time. As you know, you all did adopt policies that we utilize in the operation of the station. What Scott and I have talked about is, our major project right now is getting the studio part of this station up and going. We hope to have that sometime in the not-to-distant future. In the budget submittal to the Mayor we tried to recognize not additional meeting time but additional time for studio production. What he and I have talked about and planned on is staffing to provide for additional studio time. Maybe you feel that the additional time can be spent on meeting time instead of studio time. Meeting time is our number one item before us; that is the bread and butter of Gov. Access T.V. I only ask that we be able to spend some time thinking about it. Give us the opportunity to look at our practices and policies and arrive jointly with you at some guidelines around "X" number of days or weeks notice on a special meeting. If a special

Meeting will be held in two days notice, there will be recognition that in all likelihood, that would be real difficult to pull off T.V. coverage when we are so dependent on part-timers who work full-time jobs and to try and schedule it during the week when we have regular meetings, might be very difficult. Give us the opportunity to think through how to accomplish it. Scott and I have talked about the need to sit down and look at our policies again. It has been years since they have been adopted and in that context, we look at how to...and to come back to the Council with how to handle special meetings. We will undertake that review sometime in the Fall of this year, once we got the studio outfitted, up and going.

Mr. Zandri stated, special meetings are usually planned well in advance. So far in this year we had one special meeting; in 1997 three special meetings were called; 1996, seven were called. Special meetings are usually planned which will give you an opportunity to get your staff lined up. The Town Council Meetings take precedent as far as I am concerned over all the other Boards and Commissions. This is where the televising first started. It should not be that much of an interference because there is not a great volume of special meetings.

Mr. Knight stated, it is not as easy as it looks. You do need a producer, director and people to run the cameras. There were thirteen special or emergency meetings in the ministry of the Town Council prior to the republicans taking the majority, in other words, the democrat Town Council which held a six to three majority, and we had thirteen either special or emergency meetings including one where we voted to spend \$1.4 million on the new recreation department and another where we transferred \$85,000. And another where we had a bid waiver to repair Community Pool. Not a single one of them was televised. The issue never came up then. Now we want to ignore all that. All of a sudden, are we not getting enough Jerry Springer? What is so important about doing them now?

Mr. Zandri responded, I learn by my mistakes, hopefully, and if it was a mistake that we did not televise them back then, so be it. There is always room for improvement and as far as I am concerned this motion is an improvement and it is something where we are bringing information to the public where it should be brought. If we did not do it in the past, so be it. I think it is the right way to go and they should all be televised in the future regardless what or who the majority is.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville congratulated Mr. Zandri for being sincerely concerned about the welfare of the public of Wallingford. He felt that the skilled crew of the television station would have no problem adjusting to the scheduling. He supported televising the special meetings stating that it will not cost a great deal of money.

Wes Lube, 15 Montowese Trail stated that he would like to see Mr. Roe's positive attitude more prevalent amongst the Councilors. Mr. Roe was open to sitting down and reviewing the obstacles to see if there was a way around them. The point of petulantly that the other party may have done things wrong, therefore we are going to do it wrong, is not in the interest of the taxpayers of the town. Let's stop the childishness and address the subject of how we are going to bring these important meetings to the public. What you discussed at the last Council meeting is probably the most important item that the Council will deal with over the next year and one half. It was never exposed to the public and that was wrong. Don't compound it with more wrongdoings.

Mr. Parisi stated, there was no business conducted at that meeting that was conclusive, plus those meetings have not been televised before. Those are the two reasons for not televising the meeting and I still stand by it.

Reginald Knight, 21 Audette Drive stated that it is important that the meetings be televised. Three Councilors have reiterated that the town's local newspapers seem to get everything balled up and things do not come out the way they have intended them to be. The Councilors have said it on record. We need a more reliable way of getting the information to the public which will be by T.V. The public will see what the Councilors do while people are up here talking. It is important that the public see what really takes place in this room.

Andy Kapi, 6 Deme Road stated, the reporters for the newspapers have to leave at a particular time to get their stories in and in fact, because of the placement of this item, at the end, most likely there will be no write-up in tomorrow's article about this vote tonight. That is part of the discretionary power the Chairman has to set the agenda.

Mr. Parisi asked, are you inferring that I put it there on purpose?

Mr. Kapi stated, maybe it is alphabetization. He reminded Mr. Parisi that he (Mr. Parisi) admitted earlier that he had to watch Mr. Kapi's videotaped presentation of the special meeting to actually see what happened so that a clarifying motion can be made tonight. He has had conversations on the topic of staff and meeting schedules. It can be accommodated. He found the practical impediments and obstacles and unfeasibility of televising the special meetings disingenuous. He challenged the Mayor and Council to look the viewers in the eye and tell them that they did not need to see the momentous decision and action taken by the Council at its special meeting or the next time a momentous decision is made. (Applause)

Mr. Parisi stated, no one is opposing anyone. Everyone has different opinions on every issue. The majority opinion becomes the ruling of the Council. There are a good mix of votes, they are not always 6-3; they are not all 9-0. If we start voting that way then I will be the first one to tell the public that we have a problem. I think there is a very good mix of votes here and I have always been very pleased with the Council even though I may not have always been in the majority of the vote and/or satisfied with it.

Mr. Knight stated that he would be voting in opposition to the motion due to the fact that Mr. Roe has raised very practical issues that may preclude instantly instituting the televising of all the special meetings. He would like to see the issue studied carefully, Mr. Roe intends to do it and he would like to see this addressed in a considerate and practical way rather than shooting from the hip.

Mayor Dickinson explained that when Mr. Roe speaks of getting the studio up and running, he is referring to the studio at the Dave Doherty Recreation Center which will take a considerable amount of time and energy. Consultants have been hired to help facilitate the project.

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue asked, how much money it costs to televise an average meeting?

Mr. Roe answered, he did not recall but in the overall scheme of things it is not a significant number. The real issue is that there is only one Scott Hanley and how his time is allocated.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street asked, who makes the decision to televise or not?

Mr. Parisi responded, I do, I guess.

r. Roe stated, the Council has said that they want all regularly scheduled meetings done and that is what we have been abiding by. In addition, we do all land-use bodies.

Mr. Wright pointed out, if the (special) meetings are going to be held here, they can't be conflicting with other meetings.

Mr. Parisi stated, some are held at 5:00 P.M. for one hour or only one-half an hour.

Mr. Wright stated, if it can be scheduled, it can be televised. If the Mayor calls everyone asking that they get together in one-half an hour, no one expects that to be televised. We have close to \$1 million sitting in the Pension Fund; I am sure we can buy another Scott Hanley. People like him do not come by once in a lifetime but if we have enough money to do it, then if we make up our mind we can do it. The mindset is, we are not going to do it.

Mr. Parisi stated, there is not a majority of opinions that are in favor of doing it. I will not say it is wrong or right.

VOTE: Centner, Papale, Zandri and Zappala, aye; all others, no; motion failed.

ITEM #17 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(5) of the CT. General Statutes Pertaining to Pension Negotiations - Personnel

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

EM #21 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the CT. General Statutes Pertaining to the Purchase, Sale and/or Lease of Property - Mayor

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Enter Into Executive Sessions Listed Above, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

The Council entered executive session at 11:36 P.M.

The Council exited executive session at 12:32 A.M.

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #18 Consider and Approve Ratifying a Pension Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford and IBEW Local 457 Non-Hazard Pension Plan - Personnel

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

EM #20 Consider and Approve a Contract Between the Town of Wallingford and IBEW Local 457 Clerical Unit Electric Division Contract - Personnel

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

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #22 Consider and Approve the Purchase of Real Property or Authorizing the Town Attorney to Proceed in a Manner Provided by Section 48-12 of the CT. General Statutes to Commence with Condemnation of Said Real Property - Mayor's Office

Motion was made by Mr. Rys to Authorize the Mayor to Negotiate the Purchase of Real Property as Discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion to Authorize the Purchase of Seventeen (17) Acres More or Less on Grieb and Durham Road owned by Mellor; Twenty-five and one-half (25 1/2) Acres More or Less on Grieb and Durham Road Owned by Maseychik; Sixty (60) Acres More or Less Owned by Wallingford Terrell Reserve Associates; and if Agreement Cannot be Reached the Town Attorney is Authorized to Proceed in a Manner Provided by Section 48-12 of the CT. General Statutes to Take Said Property by Eminent Domain, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #23 SET A PUBLIC HEARING for April 28, 1998 at 8:15 P.M. to Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider and Act Upon a Proposed Bond Ordinance and Appropriation for the Acquisition of Various Parcels of Real Property by the Town of Wallingford - Mayor's Office

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

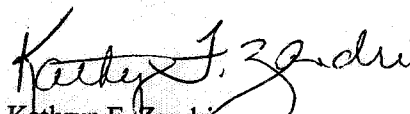
VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

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

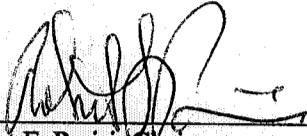
VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 A.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:


Kathryn F. Zandri
Town Council Secretary

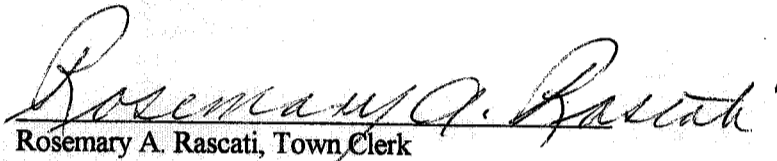
Approved by:



Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

5-12-98

Date



Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

5-12-98

Date