

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

BUDGET WORKSHOP

April 13, 2007

6:00 P.M.

The following is a record of the minutes of the Wallingford Town Council at a Special Budget Workshop Meeting held on Friday, April 13, 2007, in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi Called the Meeting to Order at 6:08 P.M. The following Councilors responded present to the Roll Call given by Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson: Michael Brodinsky, Lois Doherty, Gerald E. Farrell, Jr., Iris F. Papale, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Vincenzo M. Di Natale arrived at 6:46 P.M. Stephen W. Knight was out of state for a family commitment. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. arrived at 6:28 P.M. and Robert Ronstrom, Finance Department was also present

A Moment of Silence began the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and the Roll Call taken.

2. Budget Workshop

Veterans Affairs
Catherine Riccio, Director

Mr. Brodinsky inquired about how recent wars are effecting the number of veterans that may need service in the Office of Veterans Affairs and in the future. What are the long-term trends, he asked. Mrs. Riccio said that a number of new veterans go to the VA in Newington and some come through her office. She said that claims are worked through the computer of the VA and the medical centers in West Haven and Newington. Mr. Brodinsky said he is interested in the future demand for the Veterans Service Center that she runs. He talked about the contribution cutback situation with Meriden in relation to the continuation of the office five or ten years out, if we have as many or more veterans. Ms. Riccio said that she does not have figures on whether service centers are continuing or being closed but that there are between 360,000 and 390,000 veterans in Connecticut but she does not have numbers broken out town by town. Mr. Brodinsky asked if the Veterans Service Center needs to be continued and strengthened for the long haul and suggested adding other nearby towns to the service to reach more veterans. Ms. Riccio said that many towns do not have an office and the one in Town Hall offers a convenience to veterans. Mr. Brodinsky suggested a regional office. Ms. Riccio said that a large part of the work of her office is the

administration of the Soldiers, Sailors and Marine Fund for Wallingford and Meriden, an assistance fund based on need. She said that service officers do what she does from the posts. She said that her office does not have internet access.

Ms. Rascati inquired about the part-time position in her office. Ms. Riccio said that the position is vacant right now but that she will fill it when time permits. Mr. Farrell asked what veterans do when there is not a local office like in Wallingford, for example the veterans in Meriden and how would they be served if Wallingford no longer partnered with Meriden. Ms. Riccio said there are service officers at the West Haven Medical Center and in Newington, and the American Legion Posts but they don't have regular service hours like Wallingford.

Mr. Testa noted that the Mayor has not approved the Veterans' Office part-time position in the 2007-2008 budget.

Ms. Doherty said that there is information on the Town's website on the Veterans' Service Center.

Chairman Parisi said he thinks that Ms. Riccio is very modest about the job that she does in the veterans' office and asked if each region has a contact and how veterans from West Haven, North Haven and East Haven are served. Ms. Riccio said that the regional office where the service officers are located is no longer in Hartford but now in Newington in shared space with medical clinics that are held in the same building. She said that new veterans could add to the workload. She said they should get registered within one year of their discharge and be cleared through the VA medical centers.

Ms. Papale asked why the Mayor eliminated the part-time position in the Veterans' Office. She acknowledged Ms. Riccio for her work in the Veterans' Office.

Mayor Dickinson said that the office will use a telephone answering machine in the absence of the office director and that will fulfill the needs but if it isn't it can be rectified.

Chairman Parisi said that the part-time position person assists the director by taking information from veterans and in other preliminary work with the veterans.

Board of Selectman

Mayor Dickinson said that the town has one active Selectman and that there are two vacancies. He said that the Selectman does perform service and that Al Bulmer has asked for re-appointments because there are calls for helping to resolve boundary disputes. He said that the remuneration in the budget deals with a statutory provision that provides for \$2 per day that service is provided and has remained that same since he began as Mayor.

Mr. Brodinsky said that the budget calls for \$750 for three Selectmen, \$250 each per year. He asked if there were any records of the service provided. He asked if the position was really necessary. There was discussion of boundary dispute resolution.

Mayor Dickinson said that it is perhaps a hold over from long ago, and it's a relatively small amount of money, and there are people usually willing to do it and that we can see if Al Bulmer, Selectman, can come in. Mayor Dickinson said that it is a free service, excepting the tax money that goes for the remuneration to the Selectman, of getting advice from an objective party, who hears two sides of the issue and advise people on what to do. According to the Charter, Selectman is a Mayoral appointment. Ms. Papale suggested that the two vacancies be appointed. Mr. Farrell said that in the past, he was a Selectman and that there were two or three calls per year. In his research of the statute authorizing selectman, he came to the conclusion that the statute didn't authorize him to do anything. He said at best the Selectman is a conciliator between the two parties. Ms. Rascati made a comment that in the past Selectman had a duty to the two registers voters.

Public Works

Henry McCully, Director

Mr. Farrell asked about Page 54, Line 9198 – Auditorium Seating, Lower Half at \$67,000. He asked about the kind of seating that would cost \$67,000.

Mr. McCully said that it would be padded stadium seats, a little larger than the 90-year old wooden seats, and that this is part of a program to upgrade public facilities and to refurbish Town Hall, especially in the Council Chambers. He said that his research for seating costs, including Connecticut, resulted in the most economical estimate coming from Massachusetts. Mr. Testa asked about the carpeting in the Council Chambers. Mr. McCully said that it is time since the carpet is the original carpet.

Mr. Testa also asked about the paved program and paved sub-division and what sub-division for \$150,000. Mr. McCully said that this line item has been in the capital budget for many years and the sub-division targeted this year is the Jodi Drive area, town streets. Paving program refers to main town roads. Mr. Testa asked about the overtime line item. Mr. McCully said that it is based on a five-year average, which is tied to snow plowing. Mr. Brodinsky commented that he agrees regarding the seats and the carpeting, and suggested replacing the auditorium doors. Mr. McCully said that interior doors and locks are being considered for next year.

Mr. Brodinsky asked about appropriations in force left over from FY 2006 or earlier, or any money sitting in Public Works accounts for things that haven't been yet purchased or that are being reserved for future purchases or money left over for things purchased for less than what was in the budget. Mr. McCully said

not that he knows of but that he would have to review capital purchases to date and get back to Mr. Brodinsky. In regard to snow plowing at Simpson Court, Mr. McCully said that the town has a lease on the back lot and plows from Center Street to Church Street as they have for years. Mr. Brodinsky asked about page 53, an appropriation for \$12,000, for the current year for backstops for Little League fields for Parker Farms School and about another one for fence replacement Community Lake-Little League Field at \$11,000 and asked if these projects would be complete this year. Mr. McCully said that these projects have been completed. He noted that the ten-foot fence was installed to allow hosting of championship games. Mr. Brodinsky asked about Line 9024, page 52, Purchase Professional Services, to clean catch basins and noted that in 2006 the town spent about \$16,000. Mr. McCully said that this work is performed in the spring and that \$35,000 in FY 2007 will take care of about 2,000 catch basins or about 20%. Mr. Brodinsky asked if the town is using the energy saving light bulbs. Mr. McCully said that all bulbs in the major buildings have been replaced with energy saving bulbs. In answer to Mr. Brodinsky's question regarding internet capability in the Public Works Department, Mr. McCully said that his office does not have access to the internet.

Ms. Papale said that in the past two trucks were in the budget every year to follow a program of purchasing replacements and asked when this stopped and was his department caught up with those replacements. Mr. McCully said that right now they have a 1989 truck and that to bring the town up-to-date, the Mayor has approved 5 new cars and two trucks (page 53, Line 9111).

Ms. Rascati asked if the used tire shelter, Line 9185, is a new item. Mr. McCully said that it is a required temporary garage to cover tires. Line 9186, which stamps asphalt with a design, was requested of Public Works by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Board of Education

Dale Wilson, Wallingford Superintendent of Schools
Tom Hennessey, Board of Education, Chairman
Linda Winters, Business Manager
Martin Taylor, Superintendent for Curriculum
Darren Novak – Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Brodinsky made comments on the Public Hearing and asked about text books in relation to things that parents tell him concerning their children not having text books, and the perception is that the trend is to get rid of text books because we don't have the money and to use photocopies from books instead. He asked for clarification on this conception.

Mr. Wilson said that each principal has an allocation and at all the schools they buy textbooks. He said the system wide the textbook line is \$344,446. Mr.

Brodinsky asked if every student in every particular class have a textbook. Mr. Wilson said not necessarily.

Mr. Taylor said that most of the high school courses have individual texts. In the middle school and elementary schools, it depends on the program and there may be a modular unit used in middle schools, for example, and with the elementary program they have masters, which allow photocopies for the class, and in kits in science and social studies to teach those programs. He explained 'modular unit' and gave middle school math as an example and said that in the old days one textbook would be handed out to every student. Now scope and sequence, or a list of topics that they think are important at cover to those that are determined by the state and are used in the CMT, Connecticut Mastery Test. He said that students are given a small packet, like a chapter, at one time and use a loose leaf until that subject is mastered and then move on to the next part of the next unit. The First Module is then collected and stored by the teacher and the Second Module is handed out. The materials are kept by the teacher in the classroom and with the Standards Based Approach the topics are spiraled so that what had been covered in October would be repeated again in a lesser form 2 or 3 months later in case a student has lost sight of what was studied earlier. This is part of the idea behind Standards Based education that students are expected to reach a benchmark and to retain mastery of that particular skill. Mr. Trueheart said that this is not controversial or widespread. High schools are set up with textbooks. Middle school math and elementary social studies Module Units are used commonly used throughout the state and are one way the Wallingford can meet the State to hit the benchmarks required on the CMT. Mr. Brodinsky summarized saying that if students do not have textbooks it is not because we don't have the money, it is because we want them to have something else. Mr. Trueheart concurred.

Mr. Brodinsky talked about the \$991,000 surplus and asked if that money is rolled over into the current year's budget. Mr. Wilson said that they pre-buy on materials for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Brodinsky talked about the school renovation project and that there is heightened awareness on the part of the public with maintenance of school buildings. He asked if there were any warranty claims pending in any of the schools, including work undone or done defectively. Mr. Wilson said that they have a punch-list with the building committee. He said that two months ago there was a meeting with the Superintendent, members of the building committee, the architect, the contractors and all of the school building principals to discuss what they feel need to be done under the renovation project. He said that it was a productive meeting, that the list is not very long and the building committee is dealing with the items. He expects a report back from them on the status. Mr. Wilson said that they are very close to closing this out and finalizing the project. Mr. Brodinsky asked whether there is a Board of Education program to periodically examine and inspect the buildings and equipment in depth and have a

written report on anticipated replacements, maintenance needs, etc. Mr. Wilson said, yes, the preventative maintenance program, and it goes building by building. He said that HVAC issues are always a major concern. He said that the buildings are still old with renovation and new HVAC systems in the renovated areas but the old systems co-exist as well. He said that that is the major red-flag item. He said that he has requested another HVAC person, approved by the Board, which will be a major advantage to have this person in-house especially when compared to the \$100,000 spent this year on outside HVAC vendors. He said that there is a building by building by report and a roof survey is upcoming in June and will be presented to the Board of Education in the fall. He continued with major issues including roofs, which have reached their 20-year warranty, some of the boilers are 30-40 years old, parking lot pavement, and underground storage tanks that need to be addressed in the next 5 to 10 years. He said that they would have a report that they will share with the Mayor after the Board reviews it. Mr. Brodinsky asked that this report be referred to the Town Council. Mr. Wilson said that once the Board has reviewed it, it would be sent to the Town Council. Mr. Brodinsky asked for other updated reports and if they could be sent to the Council office. Mr. Brodinsky said that he is interested in specifics like what project at what school.

Mr. Brodinsky asked about the last time the contract for legal services went out to bid. Mr. Wilson said that they don't go out to bid. Mr. Brodinsky asked why. Mr. Wilson said that they ask for a bid waiver and that it is not something that any school system bids for. Mr. Brodinsky wanted to know the last time there was an RPF, and the last time they looked around for what is out there for another price. Mr. Wilson said not since he has been in his position. As policy they don't do that. Mr. Wilson said that he was Assistant Superintendent for over 20 years and has dealt with firm and has the highest respect for this firm and been through some major labor issues in which they have been successful. He said that they have not lost a arbitration case with this firm and in negotiating it has been favorable for the Board. He said that he has high confidence in them.

Ms. Rascati asked about 'Other Equipment' (p.65). Linda Winters explained that line is Plant Maintenance and the increase is for two areas a back hoe \$80,000 and for replacing one of the trucks, budgeted at \$40,000. Ms. Rascati asked about 'Other Purchased Property Services' and 'Other Purchased Services' on another line. Ms. Winters said that 'Other Purchased Property Services' (490) is plant maintenance the increase of \$51,831 is because they are required to do radon testing and also for safety program updates and that is difference from 'Other Purchased Services' (590) and the decrease is because there is a slight decrease in maintenance and also school to career so it is different.

Chairman Parisi asked if it is more maintenance than repairs and that the number is substantial at \$1,088,597. Ms. Winters said that the majority of it, \$855,250, is for plant and maintenance -maintenance for fields, different HVAC maintenance and that the other portion is for maintenance of office equipment and instructional

equipment. Chairman Parisi then pointed to another line 'Instructional Supplies' \$873, 968, which Ms. Winters explained are classrooms supplies and equipment that is less than \$1,000 according to the state definition. Next he asked about 'Site Improvements', \$127,000, which Mr. Wilson said is for continued outside building maintenance program. Ms. Winters said that 'Building Improvements' are improvements to the inside of the building and the increase is major capital improvements, including replacement of windows at Highland and Rock Hill; the replacement of the HVAC system at Cook Hill in the main office; Dag and Moran duct cleaning; Moran stage lights; and painting the gymnasium at Lyman Hall High School. Chairman Parisi, referring to the Preventative Maintenance Program, asked if the ducts are included in that program. Mr. Wilson said that two schools ducts are scheduled each year and that the supervisor of buildings and grounds is in charge of the maintenance program and the head custodians at the schools have responsibility as well using check lists. Mr. Wilson said that they have a new procedure for sending in a list of PMs sent in by the principals, which are electronically documented, which creates a list of work orders. Chairman Parisi again pointed to the Preventative Maintenance aspect of things. He listed things like boilers, plumbing and pipes, belts on air conditioners and said that if those preventative things are done then you don't have the breakdowns normally. Mr. Wilson said that is another benefit to having the new HVAC person in the area of preventative maintenance. Chairman Parisi added that he has heard nothing but good comments regarding balance in the Board of Education from the people that he has talked to and he commended that whole board.

Mr. Testa asked about the stage curtain at Sheehan High School. Mr. Wilson said that it's in the five-year plan. Mr. Testa asked about the Mayor's reduction in the BOE request of almost \$2.6 million and that they had identified surplus/savings of about \$1.9 million and that that leaves about \$700K and what is their perspective on that. Mr. Wilson said that they reported \$991K that was as of 2 weeks ago and they still have 3 months. He said that they will know their needs for salary in May and that they anticipate picking up some money in that area as well as favorable bids and additional retirements where there will be savings in next year's budget. He said that they are almost there and not feeling uncomfortable. Mr. Testa questioned contingency and asked what they foresee. Mr. Wilson said that in next year's budget it was \$400k for the bid of the transportation for a new bus company and that the bid waiver will allow them to cut \$400K in contingency in next year's budget.

Ms. Doherty asked about the decreases already talked about - \$400K in medical insurance; bus transportation \$400K; \$53,515 in the electricity account; \$41,403 for one less bus. Mr. Wilson said that there will be additional savings for retirements that will come in May and June and that there three now and perhaps three or four more.

Mr. Wilson thanked the Council for the early scheduling this year.

Mr. Hennessey thanked the Chair for the comments that he made and said that the entire board is pleased with the stability Mr. Wilson has provided the school system in the last six months and that now the focus is back on the children and are pleased with the performance of the Superintendent and the Central Staff as well as the principals and the teachers.

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Papale seconded.

All Councilors present (8) voted aye and the motion passed.

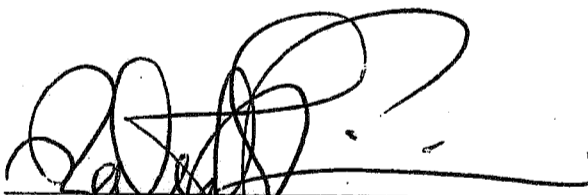
The meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

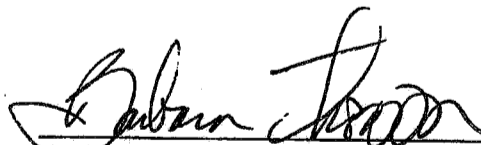


Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Meeting recorded by Sandra R. Weekes


Robert F. Farist, Chairman

7-17-07
Date


Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

7-17-07
Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 7-6-07
AT 3:50 PM AND RECORDED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

BUDGET WORKSHOP

April 16, 2007

6:00 P.M.

The following is a record of the minutes of the Wallingford Town Council at a Special Budget Workshop Meeting held on Monday, April 16, 2007, in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi Called the Meeting to Order at 6:10 P.M. The following Councilors responded present to the Roll Call given by Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson were Michael Brodinsky, Lois Doherty, Gerald E. Farrell, Jr., Stephen W. Knight, Iris F. Papale, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Councilor Vincenzo M. Di Natale was absent from the meeting for business reasons. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present.

A Moment of Silence began the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and the Roll Call taken.

2. Budget Workshop

Personnel – Pensions, Risk Management, Employee Insurance

Terence Sullivan – Personnel Director
James Hutt – Assistant Personnel Director

Page 26, Mr. Brodinsky, referring to Personnel staff, asked for an update about the decrease from 9 to 8 and. Mr. Sullivan said that they changed an hourly part-time position to full-time in January 2007, bringing it to 7 full-time and one seasonal. He explained that the seasonal person is the Personnel and Pension Appeals Board Clerk. The two part-time positions listed included a full-time seasonal to cover vacations and they found that they did not need this position. Mr. Sullivan said that they just advertised for one full-time personnel clerk. Mr. Brodinsky asked about Line 9011 Purchased Professional Services – Claims Administrator. Mr. Sullivan said that they exercised an option in the last 5-year bid for a one-year extension, and they held the price. He said next year in January or February, it will go out to bid.

Mr. Brodinsky asked about Line 9032 – Purchased Services – Consulting Service. Mr. Sullivan said that this includes mediation and outplacement services for personnel issues; assistance to laid off employees for interviewing skills and resume building; money for software conversion consultant the old system for the pension system; functional job description review for positions in the engineering department and in animal control.

On page 27, Mr. Brodinsky about the Consolidated Pension Plan increase from 2006. He asked if the actuary asked that the town to add that precise amount of \$2,514,835 to the Pension Plan. Mr. Sullivan said yes.

Page 28, Line 1700 & 1750, Mr. Brodinsky asked for a review of the longevity and retirement sick leave. Mr. Sullivan said that the longevity and retirement sick leave are contractual obligations that the town through collective bargaining contracts to pay longevity for service, and the retirement sick leave is for unused sick leave.

Page 28, Line 8300- Health Insurance, Mr. Brodinsky asked about the increase over 2006 and asked if there is a competitive bid. Mr. Sullivan said that there are three insurance products two of which are with Anthem Blue Cross and BlueShield Century Preferred & BlueCare, and the third is HealthNet. He said that the amount approved by the mayor is the same as in the current fiscal year because experience and trends were lower than expected. Mr. Brodinsky asked if the premium was going to be \$5.8 million. Mayor Dickinson said that bottom line is \$5.3 million.

Line 8310- Worker's Compensation – Mr. Sullivan said that we are self insured and said that in the past more people were being injured and staying out longer and through the worker's network of providers, there is a more active safety training program and a very active Risk Management program, so the experience rate is down. Mr. Brodinsky asked about how many cases end up in front of the Worker's Comp Commissioner for informal and formal hearings.

Line 8380, Page 29, Insurance Claims - Mr. Sullivan said that line is in his budget but it's really for the law department who use it to pay property claims/deductibles. Mr. Bowes concurred.

Ms. Rascati asked about Lines 8400 & 8410, Page 28 – Mr. Sullivan said that the numbers changes every year in a number of regards – annual cost of living adjustments, some of them are to surviving spouses; when a heart claimant is

added, it's in the category; it's effected by the activity and how many claims that are open and the cost of providing benefits. Another factor is if there is a recurrence of a medical event it includes mileage, prescriptions, office visits, etc. that come from this account, so the account can vary every year.

Line 9011, Page 26, Mr. Testa asked what types of claims are being administered. Mr. Sullivan said this is the third party administrator for worker's compensation so all of the work that they do for the town - advising on claims, co-attending visits, etc. It covers the medical costs and the weekly indemnity payments. He said that this saves the town from hiring our own adjuster and in the contract, the town gets a team of adjusters and nurses and practitioners, who help the town with the claims.

General Insurance - Mr. Testa asked what the total health insurance claims paid on the town's behalf. Mr. Sullivan said that town-wide, including the Board of Education, Utilities and Food Service, the total claims paid, or the incurred claims, of benefits is \$12,267,734 but he said that might not help much in regard to the General Fund. Mr. Testa said that he continues to be interested in seeing what the cost would be if we had a self-insurance fund for medical.

Page 29, Line 8250, Property and Casualty -General Government-
Mr. Testa asked if this covers legal claims or services in any way, or is it strictly property casualty. Mr. Sullivan said property and casualty only. Mr. Testa asked where in the budget is the money for what it costs us to litigate. Mr. Sullivan said that it is 8270 -Deductible and we have a deductible for each policy. For example, he said, employment practices liability policy has a deductible of \$15,000, so if an employee filed a CHRO complaint, the town would be on the hook for the first \$15,000, and then anything over that, the insurance company would pay. It's claim by claim. He said that the town could go four years without a claim and some years two or three. He said if a claim was filed now in April, there might not be any legal work on it until May, and then it's July 1 and a new fiscal year. Mr. Testa asked where is the expense to litigate covered in personnel issues, like we are hearing about now. Mr. Sullivan said that case has a \$15,000 deductible, and that's what we pay our lawyers to defend the case. Mr. Testa said so this covers the actual litigation. Mr. Sullivan said that if the town sues someone else and takes some action, then that is from the Law Department budget. Mr. Sullivan said that if someone is in a car accident, there is a \$2,000 deductible, and it comes out of this account. Sometimes cases end before the deductible is used, and there are some that cross years with the \$15,000 deductible remaining in effect. Mr. Testa asked what the cost is to the town for the engineering case that is going on. Mr. Sullivan said that he would like to research it and recalled a time when an individual removed their case from CHRO, ended it, and then filed a lawsuit against the town. He said that what he wants to find out is if that is the same claim under the same deductible of that

same policy. He said that he thinks it is but he wants to confirm it. He said that the policy covers all of those types of complaints against the town and that the policy covers everybody except claims filed with the Board of Education or Utilities. Mayor Dickinson said that the Town Attorney could be asked to see if any of that time is related to Personnel issues but doesn't think there is any separate account.

Life Insurance - Mr. DiNatale asked if \$19,000 was the cost to provide life insurance to all of the employees. Mr. Sullivan said all of the employees in the general fund but Board of Education and Utilities cover their own. Mr. DiNatale asked about the college tuition reimbursement program, and how it is structured, and who is eligible. Mr. Sullivan said that the eligibility is limited to the management personnel for job related courses and that tuition is paid for up to an amount that is budgeted every year. He said that the reason the budget is down is because they haven't had a lot of use is this account over the last couple of years.

Ms. Papale asked about life insurance of \$19,00 and wanted to know if everyone who works for the Town of Wallingford has a right to have life insurance paid for by the town. Mr. Sullivan said that it's in every labor agreement and a contractual obligation. He said that even non-bargaining employees that are full-time are covered with some life insurance. He said that term insurance is inexpensive.

Mr. Testa clarified with Mr. Sullivan about the deductible accounts, and Mr. Sullivan said he would let Mr. Testa know the cost of premiums. Mayor Dickinson added that some of the auto coverage has been reassigned to the departments. Mr. Testa said that his interest is in what the town pays for insurance for personnel claims against the town. Mr. Sullivan said that essentially he wants to know the premium that is paid for employment practices liability coverage. Mr. Testa said yes, and that he would also like to know what that policy has paid out over the last few years and what the implication was in increased premiums.

Mr. Brodinsky asked if that was not included in Line Item 8250 as one of the components that made up \$595,600. Mr. Sullivan said that he thinks that the premium for that coverage is in the 8520 account because it wouldn't be in the deductible.

Program Planner- Page 16

Donald Roe

Line 9032-Purchased Services-Internet Consultant. Mr. Brodinsky asked about the budget for \$1,000. Mr. Roe said that they utilize the internet consultant to do maintenance on the site that can't be done in-house, and that in the current fiscal year they have a couple of projects to undertake hence the request for the increase to the appropriation and the same for the 2007-08 fiscal year and also the hourly rate of the consultant increased. The projects referred to included information about recycling and solid waste and next year, working with the Electric Division,

to add information about conservation programming on the town's website. The arrangements are on an hourly basis. The hourly rate will be forwarded to the Council Office.

9903-Personnel Computers. Mr. Roe said that they would be replacing the two computers that are used for the two workstations for internet access for town departments. He said that this was at the recommendation of the network manager since they have been using hand-me-down machines.

Page 60 Economic Development- 7990 Meeting Seminars and Dues - \$19,859 – Mr. Roe said that the biggest part of that is for dues in the regional economic development organization at about \$16,000.

Line 6020 –Promotional Expense -Mr. Brodinsky commented on promotional material, and how do we know what we are getting for our money. Mr. Roe said that they do attract responses to the national adds and that staff reported to the Commission that the trend this year is less activity. He said that the Commission said to monitor it for another year and that is how the budget is framed. Mr. Brodinsky said that it is always constructive to ask why we are doing what we are doing.

Mayor

Page 15 – Mayor – Mr. Brodinsky asked that if a decision was made to do something with respect to Wooding Caplan, would the money come from a contingency account. Mayor Dickinson said that it depends on how much, when it would be needed, etc. It might require an ordinance to allow bonding. If it were a smaller amount, finding it within the budget is a possibility but it is difficult to quantify until there is knowledge about what it exactly is and how quickly it's needed.

Line 9002 - Purchased Professional Services – Negotiations. Mayor Dickinson said that is for labor negotiations, and it's an estimate based upon what will be under negotiation in the coming year. It relates to collective bargaining and typically it only deals with mediation or actual arbitration negotiations. He said that he does not think that it involves grievances.

Line 9902 –Computer – The secretary's station computer is for in need of replacement. They talked about a printer for \$200.

Mr. Brodinsky commented about the Mayor's salary of about \$73K. Mr. Brodinsky said that at some point he would like that he would like to make a motion to increase the Mayor's salary to \$85K, tonight or at another time. Mayor Dickinson said that he was not supportive of any increase and not happy with the comparison made at the last meeting. Ms. Papale said that this increase would be for the next Mayor of Wallingford and that they are not voting on it for Mayor Dickinson but for whomever who would be mayor in the future. She said that she believes that the Mayor of Wallingford should be getting the salary that the Mayor deserves. She said that she would support a motion. Chairman Parisi said that he would not prefer this evening to vote.


There were no further comments.

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

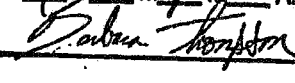
All Councilors present (8) voted aye. Mr. DiNatale was absent.

The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

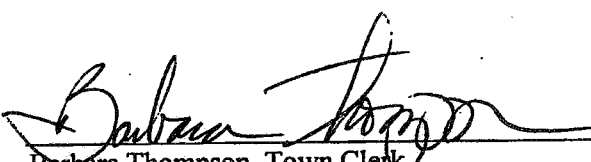

Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Meeting recorded by Sandra R. Weekes

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 2-11-07
AT 4:15 P.M. AND RECORDED BY
 TOWN CLERK


Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

7-17-07
Date


Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

7-17-07
Date