

3j.

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

**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 26, 2019
6:30 P.M**

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 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, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein, Christopher K. Shortell, Vincent F. Testa and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present at the meeting.

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$14,682.96 (#623-642)
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
- 3b. Acceptance of donation from Choate Rosemary Hall and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$6,500 to Revenue-Donations, Acct. #2524002-47152 and to Expenses, Acct. #25240150-58830 – Wallingford 350
- 3c. Acceptance of 2018/2019 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program grant and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$10,681 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3d. Acceptance of donation of funds in the amount of \$45,000 from Eversource for the recreational trail project from the Wallingford Senior Center to the Community Lake area – Engineering
- 3e. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$7,980 from Maint. of Bld., Acct. #10030000-54315 to capital Account, Acct. #RTU7-P&R – Public Works
- 3f. Consider and approve a Bid Waiver for HQ Dumpsters & Recycling for a three year extension of their existing contract at the Residential Disposal site holding the 7/1/19 prices – Public Works
- 3g. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$4,500 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10050050-51000 to Port-O-Lets, Acct. #10050050-56782 – Parks & Recreation
- 3h. Acceptance of funds from private donors and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,980 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

- 3i. Budget Amendment Appropriating \$20,000 from Retained Earnings (Cash), to Outside Services, Acct. #46100923 – Sewer Division
- 3j. Budget Appropriation in the amount of \$49,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #NA to Distribution Maint.-Misc. Distr.-Environmental, Acct. #598 – Electric Div.
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$81,000 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Materials & Supplies, Acct. #10030000-56140 – Public Works
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,642.17 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Washer & Dryer, Acct. #TBD – Animal Control Officer
- 3m. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$29,960 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to MS4 Consultant – Public Works
- 3n. Approve Town Council Minutes of February 13, 2019.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3c., 3e and 3g.-3n.

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

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:

- 3d. Acceptance of donation of funds in the amount of \$45,000 from Eversource for the recreational trail project from the Wallingford Senior Center to the Community Lake area – Engineering

MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT donation of funds in the amount of \$45,000 from Eversource for the recreational trail project from the Wallingford Senior Center to the Community Lake area.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

In Attendance: Robert Baltramaitis, Town Engineer

Councilor Fishbein asked Mr. Baltramaitis to explain the history behind Eversource's \$45,000 donation to the recreation trail.

Mr. Baltramaitis explained that Eversource was involved in a project in which DEEP deemed there was an enforceable action against them. The environmental issue did not occur in the Town of Wallingford. DEEP gave Eversource the opportunity to pick a DEEP approved project and make a contribution. The contribution made is to offset the town's cost for the project. Eversource chose the recreation trail project and DEEP approved the contribution.

Councilor Fishbein asked Mr. Baltramaitis if we were the only town that received a contribution. Mr. Baltramaitis stated he did not see that any other town got money.

Councilor Fishbein asked if this money for the contribution is on top of remedy funds. Mr. Baltramaitis indicated he was sure that the issue was remedied.

Councilor Fishbein asked Mayor Dickinson if anything further was pending. Mayor Dickinson and Attorney Farrell both stated not to their knowledge.

Mr. Baltramaitis explained that the project was approved seven or eight years ago with a cost of approximately \$2 million with the feds paying 80% and the town paying 20%. Mr. Baltramaitis indicated that the project has significantly changed since then.

Councilor Fishbein, Mr. Baltramaitis, Mayor Dickinson and Mr. Bowes discussed the financing of this project and how the funds are allocated. Mayor Dickinson stated that this project is dependent upon the grant from the State. He went on to explain if the money does not come in then we cannot complete this project.

Councilor Fishbein asked when we get reimbursed from this project will the funds go into cap and non. Mr. Bowes responded yes.

Councilor Fishbein wanted to confirm that this money cannot be appropriated for another project and then asked when we can expect the project to be completed. Mr. Baltramaitis stated that is correct and he expects the project to be completed by late summer.

Councilor Zandri pointed out that the donation comes out of our bottom line for the project and that we could come in under budget on getting this project done at a cost of \$255,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
FISHBEIN: YES
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: NO
MARRONE: YES
8-AYE
1-NAY
MOTION: PASSED

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

- 3f. Consider and approve a Bid Waiver for HQ Dumpsters & Recycling for a three year extension of their existing contract at the Residential Disposal site holding the 7/1/19 prices – Public Works

MOTION WAS MADE TO approve a Bid Waiver for HQ Dumpsters & Recycling for a three year extension of their existing contract at the Residential Disposal site holding the 7/1/19 prices.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

In Attendance: Steven Palermo, Foreman, Public Works

Councilor Shortell questioned Mr. Palermo if HQ is a reliable vendor and if we have comparable prices from other vendors. Mr. Palermo stated that we don't have comparable pricing, however, HQ is agreeing to hold their prices for three more years and this is a cost savings measure.

Mayor Dickinson explained if we don't waive the bid we will have to go out to bid. He went on to state HQ will also honor the current coupon system for seniors and this would provide stability throughout the year 2023.

Mr. Palermo stated that HQ is a very reliable company, they run a clean and organized landfill and there are very few complaints about them.

Councilor Marrone stated it is hard to say if these prices are fair.

Mr. Palermo stated that the next bidder was substantially higher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES	ZANDRI: YES
MARRONE: YES	CERVONI: YES
9-AYE	
MOTION: PASSED	

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

Opened Public Question and Answer Period at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Morgenstein asked Mayor Dickinson about the status of the phosphorous project. Mayor Dickinson stated that it is not an affordable program and it puts strain on our community. He indicated it will probably increase Wallingford electric customer bills from \$140 and \$150 a year.

Mayor Dickinson feels that since it is not a public health and safety issue the state should come up with the money to pay for this.

Kaleah Haddock, Choate Rosemary Hall, asked the Council if Wallingford is considering banning plastic bags. Chairman Cervoni stated no one has proposed that to the Ordinance Committee.

Mr. Morgenstein asked Mayor Dickinson about CMEEC and the 89 page paper from January 30th. Mayor Dickinson stated he has not seen any ruling.

Attorney Farrell stated that it is not final yet and is still ongoing. He expects the final ruling to be coming soon.

Mr. Morgenstein asked Attorney Farrell if we had an offer on the table before arbitration. Attorney Farrell answered no, nothing offered publicly.

Mr. Morgenstein asked if we are still paying our lawyers and Attorney Farrell remarked they are not working for free.

Closed Public Question and Answer Period at 7:17 p.m.

6. Consider and Approve Revised Job Description of Personnel Clerk to Human Resource Assistant – Human Resources

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE Revised Job Description of Personnel Clerk to Human Resource Assistant.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

In Attendance: James Hutt, Director, Human Resources

Mr. Hutt stated they are looking into expanding the role of the Personnel Clerk to be more involved and have more responsibility.

Chairman Cervoni inquired if there is going to be a change in pay. Mr. Hutt responded yes and stated it would be pay grade 9 consistent with Secretary/Senior Clerk.

Chairman Cervoni inquired if the position is outside the bargaining unit and Mr. Hutt responded yes.

Councilor Zandri asked if the position was vacated and if it is in the budget. Mr. Hutt responded yes and noted the employee left the position and that it should be budgeted until the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Mr. Hutt and Councilor Zandri discussed that it would be about a \$3,200 per year increase and benefits would remain the same. Mr. Hutt stated that an external hire would be a savings. He went on to say it would be a 35 hour work week with overtime after 40 hours.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FISHBEIN: YES

LAFFIN: YES

LETOURNEAU: YES

MARRONE: YES

9-AYE

MOTION: PASSED

MORGENSTEIN: YES

SHORTELL: YES

TESTA: YES

ZANDRI: YES

CERVONI: YES

7. 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: FISHBEIN
MOTION: PASSED**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 3-1-19
AT 4:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

Vincent Cervoni/ST
Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

3/13/19
Date

Barbara Thompson
Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

3/13/19
Date