

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY  
JANUARY 10, 2023  
6:30 P.M.  
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Autumn Allinson, Samuel Carmody, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christina Tatta, Vincent Testa, Jason Zandri, and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Tim Sena, Comptroller and Town Attorney, Gerald Farrell, Sr. were also present.

3. Consent Agenda

3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$26,607.93 (#373-#469)  
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector

3b. Approval of Merit Review (1) – Human Resources

3c. Acceptance of funds from Federal Treasury for Federal Taskforce officer and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,264 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.

3d. Consider and approve a Transfer in the \$107,000 – Fire Dept.

\$107,000.00	From: Regular Wages & Salaries	Acct. #10020150-51000
\$40,000	To: Fire Operating Expenses	Acct. #10020150-58735
\$35,000	To: Maintenance of Vehicles	Acct. #10020150-54320
\$10,000	To: Maintenance of Equipment	Acct. #10020150-54325
\$10,000	To: Maintenance of Bldgs. & Grounds	Acct. #10020150-54315
\$12,000	To: Purchase of Professional Svcs.	Acct. #10020150-56778

3e. Acceptance of Fire Watch funds from Live Nation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$500 from Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 to Fire Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020150-58735 – Fire Dept.

3f. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,730 from Regular Salaries and Wages, Acct. #1003000-5100 to PS-Software Support, Acct. #1003000-56718 – Public Works

3g. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$65,000 – Comptroller

\$65,000	From: ARPA Revenue – Federal	Acct. #2391002-45200
\$ 5,000	To: Exp.- Reg. Salaries & Wage	Acct. #23910401-51000
\$60,000	To: Exp. -Administration	Acct. #23910401-58590

- 3h. Consider and approve proposed job description for Lead Communications Dispatcher – Human Resources
- 3i. Approve Town Council Minutes of December 13, 2022.
- 3j. Approve Special Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2022 of the Town Council Committee to Examine the Issue of Creating a Building Committee.

**MOTION WAS MADE to approve Consent Agenda Items 3a.- 3f. and 3h-3j.**

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

**4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:**

Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$65,000 – Comptroller

\$65,000	From: ARPA Revenue – Federal	Acct. #2391002-45200
\$ 5,000	To: Exp.- Reg. Salaries & Wage	Acct. #23910401-51000
\$60,000	To: Exp. -Administration	Acct. #23910401-58590

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$65,000.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON**

Councilor Tatta questioned prior ARPA expenditures paid thus far, she reviews billing and stated she is unsure what the role of the consultant is going forward.

Councilor Carmody has similar questions as Councilor Tatta.

Mr. Sena projected what would be needed. He stated the Finance Department has a lot of work to do and still needs to utilize consultant to work through payments to applicants. He went on to state there is a contract in place and guidelines. He stated Committee should not be getting consultant deemed inappropriate.

Councilor Fishbein discusses back-up documents.

Mike Glidden recommends not paying consultant until work is completed.

Mr. Gross wanted to clarify invoice is through November and Mr. Sena provided invoice through December.

Mr. Comerford inquired if there is an outlined role of consultant. Attorney Farrell stated Attorney Small will give that answer.

Councilor Fishbein feels it's inappropriate to delay payment.

Councilor Carmody feels we should pay for work that has been done.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON: YES</b>	<b>TATTA: YES</b>
<b>CARMODY: NO</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	
<b>8 -AYE</b>	
<b>1-NAY</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Jason Michael, Meadow Street, asked whose direction it was to close parking lots in parks. The Mayor stated Parks and Recreation due to dumping and vandalism. Mr. Michael then asked if there is a written report from inspection and Mayor stated he has not seen a written report and advised Mr. Michael to get in touch with Kenny Michael at the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Comerford inquired about cleaning of the building at Town Hall. There was discussion about men's bathrooms and vents not being cleaned for possibly 30 years. The Mayor stated that Rob Baltramaitis reported ducts and vents being cleaned.

Mike Glidden spoke about a salon on Center Street that had patrons in and had cars ticketed for being past the two hour limit. He then discusses the policy of disputing/paying fines and stated the fine has to be paid in full, even if they are disputing fine. The Mayor stated he will confirm with Police Department but does not believe that is how appeals are handled.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, asked if Wooding-Caplan is paved yet. Mayor stated no and explained they could not move forward due to materials not being available and noted it should be done in the spring.

Mr. Gross inquired about the railroad grant.

Executive Session pursuant to CGS 1-200(6)(B) regarding pending litigation with respect to the Workers' Compensation Claim settlement of Kevin Bouchard, former employee of the Wallingford Fire Department – Human Resources

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:25 P.M.**

**MADY BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON  
VOTE: ALL AYE  
MOTION: PASSED**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to CGS 1-200(6)(B) regarding pending litigation with respect to the Workers' Compensation Claim settlement of Kevin Bouchard, former employee of the Wallingford Fire Department.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:37 P.M.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON  
VOTE: ALL AYE  
MOTION: PASSED**

**Time of Executive Session: 7:25 p.m. to 7:37 p.m.**

**Attendance at Executive Session:**

<b>ALLINSON</b>	<b>MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.</b>
<b>CARMODY</b>	<b>TOWN ATTORNEY GERALD E. FARRELL, SR.</b>
<b>FISHBEIN</b>	<b>JOSEPH PASSARETTI, ESQ. (WORKERS' COMP. ATTY.)</b>
<b>LAFFIN</b>	<b>KURT TREIBER, RISK MANAGER</b>
<b>MARRONE</b>	
<b>TATTA</b>	
<b>TESTA</b>	
<b>ZANDRI</b>	
<b>CERVONI</b>	

6. Motion to consider and authorize settlement in the pending Workers' Compensation claim of Kevin Bouchard former employee of the Wallingford Fire Department as discussed in Executive Session – Human Resources

**MOTION WAS MADE TO consider and authorize settlement in the pending Workers' Compensation claim of Kevin Bouchard former employee of the Wallingford Fire Department as discussed in Executive Session.**

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

7. Recommendation of Town Council Subcommittee for a Town Building Maintenance Committee: 5 members will be chosen by the Town Council via an interview process – Chairman Cervoni

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE Recommendation of Town Council Subcommittee for a Town Building Maintenance Committee: 5 members will be chosen by the Town Council via an interview process.**

**MADE BY: ZANDRI  
SECONDED BY: CARMODY**

Councilor Tatta suggests January 16<sup>th</sup> deadline to get interviews/letters to Clerk's office. Chairman Cervoni feels that's an optimistic deadline.

Councilor Zandri discussed membership selection process and stated minority rule still applies but does not preclude a mix or unaffiliated.

Councilor Allinson does not support the creation of this committee and feels that's an aggressive date.

Councilor Laffin agrees with Councilor Allinson and feels they should give opportunity for people to hear about this.

Chairman Cervoni suggests having meetings before ordinance committee meetings.

Councilor Marrone stated scope is massive and feels that construction experience would be an asset.

Councilor Carmody agrees with Councilor Marrone that Committee members should have background in trade or construction. He is in support of this Committee.

Councilor Fishbein spoke about direction on rule of public notice and meetings among committee members.

Chairman Cervoni discussed FOI rules, publically noticed meetings and formal meeting minutes.

Councilor Fishbein brought up Police Department Steering Committee minutes of October 12, 2022 and stated PCB's and carcinogens were found and recommendations were made to do no further testing. He also stated he found the comment made "Make draft report disappear" troubling.

Councilor Carmody stated "It is concerning that anyone would say that the town should not continue PCB testing because it could create a 'domino effect'. It is inexcusable that someone would suggest this course of action and disgraceful that they would then cover it up"

Councilor Testa feels regardless of what committee does, reports would go to Administration.

Mayor stated Law Dept. has provided instruction regarding FOI.

Councilor Laffin is not in support of this motion and is fearful of political micromanagement.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON: NO</b>	<b>TATTA: YES</b>
<b>CARMODY: YES</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: NO</b>	<b>CERVONI: NO</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	
<b>6 -AYE</b>	
<b>3-NAY</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

8. Motion to recommend the charge to the Council: “The Committee shall periodically visit and inspect all town-owned properties, excluding Board of Education facilities, and report to the Town Council on the condition of said properties including any potential problems and/or concerns and advise how said problems and/or concerns should be addressed. The Council reserves the right to assign priority properties for immediate review – Chairman Cervoni

**MOTION WAS MADE to recommend the charge to the Council: “The Committee shall periodically visit and inspect all town-owned properties, excluding Board of Education facilities, and report to the Town Council on the condition of said properties including any potential problems and/or concerns and advise how said problems and/or concerns should be addressed. The Council reserves the right to assign priority properties for immediate review.**

**MADE BY: TATTA**  
**SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

Councilor Carmody stated the line “excluding BOE” should be removed as he believes many of the sites need attention.

Councilor Fishbein talks about the option to meet with BOE and partner with for these sites.

Councilor Zandri committee is not demanding departments to do things it is to highlight a concern.

Councilor Laffin is against committee but supports charge. He does not want to include BOE.

Councilor Allinson thinks the last sentence should be struck and also the word periodically replaced with every two years. She suggests making ordinance going forward.

Councilor Fishbein feels the last sentence is important and gives the ability to say look at parks first or prioritize. He then stated the word periodically does not need to be changed.

Councilor Testa asked if the intention is that the committee keep their own minutes. Chairman Cervoni answered yes and mentioned a recording secretary.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON:</b> YES	<b>TATTA:</b> YES
<b>CARMODY:</b> YES	<b>TESTA:</b> YES
<b>FISHBEIN:</b> YES	<b>ZANDRI:</b> YES
<b>LAFFIN:</b> NO	<b>CERVONI:</b> NO
<b>MARRONE:</b> YES	
7 -AYE	
2-NAY	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff

Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

24 Jan. 2023  
Date



Deborah McKiernan, Town Clerk

2/1/2023  
Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 1-13-23  
AT 2:30 p.m. AND RECEIVED BY  
Deborah McKiernan TOWN CLERK