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**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers**

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 13, 2019
6:30 P.M
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 was called to order at 6:35 P.M. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Gina Morgenstein, Christopher K. Shortell and Vincent F. Testa. Councilor Craig Fishbein, Joseph A. Marrone, III and Jason Zandri were absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. were also present at the meeting.

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$22,415.08 (#551-622)
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and approve (1) Merit Review – Human Resources
- 3c. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,138 from Contingency – General,
Acct. #10019000-58820 to Engineer. – Reg. Wages, Acct. #10030050-51000 -
Engineering
- 3d. Acceptance of Donations and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount
of \$3,670 to Revenue/Donations, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct.
#21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3e. Acceptance of Donation of desk valued at \$1,000 from Mr. George Messier – Tax
Collector
- 3f. Acceptance of funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of
\$468 to Court Motor Vehicle Fines, Acct. #1002001-45124 and to Police Operating
Expense, Acct. #10020050-58735 – Police Dept.
- 3g. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,200 from Misc. Donations, Acct.
#25020050-58830-10135 to Video Camera, Acct. #TBD – Police Dept.
- 3h. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,800 from Maintenance of Equipment,
Acct. #10020050-54325 to Ultrasonic Firearm Cleaner, Acct. #TBD - Police Chief
- 3i. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$9,000 from Distribution Maintenance-
Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Transmission Operations- Station Expense, Acct. #562 -
Electric

- 3j. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$21,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Distribution Operations -Station Expense, Acct. #582 – Electric
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$11,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Admin. and Gen'l-Maintenance of Buildings, Acct. #932 – Electric
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$72,000 – Electric:
- | | | |
|----------|--|------------|
| \$35,000 | From: Distribution Operations - Meters | Acct. #586 |
| \$29,000 | From: Customer Records and Collections | Acct. #903 |
| \$ 8,000 | From: Employee Pensions and Benefits | Acct. #926 |
| \$72,000 | To: Distribution Plant-Meters | Acct. #370 |
- 3m. Budget Appropriation in the amount of \$28,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #NA to Distribution Plant-Leased Property Private Lights, Acct. #372– Electric
- 3n. Consider and approve a Bid Waiver incorporating Emerson, Inc. elements into the SCADA system upgrade and replacement project at the Pistapaug Water Treatment Plant at an approximate cost of \$748,244 – Water Division
- 3o. Acceptance of funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$414 to Revenue-Event or sale proceeds (Wlfd. Stroll), Acct. #2524002-47040 and to Expenses, Acct. #25240150-58830 – 2020 Committee
- 3p. Consider and approve reappointment of Armand Menard as Alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three year term effective immediately and expiring January 8, 2022 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3q. Consider and approve reappointment of James Fitzsimmons to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a five year term effective immediately and expiring January 8, 2024 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3r. Approve Town Council Minutes of January 22, 2019

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3h. and 3o.-3t.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:

- 3i. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$9,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Transmission Operations- Station Expense, Acct. #562 – Electric

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO APPROVE TRANSFER in the amount of \$9,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Transmission Operations- Station Expense, Acct. #562

**MADE BY: LAFFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU
ALL AYE
MOTION PASSED**

*In Attendance: Richard Hendershot, Director, Public Utilities
Antonio Buccheri, General Manger, Electric Division
Thomas Sullivan, Office Manager, Electric Division*

Mr. Buccheri stated they spent more time than expected on transmission switching and they need to move money into that account to cover the costs.

Mayor Dickinson stated we have the money in different accounts and pointed out the accounting principles are different than general government.

Mrs. Morgenstein indicated she saw these different items and did not understand how the money is allocated.

Mr. Hendershot explained they budget each year a certain amount of time to each account and sometimes they are not accurate with their accounting. He then stated items 3i. through 3m. are different accounts and noted 3m. is to purchase new LED lights, some private lights.

Mrs. Morgenstein asked if we are going to LED lights. Mr. Sullivan responded yes and stated they are replacing them as they fail.

Mrs. Morgenstein asked if we have an update on CMEEC. Mayor Dickson stated that is out of order and is not on the Agenda.

- 3j. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$21,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Distribution Operations -Station Expense, Acct. #582 – Electric
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$11,000 from Distribution Maintenance-Station Expense, Acct. #592 to Admin. and Gen'l-Maintenance of Buildings, Acct. #932 – Electric
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$72,000 – Electric:

\$35,000 From: Distribution Operations - Meters Acct. #586
\$29,000 From: Customer Records and Collections Acct. #903
\$ 8,000 From: Employee Pensions and Benefits Acct. #926

\$72,000 To: Distribution Plant-Meters Acct. #370

- 3m. Budget Appropriation in the amount of \$28,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #NA to Distribution Plant-Leased Property Private Lights, Acct. #372-- Electric

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE ALL ITEMS 3J. through 3M.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU
ALL AYE
MOTION PASSED

- 3n. Consider and approve a Bid Waiver incorporating Emerson, Inc. elements into the SCADA system upgrade and replacement project at the Pistapaug Water Treatment Plant at an approximate cost of \$748,244 – Water Division

MOTION WAS MADE TO approve a Bid Waiver incorporating Emerson, Inc. elements into the SCADA system upgrade and replacement project at the Pistapaug Water Treatment Plant at an approximate cost of \$748,244.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

*In Attendance: Richard Hendershot, Director, Public Utilities
Neil Amwake, P.E., General Manager, Water-Sewer Division*

Mr. Amwake explained that they put in a SCADA system in 1993 and Emerson bought out the existing company. He went on to state the level of difference is non-proprietary and not having to start from scratch.

Mrs. Morgenstein stated we look on the surface that we are saving money but does this have to do with phosphorus. Mr. Amwake answered no and stated this is completely different this is the Water Department.

Jared Liu, 59 Curtis Avenue, asked what the criteria is for a bid waiver. Chairman Cervoni responded anything \$7,500 or over we would go out to bid.

Mr. Liu asked why would we waive the bid? Mr. Hendershot responded if we go out to bid we would have to go out for the whole project, not the legacy provider portion which is just a small part of the project.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FISHBEIN: ABSENT
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MARRONE: ABSENT

MORGENSTEIN: YES
SHORTELL: YES
TESTA: YES
ZANDRI: ABSENT
CERVONI: YES

6-AYE

3-ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

10. Consider and approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and sign said contracts on behalf of the Town of Wallingford. The Mayor is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto to obtain Clean Water Fund financing for Water Pollution Abatement Facilities – Water Division

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and sign said contracts on behalf of the Town of Wallingford. The Mayor is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto to obtain Clean Water Fund financing for Water Pollution Abatement Facilities.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

*In Attendance: Richard Hendershot, Director, Public Utilities
Neil Amwake, P.E., General Manager, Water-Sewer Division*

Mr. Amwake stated that they previously asked for a qualifications based plan to look at the water pollution abatement facility. He went on to state this is a 55% grant from the state to get reimbursement for the clean water fund grant.

Councilor LeTourneau asked if the clean water fund is state money. Mr. Amwake responded it is federal dollars.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FISHBEIN: ABSENT
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MARRONE: ABSENT

MORGENSTEIN: YES
SHORTELL: YES
TESTA: YES
ZANDRI: ABSENT
CERVONI: YES

6-AYE

3-ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Opened Public Question and Answer Period at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Liu questioned the police contract in that the date is July 1, 2018 and asked why are we negotiating a retroactive contract? He then asked if we normally do this. Chairman Cervoni explained this body is the legislative body and we do not negotiate contracts that's the administration's job. He stated we will either approve or reject this contract tonight and yes we normally do this retroactively.

Mr. Liu talked about item 3e.

Closed Public Question and Answer Period at 7:11 p.m.

6. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Police Contract Tentative Agreement with AFSCME Co. 4, Local 1570 for three years from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021 – Human Resources

MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT Police Contract Tentative Agreement with AFSCME Co. 4, Local 1570 for three years from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

**MADE BY: LETOURNEAU
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

*In Attendance: Chief Wright, Police Chief
James Hutt, Director, Human Resources*

Mr. Hutt talked about the three year contract retroactive July 1, 2018 and indicated that year one is a 1.75% increase, year two is a 2.0% increase and year three is a 1.85% increase. He stated there are wage adjustments for different ranks over a two year period and noted the Police Department is below average on their wages. He went on to state the insurance is an HSA plan.

Councilor Shortell stated the Janus language is now in here. Mr. Hutt indicated that is correct and stated there is no longer the provision for unions to collect fees when members do not want to be union members.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:
FISHBEIN: ABSENT
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MARRONE: ABSENT
6-AYE
3-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED**

**MORGENSTEIN: YES
SHORTELL: YES
TESTA: YES
ZANDRI: ABSENT
CERVONI: YES**

7. Discussion and Possible Action regarding UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU and its Sublocal CILU #75, Affiliated with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE) (Paraeducators) – Wallingford BOE

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU and its Sublocal CILU #75, Affiliated with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE) (Paraeducators).

MADE BY: LETOURNEAU

SECONDED BY: MORGENSTEIN

*In Attendance: Danielle Bellizzi, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, BOE
Roxane McKay, BOE Chair*

Ms. Bellizzi explained the three year Paraprofessionals Contract consisting of 180 members with a 2.0% increase for the first year, a 1.99% increase for the second year and a 1.75% increase for the third year. She stated the insurance is an HSA core plan moving forward. She went on to state the Janus language is in there and they added union dues or agency fees voluntarily. Also, probationary language is added and no employee shall apply for another position during the probationary period.

Councilor Shortell spoke about Page 18 – Co-Insurance.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FISHBEIN: ABSENT

LAFFIN: YES

LETOURNEAU: YES

MARRONE: ABSENT

5-AYE

1-NAY

3-ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

MORGENSTEIN: YES

SHORTELL: NO

TESTA: YES

ZANDRI: ABSENT

CERVONI: YES

8. 6:30 p.m. hold Public Hearing to Discuss:

- 1) The 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program Application
- 2) The final outcome of the 2016 Community Development Block Grant
- 3) The final outcome of the 2017 Community Development Block Grant

Mayor

*In Attendance: Susan Schott, Administrative Grants Secretary
Kelly McDermott, Wallingford Housing Authority
Peter Huckins, Community Consulting*

Chairman Cervoni opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

There was discussion on the three items listed in the agenda: Item 1) The 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program Application; 2) The final outcome of the 2016 Community Development Block Grants; and 3) The final outcome of the 2017 Community Development Block Grant.

Kelly McDermott, Executive Director of the Wallingford Housing Authority, stated that the Town was proposing to submit an application for up to the maximum amount of \$1,500,000 under the Public Housing Modernization category of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant for rehabilitation of and ADA safety improvements at the John Savage Commons Elderly Housing Complex. Ms. McDermott explained that John Savage Commons was built in 1992, that the buildings are approaching 30 years old and are beginning to show their age. She explained that the buildings have rotted windows, leaking roofs and limited ADA accessibility functions. She added that under the 2019 Small Cities application, WHA was hoping to replace the roofs of all existing buildings, do a complete window replacement on all existing buildings and create four fully accessible ADA units through renovation of the existing structures.

Ms. McDermott further explained that the facility housed both the elderly and disabled and that the planned updates would help the tenants tremendously. She further stated that due to the weather conditions and the fact that most of the tenants were elderly and disabled, they were unwilling to attend this evening's Public Hearing. She added that the Housing Authority would be holding a community meeting in order to get tenant input regarding the renovations. She offered to forward any comments from the meeting to the Town Councilors. Chair Cervoni said he would appreciate seeing their comments and thanked Ms. McDermott for the offer.

The second item of the Public Hearing, the closing of the Town's 2016 Small Cities grant, was then discussed. Ms. McDermott explained that the work at McGuire Court elderly housing complex consisted of three components. She stated the fire alarm replacement project was a critical improvement, replacing an existing smoke alarm system, which only identified the zone or area that the fire may be, not the exact location. She said this greatly improved the Fire Department's ability to locate a fire or emergency and would result in decrease loss of property and life during an emergency.

Ms. McDermott explained the roof replacement project replaced the original roof that had lifting shingles, patchwork and compromised subsurface in areas. As a result, she said this project eliminated hazards such as mold and mildew from water damage and general weathering due to age, therefore improving resident health and safety. She added that the new roof improves energy efficiency thus resulting in better control of internal temperatures. Ms. McDermott said that McGuire Court is located the farthest distance from Emergency Services and had an aged electric infrastructure that resulted in loss of power at the site for extended periods of time. She said the installation of a generator ensured residents now have the ability to shelter in place, and now have power for necessary medical devices and other equipment necessary for the preservation of life. She explained that the bituminous sidewalk replacement, ADA Ramp, and replacement of concrete stairs and all associated railings project addressed resident mobility issues by increasing the safety of the walkways for residents getting from their units to the community room to pick up mail, participate in resident activities, and use the laundry facilities.

For the third item of the Public Hearing, the conclusion of the Town's 2017 Small Cities grant, Ms. McDermott explained that accessibility is a critical need for WHA elderly and disabled properties as many residents faced mobility issues. She stated that the bathroom replacement project involved work done in 44 residential units that included electrical, plumbing, flooring and miscellaneous upgrades, including new vanity's and new walk-in ADA compliant showers. She added that renovations done in the Community Room included ADA bathroom upgrades, relocation and improvements to the existing laundry room, upgrades to the kitchen, staff office area, and resident mailboxes as well as installation of a new ADA compliant entry door. She said that ADA compliance, community room access and bathroom features will help residents be able to live and age in place, and that the community room was now 100% ADA accessible.

Peter Huckins, Community Consulting, introduced himself, saying that his company had been awarded the bid to be the Town's consultant for the 2019 grant should one be awarded to the Town. Mr. Huckins stated he has been a consultant for a number of towns and for various grants for twenty-eight years.

Susan Schott, Administrative Grants Secretary for the Town, stated that the Town was obligated to mention that the Town of Wallingford did not have any Program Income from previous grants nor did it plan for any Program Income in future grants due to the Town not doing single family housing rehabilitation with grant funds.

Ms. McDermott commented that she was thankful for the Town Council's support and that Wallingford Housing Authority was fully in support of the project.

Chairman Cervoni then closed the Public Hearing at 7:40 and there was no public comment.

Chairman Cervoni told Ms. McDermott that he appreciated what the Housing Authority did and that it was a worthwhile investment for the Town.

9. Consider and approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to file for a Small Cities Community Development Grant program for 2019 not to exceed \$1,500,000 and to provide additional information, to execute other documents as may be required to execute the program, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if offered, to execute other amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, to carry out approved activities and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Wallingford – Mayor

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor to file for a Small Cities Community Development Grant program for 2019 not to exceed \$1,500,000 and to provide additional information, to execute other documents as may be required to execute the program, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if offered, to execute other amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, to carry out approved activities and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Wallingford

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

ROLL CALL VOTE:
FISHBEIN: ABSENT
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MARRONE: ABSENT
6-AYE
3-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED

MORGENSTEIN: YES
SHORTELL: YES
TESTA: YES
ZANDRI: ABSENT
CERVONI: YES

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN
MADE BY: LETOURNEAU
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL
MOTION: PASSED

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 2-15-19
AT 5:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

5 MARCH 2019

Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

3.5.2019

Date