

Town Clerk

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

October 10, 2006

6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The following is a record of the minutes of the Wallingford Town Council at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, October 10, 2006, in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi Called the Meeting to Order at 6:38 P.M. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Clerk Barbara Thompson were Councilors Michael Brodinsky, Vincenzo M. DiNatale, Lois Doherty, Gerald E. Farrell, Jr., Stephen W. Knight, Iris F. Papale, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present. Town Attorney Janis Small arrived at the meeting at 7:02 P.M.

Chairman Parisi announced that revered town resident, Jean Holloway, passed away and asked that people include her in their thoughts during the Moment of Silence.

There was a Moment of Silence, the Pledge of Allegiance was said and the Roll Call taken.

2. Correspondence

*None*

3. Consent Agenda

3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#281 - #319) totaling \$4,387.06  
Acct. #001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector

3b. Accept a Donation in the Amount of \$200 from Petco Corporation  
for the Dogtober Festival- Parks and Recreation

- 3c. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$200 from Petco Corporation to Professional Services-Entertainment Acct. #001-4001-901-9017 and to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct. #001-1075-070-7040 -- Parks and Recreation
- 3d. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds for the Cholesterol Self-Care Program in the Amount of \$6,949 to Grant Expenditures Acct. #224-3010-605-6000 and to State Grant Acct. #224-1040-050-5000 - Health Department
- 3e. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$2,200 to Maintenance of Equipment Acct. #6030-570-5200 from Contingency Acct. #7060-800-3190 -- Town Clerk
- 3f. Consider and approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$17,000 to Paving Program Acct. #001-5015-999-9154 and to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct. #001-1075-070-7040 -- Public Works
- 3g. Approve Town Council minutes of September 26, 2006

Mr. Knight made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda Items 3a-3g. Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. All Councilors (9) present voted aye. The motion passed.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

*None*

5. Approve Town Council minutes May 24, 2004

Mr. Knight made a motion to accept the Town Council minutes of May 24, 2004. Mr. Farrell seconded the motion.

Councilors DiNatale, Doherty, Farrell, Knight, Papale, Parisi and Testa voted aye. Councilors Brodinsky and Rascati abstained from the vote. 7 Ayes, 2 abstentions.

The motion passed.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

**Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville**, spoke about terrorism.

**Bill Spence, 126 Mapleview Road**, made extensive comments regarding the school renovation project in relation to Rock Hill School where his

children attend school. He submitted two letters to the Council.  
(Appendix I and Appendix II)

**Diana Hotchkiss, 38 Clifton Street, Registrar of Voters**, added comments about what she has observed in the schools in regard to handicapped students and voters.

**Bob Gross, 114 Long Hill Road**, asked about the town's policies regarding town owned property including certain buildings. He talked with the Mayor about the American Legion Building, 390 Center Street and Simpson School as well as open space.

7. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$7,726 with \$5,726 to Office Expenses and Supplies Acct. #6010-401-4000 and \$2,000 to Rental of Polling Places Acct. #6010-601-6130 from Contingency Fund Acct. # 7060-800-3190 - Registrars of Voters

**Mr. Knight** made a motion to approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$7,726 with \$5,726 to Office Expenses and Supplies Acct. and \$2,000 to Rental of Polling Places Acct. from Contingency Fund Acct as requested by the Registrars of Voters. **Mr. Farrell** seconded.

**Chairman Parisi** said that according to the Town's Charter that the purchases made by the Registrars office in carrying out the Democratic Primary and the Referendum, both in August, did not follow Purchasing regulations and procedures. He said that he does not want to see this again in the town.

There was other discussion about funds for the remainder of the fiscal year and about voting machines.

All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

8. To Conduct a Public Hearing for October 10, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. to be held in connection with an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$295,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE MACKENZIE RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$295,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

(Appendix III)

Chairman Parisi convened the Public Hearing at 7:20pm for the \$295,000 appropriation and bond authorization for design of the MacKenzie Reservoir Sediment Removal Project. The Ordinance which is the subject of this public hearing is available to the public and may be obtained at the meeting from the Town Clerk

**Chairman Parisi** asked: Is there a motion and a second to read the title and section one of the following proposed ordinance in their entirety and to waive the reading of the remainder of the ordinance, incorporating its full text into the minutes of this meeting.

**Mr. Knight** made the motion, and **Mr. Farrell** seconded.

The Town Clerk called the Roll for the vote as follows:

Brodinsky yes, DiNatale yes, Doherty yes, Farrell yes,  
Knight yes, Papale yes, Rascati yes, Testa yes and Parisi yes.  
9 ayes.

The motion passed.

**Mr. Knight** read the title and Section 1.

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$295,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE MACKENZIE RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$295,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Section 1. The sum of \$295,000 is appropriated for the planning and design of the MacKenzie Reservoir sediment removal project, including engineers and other consultants, mapping, borings, dredging plans, equipment and services related thereto, or so much thereof or such additional improvements as may be accomplished within such appropriation, including administrative, advertising, printing, legal and financing costs (hereinafter the "Project"). Said appropriation shall be inclusive of State and Federal grants-in-aid thereof.

Present for the Public Hearing:

**Raymond Smith, P.U.C. retiring Chairman**

**George Adair, new P.U.C. Chairman**

**Roger Dann, General Manager, Water-Sewer Divisions**

**Mr. Dann** gave an overview of the history and sediment problems of the 65-year-old reservoir stating that there is sediment buildup easterly from the Muddy River and Scard Brook and also to the north. Algae growth has been noted. A 1998 survey determined bottom contours and the nature of the sediment. A plan was prepared and a recommendation was made to clean the reservoir. They need to move forward as the areas to be cleared of sediment are at present easily accessible. The ideal situation would be for the removed sediment to be used in another project. The funding is for engineering services for the construction phase and that they will ask for an amendment to the ordinance when the actual cost is known.

**Chairman Parisi** asked for comments from the public.

**Lucille Trzcinski, 25 Turnberry Road**, asked why the reservoir looks low. **Mr. Dann** said that at the beginning of October there was a draw down.

**Mr. Dann** continued that the design work will take about one year and that in one year the project will be put out to bid and work will commence in 2008. **Jason Zandri, Lincoln Drive**, asked what the anticipated cost will be. **Mr. Dann** thinks about \$2 million and that it will be repeated in about 25 years. He said that the project would treat the reservoir in bays, so that all of the reservoir will not be disturbed.

**Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville**, commented that maintenance is good and hopes that they go for lots of bids in the project.

**Mr. Zandri** asked about the capacity of the reservoir. **Mr. Dann** said that the gross impoundment is 155 million gallons and that when the sediment is removed that they will gain 20 million more gallons.

The public session closed at 7:39pm.

**Ms. Doherty** asked if state funding was available, and **Mr. Dann** said there was not.

**Mr. Brodinsky** asked if the reservoir can be used during the project, and **Mr. Dann** said that it would be closed for recreation, such as fishing, and that there would be no water rationing during the project activity. He said that the sediment might be used on sites in town.

**Mr. DiNatale** asked about sediment source. **Mr. Dann** listed several sources including naturally occurring, road runoff, construction site runoff, farming. **Mr. DiNatale** asked about the town's catch basin system in helping to prevent sediment accumulation. **Mr. Dann** said the question is to use sand or chemicals on the roads.

**Mr. Testa** asked how much sediment would be removed. **Mr. Dann** said approximately 132,000 cubic yards, an estimate from 1999, and that the material is clean with some metals detected. He said that the sediment might be a component in options for use of the sediment.

**Mr. Knight** wanted to know how long the project will take. **Mr. Dann** said depending on weather, the project will be done over the summer months and that with multiple crews and an ideal situation, it would take from 4 to 6 months.

**Chairman Parisi** asked about soil quality, and **Mr. Dann** said that it is silt, sand and organic matter.

**Chairman Parisi** asked if there was a motion and a second that the \$295,000 bond ordinance for the design of the MacKenzie Reservoir Sediment Removal Project be adopted.

**Mr. Knight** made the motion, and **Mr. Farrell** seconded.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Brodinsky yes, DiNatale yes, Doherty yes, Farrell yes, Knight yes, Papale yes, Rascati yes, Testa yes, Parisi yes.  
9 aye.

**Chairman Parisi** declared the Ordinance adopted.

9. To Conduct a Public Hearing for October 10, 2006 at 7:15 P.M. to be held in connection with an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,000,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE VERNON E. CLEAVES REGIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CENTER SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,000,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

(The purpose of the amendment is to increase the appropriation and bond authorization by \$1.8 million, from \$2,000,000 to \$3,800,000, and to ratify, confirm and adopt all prior authorizations and ordinances in connection therewith, to include construction management services within its purposes; authorize the use of capital project revenues to pay project expenses and the sale of said bonds by auction, and other competitive processes.)

*(Appendix IV)*

**Chairman Parisi** convened the public hearing at 7:50pm for the \$1,800,000 increase to the \$2,000,000 Regional Vocational Agricultural Center School appropriation and bond authorization, to include construction management services and to make other changes to technical aspects of the financing process. The Ordinance, which is the subject of this public hearing, is available to the public and may be obtained at the meeting from the Town Clerk.

**Chairman Parisi** asked: Is there a motion and a second to read the title of the ordinance as proposed to be amended, and to waive the reading of the remainder of the ordinance, incorporating its full text into the minutes of this meeting.

**Mr. Knight** made the motion, and **Mr. Farrell** seconded.

The Town Clerk called the Roll for the vote as follows:

Brodinsky yes, DiNatale yes, Doherty yes, Farrell yes, Knight yes, Papale yes, Rascati yes, Testa yes and Parisi yes.  
9 ayes.

The motion passed.

**Mr. Knight** read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING  
~~\$2,000,000~~ FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE VERNON  
E. CLEAVES REGIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
CENTER SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF ~~\$2,000,000~~  
BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND  
PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF  
TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

3,800,000.

3,800,000.00

**James Vitali, Chairman, Vocational Agricultural School Building Committee** was present.

**Chairman Parisi** asked for comments from the public. **Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville,** said that he favored the ordinance.

With no other comment, **Chairman Parisi** closed the public hearing at 7:55pm.

Responding to a question from **Ms. Doherty** regarding the school site at Lyman Hall High School, **Mr. Vitali** said that they are looking for the site that will meet the design, and they are focusing on the south side, which might involve the bus loop and some of the parking. He said that the new building would most likely not be free-standing. He said that all of the wetland flagging, surveying and testing has been done.

**Ms. Papale** said that she has complete confidence in the building committee that the Council has selected and that they are a body of expertise. She acknowledged the Chairman and the committee for the work that they are accomplishing.

**Chairman Parisi** asked if there was a motion and a second that the proposed ordinance to amend the current \$2,000,000 Regional Vocational Agricultural Center School appropriation and bond authorization by increasing it to \$3,800,000 be adopted?

**Mr. Knight** made the motion. **Mr. Farrell** seconded.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Brodinsky yes, DiNatale yes, Doherty yes, Farrell yes, Knight yes, Papale yes, Rascati yes, Testa yes, Parisi yes.  
9 aye.

**Chairman Parisi** declared the Ordinance adopted.

10. To Conduct a Public Hearing for October 10, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. to be held in connection with an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$72,270,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF TOWN-WIDE SCHOOL SYSTEM RENOVATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$72,270,000



**BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND  
PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF  
TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE**

(The purpose of the amendment is to increase the appropriation and bond authorization by \$220,000, from \$72,270,000 to \$72,490,000, and to ratify, confirm and adopt all prior authorizations and ordinances in connection therewith.)

*(Appendix V)*

**Chairman Parisi** convened the public hearing at 8:06pm for the \$220,000 increase to the \$72,270,000 Town-Wide School Improvement Project appropriation and bond authorization and for technical changes regarding the bond process. The ordinance which is the subject of this public hearing is available to the public and may be obtained from the Town Clerk.

**Chairman Parisi** asked: Is there a motion and a second to read the title only of the ordinance as proposed to be amended and to waive the reading of the remainder of the ordinance, incorporating its full text into the minutes of this meeting?

**Mr. Knight** made the motion and **Ms. Doherty** seconded.

**Roll Call Vote**

Brodinsky yes, DiNatale yes, Doherty yes, Farrell yes,  
Knight yes, Papale yes, Rascati yes, Testa yes and Parisi yes.  
9 ayes.

The motion passed.

**Mr. Knight** read the title.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING  
\$72,270,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND  
CONSTRUCTION OF TOWN-WIDE SCHOOL SYSTEM  
RENOVATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$72,270,000  
BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND  
PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF  
TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE**

*(Mr. Farrell was out of the Council Chamber from 8:10pm to 8:48pm.)*

Present at the meeting:  
**Donald Harwood, Chairman,**

**School Building Renovation Committee**

**William Choti, Vice Chairman  
School Building Renovation Committee**

**Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue**, said that the ordinance does not specifically state that these funds are for the field lights at Sheehan High School. He said that the town should put our money for the future of the and the future is our young people.

**Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville**, asked about school windows and commented on ventilation. He talked about security sustems and deteriorating buildings.

**Mr. Harwood** asked to give the report that was requested at the last meeting. He said that \$220,000 is not enough funding for the project.

**Mr. Testa** said that his original request for this ordinance was \$350,000.

**Mayor Dickinson** said that all dollars need to be explained if it is to be more than \$220,000.

**Mr. Harwood** proceeded with the Committee's presentation of the field site where the proposed lights will be installed with photos that were projected and with a list of what needs to be addressed. He discussed light pole location in relation to the already installed handicap ramp and in relation to site wetlands and the problematic drainage basin area. He said that ambient temperature is critical when installing the track surface. Considering that it is October the installation will be delayed until spring. He said that this creates an opportunity for the town when considering the field lights as it creates a larger window to draw up the design specifications for the field and for the future bidding process. He said that this would assist the committee in identifying the cost. He talked about a retaining wall behind the bleachers near the handicap ramp. He talked about the two bids that the town now has and that there is a \$100,000 difference between them and that wetlands may need to be crossed or disturbed in the project process and that these things are not currently included in the bids the town has. He said pricing needs to be determined and that the project may need to be re-bid. He said that installation could be in the spring.

**Mayor Dickinson** said that since the project is on hold until spring that the total cost of the project should be incorporated into the amendment.

**Mr. Harwood** announced that Turner would remain on the school project to complete the lighting project.

**Mr. Knight** complimented the Chair, the Vice Chair and the Committee.

**Mr. Brodinsky** discussed that he formerly said that \$220,000 would not be enough for the project and that procedurally he wanted \$350,000 during the last meeting. He asked if holding this ordinance tonight would slow down the project of the installation of the lights. **Mr. Choti** said, "No." **Mr. Harwood** said that they would use contingency funds for design. **Mayor Dickinson** said that some elements are in the budget and to get the full picture first and a final figure for the ordinance amendment. **Mr. Brodinsky** confirmed that if the ordinance is not passed tonight that it would not mean a delay in the project in any way. **Mr. Harwood** said that it would not. **Chairman Parisi** said that everyone came to support this project.

**Mr. DiNatale** said that he appreciates all of the work of the committee and spoke about the design phase. **Mr. Harwood** said that the bid should be all-inclusive, all the work, including the lights, the lumens, all of it.

**Mr. Testa** expressed his unhappiness and that this should have been addressed six months ago when the field was going in and that now it will cost more.

**Chairman Parisi** asked that a particular Texas firm be put on the bid list.

**Ms. Doherty** thanked the committee for their leadership and their fortitude and complimented them on accepting a new project within the school project. She said that since the school project is not yet complete and that the Council does not know the final figure at this time that she cannot support appropriating more money for the lighting project.

**Mr. Farrell** asked when the Committee would be returning to the Council. **Mr. Harwood** said within 90 days.

**Chairman Parisi** asked **is there a motion and a second** that the proposed ordinance to amend the current \$72,270,000 Town-wide School System Renovation Project appropriation and bond authorization by increasing it to \$72,490,000 be adopted?

**There was no motion and no second.**

At 9:14pm, **Mr. Farrell** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. **Mr. Knight** seconded. All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed to close the public hearing.

11. Report out on the status of the Simpson School Project  
- Chairman Robert F. Parisi

**Town Attorney, Janis Small**, reported that the developer would appear at the next Town Council meeting on October 24, 2006 to discuss the project and to present to the Council a new plan that may be better for the town and the neighbors. She also said that the developer would go forward even if the Council rejects the new plan. She said that there have been issues with the driveway and the number of years that the nine affordable units remain in the deed.

**Mr. Knight** said that it was his understanding that the Council has a firm agreement with the developer to go forward and will the developer go forward with the plan as it is now. Ms. Small said yes and that the housing authority and the state are "on board."

**Carol Schiller, 15 Martin Avenue and Jan Lyon, 4 Simpson Avenue**, were both interested in the law suit that the developer has with the Planning and Zoning Commission. It was clarified that the Planning and Zoning approval for the developer's plan was with conditions and that the developer has reserved the right to appeal.

**Ms. Small** assured people that the plan will forward and that the developer wants to present another plan that might appeal to the town and the Council but either way the plan will go forward.

12. Acceptance of drainage easement from North Turnpike Wallingford, LLC – Law Department

*Withdrawn*

13. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property  
– Mayor

14. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(E) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to Collective Bargaining – Personnel

**Mr. Knight** made a motion to go into Executive Session. **Mr. Farrell** seconded. All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

The Council entered into Executive Session at 9:26pm.

**Mr. Knight** made a motion to come out of Executive Session. **Mr. Farrell** seconded. All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

The Council exited Executive Session at 9:50pm.

Attendance at Executive Session Item #14, 9:23pm-9:40pm

Town Council (9); Mayor; George Adair, Director Public Utilities;  
Richard Hendershot, General Manager, Electric Division; Terry Sullivan,  
Director, Personnel; Jim Hutt, Assistant Personnel Director

Attendance at Executive Session Item #13, 9:40pm-9:49pm  
Town Council (9); Mayor

*(Mr. Brodinsky left at 9:44pm)*

15. Discussion and Possible Action regarding IBEW Local 457 Clerical Unit Tentative Agreement effective October 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012 as discussed in Executive Session – Personnel

**Mr. Knight** made a motion to approve the agreement of IBEW Local 457 Clerical Unit Tentative Agreement effective October 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012 as discussed in Executive Session. **Mr. Farrell** seconded the motion.

All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

16. Discussion and Possible Action regarding System Clerk Job Description as discussed in Executive Session – Personnel

**Mr. Farrell** made a motion to approve the System Clerk Job Description as discussed in Executive Session. **Mr. Knight** seconded.

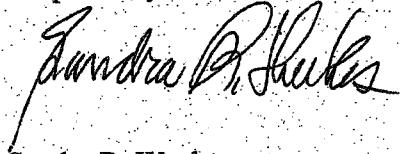
All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

**Mr. Farrell** made a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Knight** seconded.

All nine Councilors voted aye, and the motion passed.

There was no further business to conduct, and the meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra R. Weekes  
Town Council Secretary

Meeting recorded by Sandra R. Weekes



Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

10/24/06  
Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

10/24/06  
Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 10/12/06  
AT 3:10 P.M. AND RECORDED BY  
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

APPENDIX I

October 17, 2004

Wallingford School Construction Committee  
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492

Dear Committee Members:

I am unable to attend the October 19, 2004 construction committee meeting but I need to bring some safety issues to your attention that I believe cannot wait until the next meeting in November. I submit this letter for your review and request action to be taken on your part.

My name is Bill Spence and I have a daughter in the first grade at Rock Hill School. The safety issues that are concerning to me are related to the recent construction improvements to Rock Hill School. There is inadequate outdoor lighting, the new front door entrance walkway is poorly configured and the new landscaping at the end of the front entrance walkway is obstructive. Let me further explain these safety issues.

**Inadequate outdoor lighting:** The outdoor lighting at Rock Hill is unsafe and inadequate. There are many evening events that take place at the school and the lighting for the outdoor parking lot and around the school is very poor. I know that two new light poles were installed recently, but they are not enough. There is no lighting by the kindergarten entrance nor is there proper lighting in the teachers' lot. The street lighting is very poor on this road and the school needs further lighting to provide a safe entrance and exit for evening events. In speaking to Principal Allyson Glass recently, she told me how temporary lighting has been installed for voting purposes this November. She has put in a request that it become permanent. The fact that someone has installed additional lighting for voting illustrates the fact that Rock Hill's outdoor lighting problems are well known. This has been a long-standing issue with this school and should have been included in the new renovations. The lighting issue must be immediately addressed.

Lighting is also an important factor in reducing vandalism. The cost of lights will be much cheaper than broken windows and the theft of school property.

**New front door entrance walkway (see drawing attached):** This relates to the new paved serpentine walkway ramp from the upper parking lot to the new front entrance. Besides the fact that the walkway is impractical, there is a safety issue that needs to be addressed which prompts my writing to you. The problem is where the walkway meets the upper parking lot. When the front entrance is completed this walkway will be the main access point to the school. The walkway forces the students to be funneled to where the walkway, the parking lot exit, and the street all meet. Within about a 10 to 15 foot radius you have cars on the street, cars exiting the parking lot, cars parked in the lot, and students all coming together in a very small area. This is dangerous even in good weather conditions but I really have a concern in the winter.

Without a reconfiguration of the walkway, snow-banks, slippery road conditions, cars, parents, and kids will all be gathered at one spot. This is a major accident waiting to happen.

10/10/06  
6:55pm

Rec'd from Bill Spence  
during T.C. Mtg

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The reconfiguration that needs to take place would allow the walkway to meet the upper parking lot at the mid-point of the circular lot (see drawing). This will keep the children away from the parking lot exit and the road.

I understand the serpentine ramp was made for ADA requirements but I believe you have already met all ADA requirements without this ramp. The true handicap parking spot is in the teachers' parking lot next to the main entrance. This is already at ground level; it has no stairs and is closest to the school. Secondly, the handicapped parking spot in the upper lot can utilize the curb cut and entrance at the kindergarten. This should meet your ADA requirements. To expect a handicapped person to use the upper parking lot handicap space and then to walk to the other side of the parking lot to reach the serpentine ramp, and then to navigate the ramp to get to the front entrance is unreasonable.

**New landscaping at the end of the front entrance walkway:** Recently, numerous pine trees were planted where the serpentine walkway and upper parking lot meet. Besides the fact that these pine trees are messy with sap, and are way too big for this location, the real issue is that they block the view from the parking lot to the front entrance. Again, you are creating a dangerous situation by blocking site lines in this very tight and congested area. In speaking to Principal Glass, she stated she had no input on these plantings and was not told about them. She also told me that the trees now block her view from the office area up to the parking lot. She needs to be able to see what is happening up there. Also, as a vandalism problem, the trees block the view from the street to the front door for Police and any public traffic that drives up or down the street.

I am sorry that I am unable to attend Tuesday's meeting to discuss these issues further but I believed they could not wait until your next meeting. I have spoken to Mr. Don Harwood about some of these issues before school started in September and he explained some of the scope and financial limitations of your committee. I have also spoken to Principal Glass on these issues and she explained to me her limitations regarding the construction issues. She recommended I speak to your committee. I need to know who will take charge and assume responsibility for these issues. Is it your committee? Is it Principal Glass? Is it the Board of Education? Is it the Town Council? Is it the Mayor?

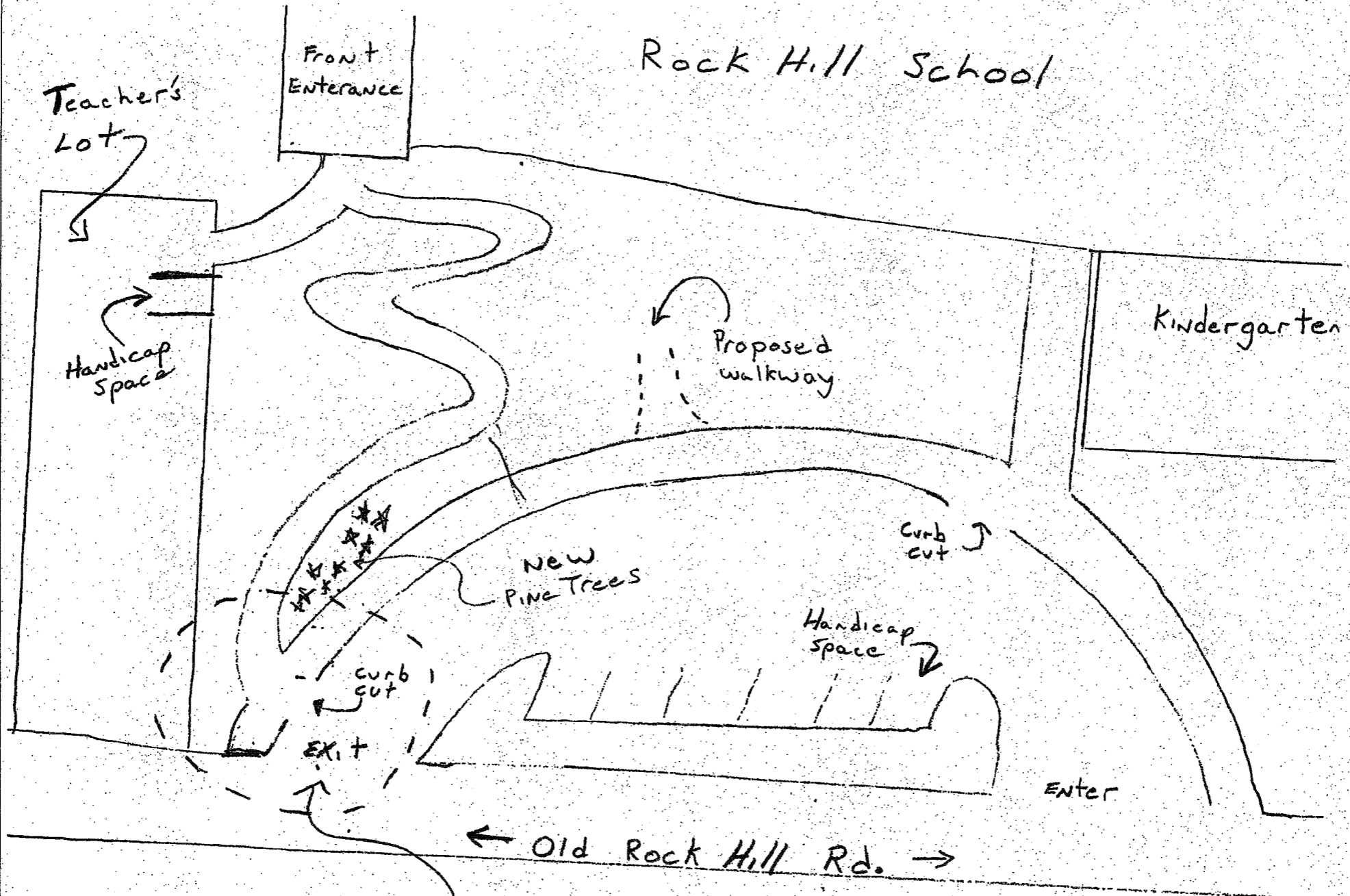
Any help, action, or recommendations would be greatly appreciated. I truly believe the above issues are not simple cosmetic issues. They are safety issues that need prompt action. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

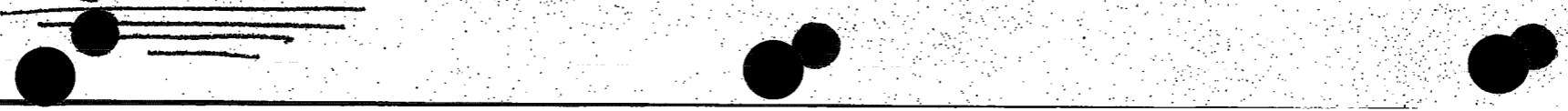
William Spence  
126 Mapleview Road  
(203) 265-0566



# Rock Hill School



Danger Zone



Thomas P. Hennessey, Chairman Board of Education  
 Kenneth V. Henrici, Superintendent of Schools  
 Michael Votto, Board of Education  
 Donald Harwood, Chairman School Renovation Committee  
 Darren Novak, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds  
 Allyson Glass, Principal  
 Paul Picard, Sheehan High School

March 1, 2006

This letter is a follow-up to my presentation to the Board of Education on February 27, 2006. At the BOE meeting I detailed various problems with the renovation project at Rock Hill School. At the meeting Mr. Hennessey requested that I put my listing of issues in writing in the hopes that the Board of Education, along with other committees could begin work on fixing the issues I detailed. I have copied various members of the BOE along with others that I am aware of who are involved in the school construction project. Please feel free to extend copies of this to whom ever you feel it would be of interest to.

Before listing the various items that need attention at Rock Hill I would like to summarize what I believe everyone already knows. Rock Hill school was a bad concept right from the start in 1957. The California model is completely inefficient for the Northeast area in terms of utility costs. The model is also inefficient from a maintenance and operational standpoint. At this time, even with the \$5.7 million renovation now complete, Rock Hill School is not ready to meet the educational needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In the last 2 1/2 years that I have been involved at Rock Hill I have been unable to find anyone, be it a parent, teacher, principal, school superintendent, BOE member, or Building Committee member who has stated that Rock Hill was worth renovating. Each person and committee I have been in contact with has stated that Rock Hill should have been razed and rebuilt. But for whatever reason, Rock Hill went the renovation route. Which leads us to its current condition and situation.

Attached is a letter I submitted and presented to the Building Committee in October 2004 and again in November 2005. The three (3) items highlighted in my letter (outdoor lighting, front walkway, and the pine trees) remain unresolved and continue to be a concern for me. I have heard that in the spring the pine tree issue may be fixed but I am unsure of the true status of this.

In addition to the above 3 items, the following is what I presented at BOE meeting

- 1) Roof- The roof at Rock Hill has in the past, and currently continues to leak in various places. Roof repairs were not included in the scope on the renovation project and therefore no money was allocated for it.
- 2) Hallway foundation – The connecting hallways at Rock Hill are not actually hallways they are only covered sidewalks. The problem here is that the

10/10/06  
6:55pm

Rec'd Bill Spence  
during T.C mtg

of piping and closeness of it to the underside of the roof it is nearly impossible for a custodian to ever effectively dust these areas. Rock Hill is a school that has an ugly history of poor air quality. The exposed pipes ability to gather dust and the heaters ability to blow the dust around will continue this poor air quality problem. Once again no allowance was made in the renovation project to fix the hallway problem.


- 7) Handrails in the hallways - The hallway that goes from the office to the grade 2 pod is a steep grade. Principal Glass has requested a handrail be put up in this hallway. She is apparently meeting with resistance to this and the problem seems to be with the steep grade of the hall. The steepness of the ramp apparently means it is not handicapped accessible and that someone has determined it therefore does not need a handrail. Could someone rectify this problem? This is a low cost item that should be taken care of immediately.

The above items are a brief summary of my concerns. As a parent I am not in the school everyday for 8 hrs per day. The above issues are just the blatant, common sense major problems that I have observed during my visits to the school. I am extremely dismayed that these problems were not included in the renovation project. These are not new problems that have arisen in the last few years. These problems have existed for decades. Since my Daughter is only in the second grade, I must tell you I have never been in the grade 3, 4, or 5 pods. I am unaware of what issues exist in them. My visits to the school are limited to open houses, PTO meetings, conferences, and other such events. My issues I am sure are only the beginning of problems that others who spend more time the school are aware of.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I hope we can create an action plan and a budget for presentation to the Town Council to consider sooner rather than later. I believe the Town Council and Mayor should immediately be made aware that the school renovation is not nearly over. They need to be aware that tens of millions of dollars are still needed for the school buildings. This information will help the Mayor and Council set the school building project as a priority before it takes on other town projects. Already the school renovation project will have to be behind the \$13 million public library project. Any further delay in notifying the Mayor and Town Council of this will result in the school project being pushed back even further behind other town projects.

Mr. Hennessey, please inform me of what actions the School Board plans to take as the result of this letter. If you need any assistance from me or other parents of Rock Hill please let me know.

Again thank you for your time and assistance with this.

  
William Spence, 126 Maplevue Rd.  
265-0566

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$295,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE MACKENZIE RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$295,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Section 1. The sum of \$295,000 is appropriated for the planning and design of the MacKenzie Reservoir sediment removal project, including engineers and other consultants, mapping, borings, dredging plans, equipment and services related thereto, or so much thereof or such additional improvements as may be accomplished within such appropriation, including administrative, advertising, printing, legal and financing costs (hereinafter the "Project"). Said appropriation shall be inclusive of State and Federal grants-in-aid thereof.

Section 2. To meet said appropriation \$295,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the twentieth year after their date. Said bonds may be issued in one or more series as determined by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, and the amount of bonds of each series to be issued shall be fixed by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them. Said bonds shall be issued in the amount necessary to meet the Town's share of the cost of the project determined after considering the estimated amount of the State and Federal grants-in-aid of the project, or the actual amount thereof if this be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof, provided that the total amount of bonds to be issued shall not be less than an amount which will provide funds sufficient with other funds available for such purpose to pay the principal of and the interest on all temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds outstanding at the time of the issuance thereof, and to pay for the administrative, printing and legal costs of issuing the bonds. Capital project revenues, including bid premiums and investment income derived from investment of bond proceeds (and net investment income derived from note proceeds) are authorized to be credited by the Comptroller to the project account and expended to pay project expenses customarily paid therefrom. The remaining appropriation and bond authorization shall be reduced by the amount of capital project revenues so credited. The bonds shall be in the denomination of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, or, be combined with other bonds of the Town and such combined issue shall be in the denomination per aggregate maturity of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, be issued in bearer form or in fully registered form, be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by a bank or trust company designated by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, which bank or trust company may be designated the registrar and transfer agent, be payable at a bank or trust company designated by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them,

and be approved as to their legality by Murtha Cullina LLP, Attorneys-At-Law, of Hartford. They shall bear such rate or rates of interest as shall be determined by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them. The bonds shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the bonds shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such bond is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of the bonds to be issued, the annual installments of principal, redemption provisions, if any, the date, time of issue and sale and other terms, details and particulars of such bonds, shall be determined by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, in accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended.

Section 3. Said bonds shall be sold by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, in a competitive offering or by negotiation, in their discretion. If sold at competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold upon sealed proposals, auction, or similar competitive process at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town. A notice of sale or a summary thereof describing the bonds and setting forth the terms and conditions of the sale shall be published at least five days in advance of the sale in a recognized publication carrying municipal bond notices and devoted primarily to financial news and the subject of state and municipal bonds. If the bonds are sold by negotiation, the provisions of purchase agreement shall be subject to approval of the Town Council.

Section 4. The Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, are authorized to make temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds. Notes evidencing such borrowings shall be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the manual or facsimile signatures of the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be payable at a bank or trust company designated by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, be approved as to their legality by Murtha Cullina LLP, Attorneys-At-Law, of Hartford, and be certified by a bank or trust company designated by the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, pursuant to Section 7-373 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended. They shall be issued with maturity dates which comply with the provisions of the General Statutes governing the issuance of such notes, as the same may be amended from time to time. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the notes shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The net interest cost on such notes, including renewals thereof, and the expense of preparing, issuing and marketing them, to the extent paid from the proceeds of such renewals or said bonds, shall be included as a cost of the project. Upon the sale of said bonds, the proceeds thereof, to the extent required, shall be applied forthwith to the payment of the principal of and the interest on any such notes

then outstanding or shall be deposited with a bank or trust company in trust for such purpose.

Section 5. Resolution of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures with Borrowings. The Town (the "Issuer") hereby expresses its official intent pursuant to §1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations, Title 26 (the "Regulations"), to reimburse expenditures paid sixty days prior to and after the date of passage of this ordinance in the maximum amount and for the capital project defined in Section 1 with the proceeds of bonds, notes, or other obligations ("Bonds") authorized to be issued by the Issuer. The Bonds shall be issued to reimburse such expenditures not later than 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the substantial completion of the project, or such later date the Regulations may authorize. The Issuer hereby certifies that the intention to reimburse as expressed herein is based upon its reasonable expectations as of this date. The Comptroller or his designee is authorized to pay project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of reimbursement bonds, and to amend this declaration.

Section 6. The Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Town Treasurer, or any two of them, are hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town, to enter into agreements or otherwise covenant for the benefit of bondholders to provide information on an annual or other periodic basis to nationally recognized municipal securities information repositories or state based information repositories (the "Repositories") and to provide notices to the Repositories of material events as enumerated in Securities and Exchange Commission Exchange Act Rule 15c2-12, as amended, as may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to effect the sale of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance. Any agreements or representations to provide information to Repositories made prior hereto are hereby confirmed, ratified and approved.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,000,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE VERNON E. CLEAVES REGIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CENTER SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,000,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

An ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Appropriating \$2,000,000 For The Planning And Design Of The Vernon E. Cleaves Regional Vocational Agricultural Center School And Authorizing The Issue Of \$2,000,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose" adopted by the Town Council on June 27, 2006 which ordinance is hereby ratified, confirmed and adopted, is amended to increase the appropriation and bond authorization therein by \$1,800,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$3,800,000, add construction management services, and make technical changes regarding the use of interest earnings and the bond bid process as follows:

Section 1. The title of the Ordinance is amended to read as follows:

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$3,800,000 FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THE VERNON E. CLEAVES REGIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CENTER SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$3,800,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE"

Section 2. The following is substituted for Section 1 of the Ordinance:

"Section 1. The sum of \$3,800,000 is appropriated for the planning and design of the Vernon E. Cleaves Regional Vocational Agricultural Center School, the preparation of final plans, specifications, construction bid documents and construction management services, and for appurtenances, equipment, services and consultants related thereto, or so much thereof as may be accomplished within such appropriation, including administrative, advertising, printing, legal and financing costs, said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State and Federal grants-in-aid."

Section 3. The following is added to Section 2 of the Ordinance:

"Capital project revenues, including bid premiums and investment income derived from investment of bond proceeds (and net investment income derived from note proceeds) are authorized to be credited by the Comptroller to the project account and expended to pay project expenses customarily paid therefrom. The remaining

appropriation and bond authorization shall be reduced by the amount of capital project revenues so credited.”

Section 4. The following is substituted for the second sentence of Section 3 of the Ordinance:

“If sold at competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold upon sealed proposals, auction, or similar competitive process at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town.”



AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$72,270,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF TOWN-WIDE SCHOOL SYSTEM RENOVATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$72,270,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

An ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Appropriating \$72,270,000 For The Planning, Acquisition And Construction Of Town-Wide School System Renovations And Authorizing The Issue Of \$72,270,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose" adopted by the Town Council on December 14, 1999 and as amended at Town Council meetings held August 21, 2001, January 8, 2002, June 11, 2002, October 22, 2002, December 10, 2002, February 24, 2004, June 8, 2004, July 19, 2005, and March 28, 2006 which ordinance is hereby ratified, confirmed and adopted, is amended to increase the appropriation and bond authorization therein by \$220,000, from \$72,270,000 to \$72,490,000, and to make technical changes to the bond bid process as follows:

Section 1. The title of the Ordinance is amended to read as follows:

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$72,490,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF TOWN-WIDE SCHOOL SYSTEM RENOVATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$72,490,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE"

Section 2. The following is substituted for Section 1 of the Ordinance:

"Section 1. The sum of \$72,490,000 is appropriated for the planning, acquisition and construction of Town-Wide school system renovations, including facility additions, expansions and space reallocations, approximately in accordance with the project summary approved by the Board of Education at a special meeting held May 24, 1999, to various school buildings including Lyman Hall and Sheehan High Schools, DAG Hammar skjold and Moran Middle Schools, Moses Y. Beach, Cook Hill, Highland, Parker Farms, Pond Hill, Rock Hill and Stevens Elementary Schools, and for appurtenances, furniture, equipment, renovations to the Sheehan High School running track and athletic field, and design, engineering, and other consultant services or so much thereof as may be accomplished within such appropriation, including administrative, advertising, printing, legal and financing costs related thereto, said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State and Federal grants-in-aid (excluding however the two special \$500,000 grants from the State for the Sheehan High School running track and athletic field), in accordance with the following:

Planning, Acquisition and Construction:	\$72,040,000
Debt Administration:	<u>450,000</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$72,490,000</u>

Section 3. The first sentence of Section 2 of the Ordinance is amended by substituting the amount of \$72,490,000 for \$72,270,000, thereby making the first sentence of Section 2 read as follows:

“To meet said appropriation \$72,490,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the twentieth year after their date.”

Section 4. The following is substituted for the second sentence of Section 3 of the Ordinance:

“If sold at competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold upon sealed proposals, auction, or similar competitive process at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town.”