

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 28, 1989

6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$4,500 to Burial Account - Welfare Department.
3. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$226 to Water-Sewer Account - Police Department.
4. Consider and Approve Transfers for Public Works Department:
  - a. \$1,000 to Washington Street Community Bldg. Utilities
  - b. \$214 to Janitorial Contract PWD - Central Garage
5. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds of \$1,297.16 and \$6,433.83 - Tax Department.
6. Note for the Record Director's Report for February 1989 - Department of Public Utilities.
7. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD - 7:30 p.m.
8. Update Regarding CRRA Project - Requested by Iris Papale.
9. Discussion of Air Quality Around New Resource Recovery Plant - Requested by Geno Zandri.
10. Discussion and Approval of Office Paper Recycling Proposal - Requested by Phil Hamel.
11. Consider Appointments to the Wallingford Recycling Committee.
12. Set Public Hearing for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant - Requested by Mayor Dickinson.
13. Discussion of Cable Access Television - Requested by Library Board.
14. Acceptance of Deed from Eyelet Specialty - Requested by Town Attorney.
15. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 14, 1989, and also Minutes of May 24, 1988, June 3, 1988, July 19, 1988 and August 9, 1988.
16. Executive Session - Requested by Town Attorney.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

MARCH 28, 1989

	<u>Page</u>
Moment of Silence for Joe DeMaio and Joseph Pavlick	1
Consent Agenda: Items 2, 3, 4.b, 5, 6, 14, 15	1
Approved Transfer of \$1,000 to Provide Additional Funds for Utility Bills - Public Works Department	1-2
Discussion Regarding the Air Quality Around the New Resource Recovery Plant	2-3
Update Regarding CRRA Project	3-21
Public Question and Answer Period	21-22
Approved 90 Day Trial Office Paper Recycling Program with Automated Material Handling Co. Beginning May 1, 1989	22-24
Approved Appointments to the Wallingford Recycling Committee	24
Set Public Hearing Date of April 11, at 7:45 p.m. on the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant	24
Approved Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee for the Proposed Reorganization and Relocation of WPL-TV	24-27
Executive Session	27
Approved Board of Education Payment of Attorney's Fees in the Amount of \$3,000 in the Case of Gervais vs. Wallingford Board of Education	27
Corrected Page 13 of March 14 Meeting Minutes to read \$7,500 not \$75,000	27
Meeting Adjourned	

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 28, 1989

6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chairman Albert Killen. Answering present to the roll called by Town Clerk Kathryn J. Wall were Council Members Adams, Bradley, Doherty, Holmes, Papale, Solinsky, Zandri and Killen. Also present were Mayor Dickinson, Adam Mantzaris, Town Attorney, and Tom Myers, Comptroller.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

A moment of silence was requested by Mr. Killen for Joseph DeMaio and Joseph Pavlick.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to have Items 2, 3, 4.b, 5, 6, 14 and 15 placed on the Consent Agenda to be voted upon by one unanimous vote.

ITEM 2. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$4,500 from General Hospital Acct. No. 001-3060-700-7040 to Burial Acct. No. 001-3060-700-7060 to Fund Additional Requests for Burial Expenses - Welfare Department.

ITEM 3. Consider and Approve Transfer of \$226 from Degree Allowance Acct. No. 001-2015-100-1950 to Water-Sewer Acct. No. 001-2015-200-2030 to Fund Increase in Water-Sewer Bill - Police Department.

ITEM 4.b Consider and Approve Transfer of \$214 from Janitorial Contract DPW & Engineering Acct. No. 001-5020-600-6290 to Janitorial Contract PWD - Central Garage Acct. No. 001-5050-600-6290 to Redistribute the Funds to Cover the New Janitorial Contract.

ITEM 5. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds of \$1,297.16 and \$6,433.83 - Tax Department.

ITEM 6. Note for the Record the Director's Report for February 1989 - Department of Public Utilities.

ITEM 14. Accept Deed from Eyelet Specialty.

ITEM 15. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 14, 1989 and also Minutes of May 24, 1988, June 3, 1988, July 19, 1988, and August 9, 1988.

Seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 4.a Consider and Approve Transfer of \$1,000 from Hydraulic Cylinder Acct. No. 001-5040-999-9901 to Washington St. Community Building-Utilities Acct. No. 001-5130-200-2010 to Provide Additional Funds for Utility Bills - Public Works Department. Motion was made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Killen noted that the account number for Hydraulic Cylinder Account was not correct.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Change Account No. for Hydraulic Cylinder to Acct. No. 001-5050-999-9909. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 9. Discuss the Air Quality Around the New Resource Recovery Plant. Motion was made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Zandri presented a general outline (attached) from the information received from York Service Corporation who submitted the RFP. My recommendation to the Council is to proceed with air testing plans on a phase by phase basis starting with Phase I and proceeding with follow-up phases as required.

Mr. Holmes asked how many RFP's did the committee send out?

Mr. Zandri replied it was done by the Purchasing Agent. I received about 15-20 calls for additional information from different vendors. But none of them submitted a final document.

Mr. Bradley asked what kind of background does York Service Corporation have?

Mr. Zandri responded they have done a lot of work in New York state dealing with landfill areas there for incineration projects.

Mr. Bradley asked as far as toxic organics, do they break that down into detail as far as what compounds fall under toxic organics?

Mr. Zandri replied the initial testing (Phase I) is to identify what is in the area. At this point nobody knows. There were tests done by the State and they will use that as background information. That is why we're doing this in phases. Their analysis of existing test data may be as far as we have to go. They might be able to do enough research and draw conclusions from existing test work, or from the existing tests, recommend what additional tests will be required.

My recommendation is, if the Council is interested in air testing, we should fund and start Phase I. Depending on the results of Phase I we would then be presented with a report from the company stating the results, what additional testing they recommend and what the cost would be for Phase II. At that point the Council would decide on whether it was necessary to proceed and whether or not the cost for Phase II was justified. The cost for Phase I is approximately \$10,000. If we decide to go ahead I would get firm figures and present them at the next meeting.

Mayor Dickinson stated I believe Mary Mushinsky outlined 7 tests in her letter. I'm aware of 4 with at least one by EPA and a couple by private firms in the State. I think there is quite a lot of data already.

Mr. Zandri stated it's important to recognize that some of the testing has been done, but I think the Town needs an expert to analyze it and report back to us.

It is my feeling that a lot of individual tests were done for specific reasons but I don't think anyone has put them together to analyze the whole impact in the area.

Mayor Dickinson stated I think that is the same information held now by the federal agency that Mary Fritz was dealing with. They are in the process of undertaking a study of the complaints regarding health problems.

Mr. Doherty stated he was in favor of going forward with this. We have had a lot of complaints from that area and I think the public wants the Town to answer these particular problems, not some state or federal agency which they don't seem to have too much faith in. Some of the tests in Mary Mushinsky's letter go back to 1985 and 1984, certainly well before any garbage burning plant was built down there. Our concern is in terms of all of these things together.

Mr. Killen responded if I thought that the effort and the money were all that was necessary I would agree. I think that unless it shows there's something wrong down there we're not going to be satisfied. If we continue to fund these things and they still continue to come up negative, is anyone ever going to be satisfied?

Mr. Holmes stated I think there is a general mistrust anytime the State steps in to do a test. I think we should get an independent organization that reports to us to ascertain the facts in the suggested areas.

Mr. Killen stated we will put this on the next agenda and include the dollars required. The public will have a chance to comment at that time.

ITEM 8. Update Regarding CRRA Project. Motion was made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Zandri.

Mrs. Papale stated we invited both of these gentlemen here because Mr. Wright has been involved with Wallingford lately and Mr. Martin was more involved with Wallingford when this project started. We're all very concerned in the Town of Wallingford of when the contract is going to be signed, what is new in the contract, how Wallingford as the host community stands, etc. I think you have a pretty good idea of what I'm asking.

Robert Wright, Executive Vice President of CRRA, replied the host community benefits for Wallingford will be approved by the five member towns: Cheshire, Wallingford, North Haven, Hamden and Meriden. We will be having a Policy Board meeting next week to discuss this matter. We've been negotiating on this for the past two months. The primary stumbling blocks, from CRRA's perspective, are the settlement of the Meriden landfill and whether the monetary payments to Wallingford will be increased. CRRA is the middleman. There is a great deal of concern in this community, and at CRRA, over the safety and security of the Wallingford wells. The appeal we are involved in is one that we are not entirely comfortable with. One of the most forceful claims in that piece of litigation is that the Meriden landfill has been in use since 1910. This property was used as a dump before you brought your zoning regulations into effect. The question is whether for that reason the use of this land as a dump is grandfathered, i.e., outside the prescriptions of your zoning regulations.

CRRA is not comfortable with winning this sort of legal battle. We do not have any interest or intention of putting material in that dump which is going to threaten the security of the wells.

A number of proposals have been laid on the table from doing nothing with that property to going forward and trying to permit for ash. One of the suggestions that we made, picking up from Rep. Mushinsky, was that this land be used as a bulky waste facility and perhaps composting.

Mrs. Papale asked is asphalt considered bulky waste? What about the oils that are in asphalt? Who would be there to restrict or check everything?

Mr. Wright replied we would have someone down there monitoring what came in and directing where it would be disposed.

Mrs. Papale asked you're taking this appeal because of a contract?

Mr. Wright replied we are contractually committed to putting ash in that landfill and obtaining the appropriate permits to do so. This was raised with the Policy Board and that was our direction.

Mrs. Papale stated it bothers me that this appeal was taken out right at the same time CRRA sat in on a meeting and heard about how much it was costing Wallingford to straighten out their water supply. It hasn't been proven that this is coming from the Meriden landfill, but in my mind I really believe that this is where it's coming from.

Mr. Wright replied almost from that time, however, CRRA has sought to settle this matter.

Mrs. Papale stated I just feel that because we're the host community the other towns should bend towards us. Maybe mistakes were made in the very beginning as far as the contract was concerned, but now that things have changed a little bit I was really hoping that Wallingford would come out ahead of what we have so far.

Mr. Wright stated we are as concerned as you are with keeping the host communities happy.

Mr. Killen replied I think the first step before you can keep them happy is you have to get them happy, and at no point have we been happy.

Mr. Wright stated as far as mistakes being made at the beginning, perhaps there were minor defects, but I think this project and this facility overall were very well conceived. The project as constructed runs extremely well. Our tests so far indicate that it is extremely energy and environmentally efficient. Despite the fact that you've seen tip fees rise for this project, I think the individuals who negotiated the project cut the best deal even with the increase in cost. This project will be among the top two plants as far as being the most economical plant in this State. This project was selected to be extremely economic and extremely environmentally efficient, and despite the changes in the last year, it remains true to that goal.

You say we should bend towards the host community and I agree. Were it up to CRRA you're the one town that we most want to make happy. We are constrained in that goal by the fact that there are other towns involved who are not willing to write a blank check. However, I hope there will be some movement by these towns and that the host community benefits that are currently in place and under contract can be renegotiated. CRRA will be recommending that they be dramatically renegotiated.

Mrs. Papale stated I sat in on a meeting where some statements were made that I take exception with. One of them was the statement you made: "The town fathers knew that Vicon was not a good deal and knew all the risks that were taken when Vicon was put on line."

Mr. Wright replied I believe I said that Vicon was not a big company and there were financial risks involved in dealing with that company. Vicon had operating facilities which worked and worked well, however, there was a problem with the size of the company. I also said that CRRA and the representatives from all the towns recognized that. As a result, the towns brought in the Industrial Bank of Japan (IBJ) to provide financial support for that company. With that financial support, the financial guarantees that underlay this project are second to none. The project is, was and remains absolutely financially secure. Should the towns decide to reject the contract which is eventually negotiated with Ogden Martin, they could walk away from this project scot-free. The financial arrangements are so extraordinarily secure that that is your option. In terms of the financial security of this project I am confident that CRRA negotiated a very good deal.

Mrs. Papale stated when I sat in on that meeting a month ago you sounded like a different person. You stated that the town fathers knew it was not a good deal, we took a risk and we knew it. I did not know at the time that Vicon was a risk. And I don't think the Bank of Japan would have gotten involved if they thought Vicon was such a risk. This might be my misinterpretation. Then you made a statement that we could have made a better deal if we didn't do the steam with Cyanamid.

Mr. Wright stated the question was asked "Did the town fathers know that Vicon was a financial risk?" I'm sure I answered yes and I think that was the case. My understanding was that that had been explained. The whole purpose for bringing IBJ into the deal was because there was some financial risk there. So yes, I do think there was a financial risk there but I also think that it was appropriately secure.

Mrs. Papale stated I got the impression that the people at that meeting thought we signed that contract knowing that we may have a big problem, but we signed it anyway. And I just want to make the point that we didn't sign the contract knowing it was going to be a bad risk.

Mr. Killen asked if Ogden Martin had been the people we were dealing with would you have had to bring in the Bank of Japan?

Dennis Martin, Vice President, CRRA, responded no.

Mr. Killen stated so the town fathers were aware that we were dealing with a smaller outfit. They were confident they could do the work, but didn't have the financial backing should something go wrong. That's the difference between saying it was an absolute risk, a non-risk, or completely safe.

Mr. Zandri asked wasn't Vicon picked because the fees were supposed to be \$22.50 a ton.

Mr. Wright replied they were chosen because the towns and CRRA got a phenomenally good deal out of them.

Mr. Martin replied we were instructed not to have a plant above a certain size. You wanted the smallest plant possible that was economically viable. But you also asked for the best tip fees possible with a target of \$25 per ton. We also had instructions to make sure the technology would work. When you add those three factors up at a 400 ton per day facility at the lowest tip fee, Vicon was the only answer that we had.

Mr. Zandri asked if the tip fee was higher, could another outfit have built the same plant?

Mr. Martin replied no because the technology was licensed to Vicon. There was no way to access that specific technology. This plant is unique. It's a modular type incinerator which means you have lower construction costs.

Mr. Zandri stated I just want to make one point. Because of Vicon going bankrupt, not only was additional bonding required but our tipping fees now are \$45 a ton. I think it was questioned a couple of years ago, who was Vicon? Where was their track record? That was a concern by many residents at the time and it has proven to be a concern that was justified. Obviously it's going to cost the residents of all the towns additional dollars because of them going bankrupt.

Mr. Wright replied the tip fee now is \$41 and in the next fiscal year it will go to \$45. Other companies were selected and bigger plants were built in other towns and yet your tip fees are still cheaper. You would expect that the bigger it is the cheaper it is for everyone. Even with those increases in cost, this plant is so unusually inexpensive that, even though it's a much smaller plant than for instance the Bridgeport facility, it is still a cheaper plant per ton to operate. If you had chosen someone else to build the plant, you might not have seen an increase in cost, but you would have had a much higher cost going in. I would not have liked to be the politician who said let's go with the larger company and commit ourselves to paying \$20 or \$30 more per ton because they're a bigger company. This is still a very inexpensive plant. There was a risk in selecting Vicon, but I think you did the best you could have done.

Mr. Zandri stated I think the concern Mrs. Papale has is were all those things explained to the Council at the time the decision was made. Did they know the options versus dollars, tipping fees, or other companies that could have built the facility?

Mr. Martin replied yes I think we did try to make sure that the risk was known. The original project team was Vicon and Citizens Utility Company. When people



asked what do they do, I would say they are the financial backers for the plant because Vicon is not credit worthy. We went from Citizens Utility to Burns & Roe to the International Bank of Japan. In each case we needed a financial backer. Perhaps I didn't make it clear, but without the financial backer I was saying as clearly as I could that we wouldn't have a project. We could not sell bonds on Vicon's credit.

Phil Hamel stated we did explore other options before we selected this project. A decision was made early on to go with a small modular project because it was deemed to be inexpensive.

Mr. Zandri stated I realize other options were looked at. But were the problems or potential problems with picking this particular vendor brought to light to the Council at that time?

Mr. Martin replied I believe what we said was they were not credit worthy and we needed a financial backer. This was said several times over several years.

Mr. Wright stated if the towns went along with a bad deal then CRRA would have to and CRRA did not go along with a bad deal.

Mr. Killen stated IBJ is not the smallest bank in the world and they saw fit to back this particular project. IBJ must have seen some good in the ability of this project to come forward or they wouldn't have put up the money.

Mr. Bradley stated you said the plant is environmentally sound. To the best of my knowledge I don't think that's been proven yet because the tests have not been completed. Do you think we got a good deal in the sense of our landfill and payment in lieu of taxes?

Mr. Wright replied I was asked at the meeting Mrs. Papale mentioned, if I was Wallingford would I be satisfied with the deal you have? I said no. I stand by that and at this juncture your city officials have expressed that repeatedly and forcefully. As a result, and with CRRA support, you're seeking to renegotiate those and I hope you will be successful in getting a better deal. However, that will have to be given to you by the other towns.

Mr. Martin stated when we did this project we were following the direction of all five towns. You gave us a goal of \$25 per ton. Obviously when you give me a goal like that to achieve then everybody doesn't get exactly what they want. Meriden didn't get exactly what they wanted either. We looked at what was being offered in other projects and I thought what we offered here was comparable to it.

Mr. Bradley stated one of the original goals was a tipping fee of \$22.50. At that time it was stated to the Council that tipping fees would fall. What happened?

Mr. Martin replied I never would have and I don't think any member of CRRA or Phil Hamel would tell you that the tipping fees would rise or fall.

Mr. Bradley stated I have it in black and white.

Mr. Martin responded everyone knows that no one can project what will happen in 20 years. What we would point out is this is what the electrical contract says. If you assume that certain things happen, that CPI goes at a certain rate, that oil prices stay at a certain rate, this is what happens. I said here are several scenarios and that was it. Predictions as to what will happen - no.

Mr. Hamel stated we did hand out to the towns a projection on tip fees and we indicated at the time that those were based on certain assumptions. It was at that time anticipated, and this was before the bottom dropped out of the price of oil, that in fact the price would go down. The world has changed significantly since then in terms of oil prices, inflation, environmental requirements, and other things that affect the project.

Mr. Wright stated it's not the project it was. That is part of the reason why, at CRRA's urging, the other towns are willing to consider augmenting the Wallingford tip fees. We hope they do. I don't know if we'll ever achieve happiness, but we would like to see the deal made better from Wallingford's perspective.

Mr. Bradley asked can we pull out of the project at this point?

Mr. Wright replied if Wallingford wants to pull out of the project, and from CRRA's perspective that would be a very bad policy decision, we would urge the other towns that you be allowed to do so. Most of the Policy Board votes require a unanimous vote and if you were not to vote Ogden Martin to come in, you could probably get your way out of the project through that means.

Mr. Bradley asked would we get back our landfill?

Mr. Wright replied my understanding is that you would. Phil probably has a better understanding of that than I would. Again I would caution you that that's not a good policy decision but it's yours.

Mr. Bradley stated let's assume we would get back our landfill, where would the ash go from the plant?

Mr. Wright responded somewhere else. I assume the other four towns would have to bring another town in. Stratford is paying \$85 per ton now. We could bring Stratford into this project, charge them \$85 per ton, the other towns would be making a very substantial amount with which I would assume they would attempt to buy additional ash landfill space. That is one of the most serious considerations of having to find another use for the Meriden landfill. Another landfill is going to have to be found and it's going to be expensive.

Mr. Bradley asked so there would be increased costs to transport that ash?

Mr. Wright replied if they bring in another town at a higher cost, there may or may not be an increase in cost.

Mr. Bradley asked does CRRA have the power to condemn land for ash sites?

Mr. Wright responded yes. However, I would not recommend that to my superiors at CRRRA. As I stated before, and I firmly believe, this project is one of the most inexpensive projects in the state. It would be an almost incalculable error for you to take the path you are suggesting. I was told the other night that there was hard proof that your landfill had 20 years of capacity. I checked with our in-house people and our experts and they told me at most you would have four to five years. I can further tell you that towns like Stratford are paying \$85 a ton, New Haven is \$98 a ton, and there are towns in New Jersey who are paying substantially in excess of \$100. You have an extremely good deal now. I would recommend that you try and keep it. Part of the rise in your tip fees is due to the fact that the other towns are looking to give the town back more money. It is certainly your option to consider pulling out of the project. I cannot imagine a more troublesome decision.

Mr. Bradley stated we're getting \$40,000 for our landfill. Meriden is getting some \$300,000.

Mr. Wright stated I just heard someone from the audience say what about Preston. And I remember someone bringing it up the other night saying, boy we'd like to get the deal they got. We would offer it to you. We would recommend that you get the same deal Preston got. If you were willing to accept that we would go forward with that. Preston is getting \$3 per ton in 1991. That's double what you're getting now in host benefits. They were not however offered free dumping.

It was suggested that we offer an annual credit to the residents on their trash hauler bills. I think it would be a difficult proposal to work out administratively, but that would be something we would be willing to recommend to the other towns. We're looking for suggestions.

Mr. Bradley stated I would like to see you make the Council happy and I would be more than willing to sit down with whomever to bring this to a conclusion.

Mr. Holmes stated I remember on at least two occasions you gave to the Council a tipping fee scale. At the time you gave it to us you showed how it was able to progress, rise, level off and then drop again at a later date. One of the reasons for a sliding scale was to give the vendor some flexibility in case of increased environmental improvements so we were made aware at the time that yes the tipping fee could raise. If Wallingford pulled out of this project, would the plant still operate?

Mr. Wright replied yes.

Mr. Holmes asked is the incinerator at capacity? Is Wallingford trash being landfilled or incinerated.

Mr. Wright responded it's up and down for testing now.

Mr. Hamel replied there are days when it can take all of the refuse. When it can't the Wallingford refuse is diverted back to the landfill.

Mr. Holmes asked when the trash is being landfilled are they still being charged \$41 per ton.

Mr. Hamel responded yes because after startup the Town had agreed to pay whatever the cost was. The overall cost to CRRA for the system is at \$41.50 per ton. That is just maintaining the actual cost of operating.

Mr. Holmes asked what happens if there is not enough space to incinerate all the trash?

Mr. Wright replied at this time we don't know how much trash we're going to have. We have planned on perhaps bringing some of the trash up to our Hartford facility. Additionally we are exploring other means, including recycling, to lessen the flow of trash into the plant. An idea that CRRA would be willing to recommend to the other towns would be settling the Wallingford/Meriden dispute by simply not dumping anything into the Meriden landfill. Ending disposal there entirely and lessening the burden of all these towns by setting up a recycling facility on that land. We would build a facility to recycle as much as you are able to. The estimates are if you run a very, very good recycling plant you can get sometimes 25% or more of your garbage taken care of through recycling. The bulky waste would be recycled also. Send the asphalt back to road makers so they could make new roads with it. Chip the wood and provide wood chips to the residents. And perhaps a composting facility there as well. That would be one means of lessening the overburden of waste on this facility.

Mr. Holmes asked if you have to take trash to another one of your facilities, is that a project cost?

Mr. Hamel replied yes. The Policy Board and CRRA have been looking at volume reduction methods. One of them is that CRRA will stop accepting corrugated in large quantities from large generators. One of the problems at the facility is there is too much corrugated there. Within the next month we will begin to track down the companies that are sending us boxes full of corrugated and we will tell them we will not accept this anymore. CRRA is also bringing on a full time enforcement person to examine the waste in terms of ensuring that it's all from this region.

Mr. Doherty stated you said the Policy Board voted to go ahead with the law suit?

Mr. Wright replied I think what I said was they discussed and advised us to go forward. I don't know if a formal vote was taken.

Mr. Doherty stated you said it required a unanimous vote to do things on this Board. How in the world did Wallingford ever vote for that?

Mr. Wright replied they did not. That was a matter that did not require a vote as it was already a contractual commitment of ours. It was discussed at the Policy Board and as you can imagine your representatives dissented.

Mr. Doherty asked when is the next fiscal year? What is built into this new increase other than the \$2.50 that is being set aside for Wallingford?

Mr. Wright responded July 1. I know of very few enterprises that don't suffer some inflation.

Mr. Doherty stated so we can expect it to go up by inflation each year?

Mr. Wright replied I think anybody would be loathe to say for 20 years we're only going to go up by inflation. In fact I think I've pointed out to you one significant cost for this project which is finding an ash landfill different from the Meriden landfill. That is a fairly significant cost. Garbage is a significant problem and it's very costly.

Mr. Doherty stated are there any outstanding risks involved with Ogden Martin comparable to Vicon?

Mr. Wright responded absolutely not. Ogden Martin is the leader in this field. They operate successfully all over this country.

Mr. Doherty stated I understand there have been dioxin tests down on the garbage plant.

Mr. Wright replied they have not been completed. We will give you test results as they come in. If this plant does not pass that test, it will not operate.

Mr. Doherty asked on your last proposal with the recycling facility on the Meriden landfill site, what would Meriden's compensation be? It just seems to me the whole thing holding this thing up is Meriden's \$300,000 being washed out the window on the ash landfill.

Mr. Wright responded additionally Meriden and all the other towns are wondering just how much they're going to have to pay to find another site. I would expect that Meriden would continue to get it's lease payment of \$300,000. Additionally I would expect that we would want to provide host community benefits for every ton of recyclable material brought into that facility. I would expect it would be fair to divide that additional money, not just give it to Meriden but some to Wallingford as well to augment the host community benefit going to this town. If we're talking \$3 for the trash burning plant, we'd probably be talking about substantially less than that for recycling because recycling is a good thing. There's not the emotional reaction to people who want to recycle that there is to people who want to make energy. We would recommend something on the order of \$1.50 per ton benefit split between Wallingford and Meriden.

Mr. Doherty stated as far as your proposal of bulky waste being deposited at the Meriden site, we would certainly like to know the parameters of exactly what bulky waste is and how effectively you plan to enforce that because of the well situation.

Mr. Wright responded I understand and that's something we would have to look very carefully at. CRRA has no interest in harming your wells. We'd like to find a use that is going to protect your water resources to the greatest extent possible.

Mr. Zandri stated IBJ is probably the biggest bank in the world and yet they were willing to back this project. If I was in their shoes I'd back it as well because they can't lose. If we operate it they are going to get paid and if we don't they are going to operate it anyway and get paid.

Mr. Wright replied IBJ's first move if they wanted to operate this would be to get permits. That as you know is a very difficult matter, particularly so for a Japanese bank. Second they would have to find a place to put their ash. They would more than likely have to bring garbage in out of state and haul the ash out of state. Moreover I don't think that's exactly the way the transaction would work. If they were to take over this facility, I don't think CRRA could responsibly allow any corporation to simply take over a Wallingford facility. That would be something we would be willing to condemn and you would not be facing that specter.

Mr. Zandri stated my point is they would still have the option of operating this facility.

Mr. Wright responded that is their collateral. Up in Rutland, Vermont they are facing the prospect of taking approximately \$.50 on the dollar. They are not making out like bandits.

Mr. Zandri stated you said earlier that this is a good deal for the town as far as the tipping fees presently being charged. I want to point out that this is a good deal for all five towns. The only difference is Wallingford has the facility and they're using our landfill. So it's a better deal for the other four towns and not such a good deal for Wallingford. The money that Wallingford is getting back is compensation in lieu of taxes. This facility doesn't have any property taxes paid to the town on an annual basis. So really we're at a wash right now as far as the facility is concerned. I'm ready to sit down with CRRA and negotiate for a host community agreement. And I hope we can do this as soon as possible. I would like to see all the Council involved in that negotiation.

Mr. Wright replied we certainly look for the Council's advice and welcome it. CRRA has thrown out some ideas which we would be willing to recommend to the other towns. If you think they are reasonable, we will go forward immediately with those. If you would like to offer something else, that's fine too. I think this situation calls for a compromise.

Mr. Holmes stated when we originally entered into the trash plant contracts a few years ago we were looking for a low cost alternative to landfilling. The pressures being exerted on the Council and the Mayor's office at that time was not one of a monetary nature where people were asking us to get more money for having a facility in town. It was more of an environmental concern. Three years ago if we were offered \$1 million or \$2 million, the attitude at that time was no amount of money is going to be enough to guarantee our safety. Now a lot of people are saying now that we have the trash plant let's try to get as much money as we can to compensate us. So there's been some various twists and turns since the inception of this project. The feeling now is if we can get more money than I'm all for that and I'll support that position.

Mr. Wright stated times have changed somewhat and I think those changes do merit an increase in the compensation paid to Wallingford. Again, this is a contract with the four other towns.

Mr. Adams stated he was glad some communication has finally been established between CRRA and the Council. We encourage you to communicate with us and try

to work out the best deal which we feel Wallingford is entitled to. I would also like to see more information on this idea of the recycling because it is a concern that we have.

Mr. Zandri stated when this deal was made a couple of years ago by the previous Council not only were the residents concerned about the environment but they were concerned about the lousy deal that was made for the Town of Wallingford. Both things were brought up at that time. This is not a change from what happened before.

Mrs. Papale asked are there any outstanding bills and that's why we went into bonding?

Mr. Wright replied we have looked at possible additional financing. We had some additional expenses, among them the operation of the plant during this very much extended testing period which is certainly justified. There are other costs as well. One of the things we've looked at is a system to mine methane out of your landfill which we believe would have a positive environmental effect on the landfill. I want to make clear that this particular financing is not going to be something that is lumped on top of you again. In order to be conservative in our tip fee projections, we figured in the cost of that additional financing in the next fiscal year's tip fee. So if we were to go forward with that financing your tip fee would stay the same.

Walt Sawallich, Jr., 100 Jobs Road, stated this is affecting the haulers and it seems that nobody wants to hear what we want to say. I'm all for recycling, but our customers are canceling on us because we can't dispose of their yard debris. We're told they don't want to burn the yard debris they want to compost it. Our customers are finding other haulers who are willing to break the rules because there is not enough inspection. We're expected to be the quality control agents for this plant and we're the ones taking the gruff. I'm losing customers all the time. Pretty soon the little guys will be out of business and there will be only one or two big companies and they'll have you right by the throat. These rules have to be enforced equally. People are dumping for free into all one dumpster, it doesn't have to be separated, and it gets buried at the dump. I have to tell my customers I can't take that grass with the garbage because it goes to the plant, but I have to charge them 3 times as much money. I'm caught in the middle. If you start with free dumping for Wallingford, you're going to end up with more outside haulers sneaking in until they get caught. There has to be more cooperation here.

Mr. Bradley stated Walt brought up a good point here as far as picking up yard waste. I received a slip regarding this and discussed this with Mr. Wright one evening. Mr. Wright your comment was that that was not a restriction by CRRA.

Mr. Wright replied it is my understanding that this Town is trying to compost it's leaves. We think that's the right thing to do. The plant can burn leaves, that is not really the problem. I think the direction in this Town, however, is to compost that material. We would be looking to take leaves to a composting facility so that that matter is not burned but can be reused as a soil treatment.

Mr. Bradley stated I'm not aware of any composting program.

Mayor Dickinson stated I don't believe that was what we were told. We were told the policy was the plant would not take large quantities of leaves for fear they would drop the temperature in the incinerator and it would not work properly, especially if they were wet. The odd bag of leaves here and there was another issue. It was never a policy or determination of the Town.

Mr. Wright responded you are correct in that if we got huge amounts of leaves we would be concerned about the temperature at the facility. I think there is a leaf composting program going on right now which is a good step towards recycling. As far as the free dumping, when the plant is accepted we will start sending Wallingford a bill for the waste. We will weigh it and charge \$41 per ton and the Town will get a bill. That bill will be paid by the taxpayers. So the people who are paying taxes and paying haulers are subsidizing the people who are dropping off garbage directly for free. Essentially the people who hire haulers are getting double charged first through the hauler and second through their taxes. We will be hiring an inspector who's job will be nothing else but supervising and overseeing the trash that's being dumped.

Mr. Sawallich stated the haulers were given a list of items that were unacceptable and one of these items was yard debris. This list was passed on to Mr. Martin, Mr. Hamel and Mr. Russo. We were also told that a bag or two of grass or leaves would be acceptable. I pick up 2,000 people twice a week. If I tell everyone I'll take one bag from you and one from you, by the time I get to plant my truck is now full of leaves and you're not going to accept it. Now what do I do. We have haulers right now who are telling people they'll take anything until you people start ticketing them. They steal the customer from the guy who is trying to follow the rules.

Ron Gregory, Hill Avenue, Yalesville, stated earlier it was said that if Wallingford backed out of the project perhaps a town like Stratford could come in and pay \$85 per ton while the other towns have a lower tip fee. Does that mean there is no real impediment to the Town of Wallingford paying a lower tipping fee and the other towns paying a higher one?

Mr. Wright replied there is no legal impediment.

Mr. Gregory stated in the CRRA meeting minutes of February 21, 1989, Mr. Wright stressed the towns knew all along about the weakness of Vicon. Director Beldon said he was sensitive to the issue of additional costs, however, he thought it was important to point out that the towns opted for Vicon. So this Board (CRRA) just went along with the towns' wishes. He said they didn't want the towns at this time pointing a finger at CRRA. Mr. Wright agreed.

Mr. Wright replied I still agree. The towns were aware that that was not a financially strong company, however, you cannot take a look at that one fact without also taking a look at the financial security that we brought in to accompany that. I don't think the towns can say that CRRA put them into a bad deal. CRRA provided an extremely strong financial backer.

Mr. Gregory asked isn't it true that at the February meeting of CRRA Mr. Wright stated we have \$9 million in bills outstanding?

Mr. Wright responded I think we said that was a conservative number. We are not looking at a financing on that magnitude now.



Mr. Gregory stated a few weeks ago when Mr. Wright addressed a small group of residents in Wallingford you indicated that perhaps the idea of selling the steam to Cyanamid was not the best idea financially. Most of us believed or were told over the years that the reason why this plant is located where it is is primarily because we had a buyer for the steam.

Mr. Wright replied I think I said you get more for the sale of electricity than for the steam. I also said that American Cyanamid did provide the actual land on which this facility sits and that was an important contribution to this project.

Mr. Gregory stated earlier Mr. Wright stated that if there is free dumping the taxpayers who hire haulers would be double taxed. There was a recent court case involving PAGB vs. CRRA et al. and the judge in that decision, for some reason, stressed the comment of our Mayor in saying that there would be no tax increase because of our giving away the landfill. I find it very peculiar that we're hearing there will be a tax impact. That judge believed that there wouldn't be.

Mr. Martin responded it was never our intent to take citizens for free and then charge the town. The judge based his decision on what the contracts say now. We're saying unless the situation gets settled, and if you want us to keep having these citizens come in, we do have to charge the town. We have no contractual choice. The Council was going to work out with the vendor/operator privileges of going into the plant on a limited time.

Mayor Dickinson replied we expected a month or two between the time the landfill was taken over and the time the plant began to operate. Instead we're at 6 or 7 months and counting. At the time the plant was taken over everyone was going to be charged.

Mr. Gregory thanked Mrs. Papale for inviting CRRA to the meeting. He then stated I hope the Council takes a more vigorous role in deciding what this contract and operator will do for the Town of Wallingford.

Jim Williams, 517 Pilgrims Harbor, stated regarding the Preston deal. I read in the Record Journal about a \$26 million deal for Preston over a 25 year period was proposed by CRRA along with 4,000 tons per year and potential of a 20 acre land development deal. This was proposed in February and I don't know how it has been acted upon. It seems that you were "bribing" them to say yes to the incinerator.

Mr. Wright responded I don't think that's a fair characterization. That was one of the most difficult projects that CRRA was involved in. The towns couldn't figure out where to site the plant. They agreed to have an independent research firm search the matter and they would live with the firm's decision. They decided Preston and immediately Preston tried to get out of the contract. Through years of litigation eventually the other towns won the right to site the facility in Preston. Like Wallingford, I don't think the people in Preston will be really happy, but we have tried to address some of their concerns. And we've tried to fairly compensate the town for what they perceive as a burden understanding that the other towns involved in that project have to pick up the tab. That's what we're trying to do here. We can recommend to the other towns that Wallingford get the same deal as Preston.

Mr. Martin stated there is a referendum on April 4 that will decide the issue in Preston. The \$25 million is \$3 per ton escalated at a set percent for 25 years.

Mr. Williams asked can any of the other four towns in this contract get out of the contract?

Mr. Wright replied yes.

Mr. Williams stated I would prefer the Wallingford deal was a "percentage of" so that if the rate goes from \$45 to \$90 in short order, at least our reward will be doubled if you keep a percentage in there rather than a \$30 per household rebate. I also feel we need to build up recycling more.

Bob Avery, Masonic Avenue, asked when the deal was presented to the Council wasn't it part of the original premise that the citizens would be able to go to the incinerator with their garbage, charge or no charge?

Mr. Hamel replied yes.

Mr. Avery stated I've read all the past meeting minutes on this issue and I've never seen anything ever about a risk with Vicon.

Mr. Hamel replied about the first thing we ever said was that it was a Vicon technology and Citizens Utilities was in partnership with them because Vicon was a small company. This first question that would come up is why Citizens Utilities. I'm almost sure that was the first thing we explained was why Citizens Utilities was in partnership.

Mr. Wright stated there was an escrowed financing while we attempted to get an appropriate financial security. If we had not gotten appropriate financial security, that project would not have gone forward.

Mr. Avery stated it says in the contract that if there are changes in the federal environmental laws that Vicon would pay for it. I asked at one point suppose the laws are so strict they can't operate the plant. How are they going to come up with \$50 million dollars? I was told don't worry about it they can handle it.

Mr. Hamel responded at the time we presented the original proposal to the Town Council that responsibility would have been passed to Citizens Utilities Company because they were the financial backer. At no time was that risk ever left to the municipalities.

Mr. Wright replied the towns are held harmless on the original financing. But if we go out for additional financing and the towns are not now committed to it, I don't think you'll get another vendor to sign up for the same deal that Vicon signed up for.

Mr. Avery asked did you feel comfortable coming before our Planning & Zoning Commission and arguing against our consultants that said it was harmful to our wells?

Mr. Wright replied we hired our consultant who gave us a professional opinion and rendered that before your Planning & Zoning Committee. We would rather settle this matter and have offered to approach the Policy Board with a plan by which there would be no additional disposal.

Mr. Avery asked if Mary Mushinsky gets a bill passed that allows the State to site ash landfills anywhere it wants and this argument with Meriden is still going on, will you put the ash in the Meriden landfill?

Mr. Wright responded this bill does not say you can site an ash landfill anywhere. In fact there are very rigid geological restrictions on where you can site an ash landfill. I don't think we will try to force the ash into the Meriden landfill under that legislation.

Mr. Avery stated your consultant said that was the most ideal place in the world for it. You didn't even need a liner. Now you're saying you're not going to put it there if they give you the right to do it. If the DEP said we could put ash there, would you?

Mr. Wright replied I think we are contractually committed to do so and that's why we're trying to settle the case so we won't have to.

Mr. Avery asked have there been any environmental tests done on the incinerator to date?

Mr. Wright replied the tests are ongoing and we will provide the results to the Council. Again, if those tests are not passed, the plant will not operate.

Mr. Avery asked is it true this plant is being monitored in Hartford?

Mr. Wright replied there is a continuous emissions monitoring capability on this plant. That system is hooked up to the State DEP so that they have access to that data at any time. My understanding is that hookup is not completed. I'm told that we are set to do it now. The only lag is from DEP. When they are ready to accept the data we're ready to provide it.

Mr. Avery asked has the plant finished its testing for capacity?

Mr. Wright responded a 7 day capacity test was run at the end of January. We burned 420 tons per day during that test.

Guy Russo stated during the week in order to get the full plant capacity we take in Monday through Friday 540 tons per day and on Saturday approximately 200. On a monthly basis it's somewhere between 11,000-12,000 tons per month.

Mr. Wright stated the plant processes waste seven days a week but it only takes waste 5 1/2 days a week.

Mr. Avery asked do you know what your overage is?

Mr. Wright replied no because we are not sending the other towns' waste to the Wallingford landfill. When we cut off deliveries the towns' find other places to dump their wastes. We have made very conservative estimates and if those

estimates become reality we are going to attempt to make arrangements to bring that waste up to Hartford. We have planned for a worst case scenario where we would be getting 250,000 tons of waste per year. Making that assumption we have planned in our tip fees for the disposal of those additional tons. If it comes out to be less than 250,000 tons per annum, then that's all to the good. If it comes out as bad as 250,000 tons per year, then we have made arrangements.

Mr. Avery stated as far as how much time is left in our landfill, if you call the DEP they'll tell you how to calculate it and there's no question, there's far more room in that landfill for this Town than 5 years. I don't care what the garbage haulers say, have them call the DEP and ask them.

Mr. Wright replied if someone at DEP told you that you had 10 years or so I think they were being irresponsible at best. But if he is in fact right and those figures are correct, then Wallingford can take its landfill and get out of this project. But I caution you that I am extremely skeptical of that estimate.

Mary Lou Banks, 51 Bristol Street, stated you joined in a law suit with a town that was against us. And now you're offering us an offer that is superior to anything that you ever offered before. That's wonderful except I'm having a problem with your ethics.

Mr. Wright stated ethically I think we have to live by the agreements we make in life.

Mr. Killen stated Mr. Wright represents 5 communities. If Wallingford wants him to press it's case, he will. If Meriden has a point, he is going to press Meriden. That is his job. He's supposed to make all of us happy and he hasn't made any of us happy, but it's not because he hasn't tried.

Mary Lou Banks asked would you help us run some tests on the water in that area?

Mr. Wright replied I think it would be appropriate to run some hydrogeologic tests. I certainly think that it would be an appropriate thing for the Town to ask for in a settlement package. Again, all the towns have to agree to this.

Mrs. Papale stated the gentlemen here this evening were invited here to give us some information and to give us a little input on what was going on with the contract and so forth. For the rest of the evening, I don't want these people to be treated as the enemy. They are here to give us the information that we as Council people asked for. I feel they are getting harassed.

Vincent Avallone, 1 Ashford Court, stated you talked about IBJ being a guarantor of this project and at some time in this project they went beyond what they were obligated to back in the way of bonds and extended 4-5 million dollars of their own money to keep the project alive.

Mr. Wright stated that is correct.

Mr. Avallone asked who is responsible for paying back that money to the Bank of Japan?

Mr. Wright replied IBJ, according to a letter of intent signed on December 5, agreed to essentially swallow \$4 million of that loan and the remaining portion of that loan will be paid back to them through an equity infusion which will come into the project through Ogden.

Mr. Avallone asked will Ogden get that back through tipping fees?

Mr. Wright replied I don't believe so. These deals have significant tax advantages associated with them. Because they were a favorite sort of project the federal government provided a wide variety of what they call energy tax credits and investment tax credits. Because CRRRA is a public entity they cannot enjoy these tax benefits. Ogden Martin can use them so essentially the tax benefits are being sold to Ogden Martin and they are giving the money to IBJ.

Mr. Avallone asked is there some possibility that part of the money being paid back to the Bank of Japan by Ogden Martin will come from tipping fees or is it all from the tax credits.

Mr. Wright replied all tax credits.

Mr. Avallone asked if there is a possibility of expansion at the landfill and it's determined we have 15 years left, tell me why it's such a bad deal for Wallingford to pull out of this deal?

Mr. Wright responded if you have a more economic means of disposing of your trash it would be in your economic interest to accept that.

Mr. Avallone asked what additional financing are you considering?

Mr. Wright replied our latest estimates are around \$6 1/2-\$7 million. We would issue bonds and the towns would be guarantors of those bonds. There would have to be a unanimous vote of the Policy Board to do this. The \$45 tip fee already included that so there would not be an additional expense.

Mr. Avallone who has been doing the negotiating for Wallingford?

Mr. Wright replied Mayor Dickinson has been involved, I've had conversations with Mr. Killen, and certainly Mr. Hamel as been involved in the discussions in his capacity as the Town's representative.

Mr. Avallone stated I would like to see some official procedures set up so that we have representatives, and this certainly isn't personnel Mr. Mayor but I don't think you're in the best position to negotiate for the town in light of the proposals that I've read in the newspaper. I think you're committed to something lower than what this Town is entitled to because of the fact that we have an incinerator and a landfill. We lose sight of that. We hear free dumping and we're not getting free dumping. We're got a landfill that we've literally given up. I think it's time we took the assets and the negotiating tools that we have, which is that landfill and the fact that if we bail out of this project right now there is no doubt in my mind that the tipping fees for the other four towns are going to increase. I suggest this Council be the negotiating team and they take on the responsibility of looking out for the best interests of this Town environmentally and economically. I'm not satisfied with the people that are negotiating for the Town of Wallingford.

Phyllis Brosnan, 16 Mariot Circle, stated I don't think these gentlemen have been harassed. They came here well expecting some very hard questions and I don't call that harassment. Was CRRA aware of the scientific concern regarding the ash years ago when we signed contracts and was our Council made fully aware of the scientific concerns of the cons of incineration?

Mr. Wright replied yes CRRA was aware.

Mr. Hamel responded I don't believe the Council was made fully aware of all the pros and cons. I believe the information was provided to them by some residents of Wallingford.

Mrs. Brosnan asked wasn't that your job as liaison?

Mr. Hamel replied I don't believe so. My job is not to spend 500 hours explaining all of the scientific controversies over one subject. The opinion I had from DEP, CRRA and an independent consultant who did a study for Meriden was that the ash would be safer than the disposal of raw refuse at the landfill. I believed it then and I believe it now. And I believe the preponderance of evidence indicates that's correct.

Mrs. Brosnan stated you must have gotten more than one opinion. You say you were aware of the cons but you admit you did not present those cons to the Council?

Mr. Hamel responded it is literally impossible to present to the Council every single fact about everything that exists on a plant of this nature.

Mrs. Brosnan stated you were sent out to investigate an appropriate plan for disposal of trash in the Town of Wallingford and you become aware there is reputable scientific debate on this issue and you didn't present to the Council the cons. Many residents in Wallingford who aren't scientists were able to gather incredible amounts of information and you didn't feel it was a responsibility of yours?

Mr. Wright replied I think what Mr. Hamel said was he provided the information that he had which was that the landfilling of ash was less hazardous from an environmental standpoint than the landfilling of raw refuse. I am not aware of significant reputable scientific data to the contrary.

Mr. Hamel responded at the time I checked with several reputable sources, some of them independent of CRRA or the Town of Wallingford, the answer came back the same and I was satisfied. And I'm still satisfied.

Mrs. Brosnan stated that's you as an individual. You had no right to withhold that information.

Kathleen Avery, 70 Masonic Avenue, asked preoperational dioxin tests were taken in July and August, did those results ever come in?

Mr. Martin replied I haven't gotten the report yet from the DEP.

Mrs. Avery stated 12 sets of tests were supposed to have taken place. We knew at the end of October that 10 had taken place. The people running the test stated ideally they should do the test over a one year period so they could do ambient air tests in cold, warm, hot and cool weather. However because of the hurried nature of the tests they were all conducted in July and August which would give them a very slanted view and would not be clinically correct. I was just wondering if we could find out if those last two tests were done.

Mr. Wright replied those tests were done under the aegis of DEP. I know we've made inquiries in the past and we will renew inquiries and copy the Council on a letter requesting that information.

Mrs. Avery asked what substances are actually monitored as they come out of the stack? I think people are under the impression that dioxin and all these other chemicals are being monitored and checked and we're going to know exactly how much in absolute amounts are coming out of these smoke stacks.

Mr. Martin responded we have listed exactly what pollutants will be measured by the CEM and which ones it's just not possible to do. We have done a number of tests on our stacks around the State and we will do the tests in Wallingford. The DEP will look at them with respect to the others to see if it's in there and then they set the periodic nature of the testing. The numbers have to be below the toxic air limit standards but then they look at the variability of the 3 or 4 test results and decide whether we have to test every 2 months or every 2 years.

Mrs. Avery stated so when you make the statement that this plant is believed to be environmentally safe you're talking about an extremely small amount of chemicals out of the thousands that are produced. There's over 4,000 different chemicals used in plastics alone to give it different color. I think we're misleading people when we use the phrase "this plant is being monitored." So I really wish you'd be a little more honest about that. We're not even going to know how much dioxin is being emitted because there's no way to measure the dioxin. Has the ash been tested yet?

Guy Russo responded the ash was tested but we have not gotten back the first round of results from the end of January. Those results will be made available when they are completed by the DEP.

Mrs. Avery stated this is directed to Mr. Hamel. There is a report outlining alternative disposal options towards 85%. It's a mass source reduction of recycling, composting and landfilling. It overviews recycling technologies and gives a step-by-step approach for a state plan. This is available for only \$10 from MASSPIRG out of Boston. If you want to know more about recycling and how to do it so we can get more than 25%, I'm sure you can send away for this.

Mr. Killen thanked the gentlemen for coming.

#### PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road, suggested making a commuter parking lot at the Vietnam field instead of paying money to buy property for parking.

Ron Avery, 70 Masonic Avenue, asked what is being done about making the garbage trucks stay on the proposed truck routes? I've asked out-of-town truck drivers and they don't know anything about routes.

Mr. Killen replied this was discussed with the CRRRA but I don't know how far it's gotten. But I do know it was discussed recently because we have gotten complaints along the line you're making now.

ITEM 10. Discuss Office Paper Recycling Proposal. Motion was made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Bradley.

Phil Hamel gave a summary of the proposal. In January we went out for an RFP for an office paper recycling program for the town buildings and the Board of Education buildings. We received only one proposal from Automated Materials Handling. They indicated they would require 1 1/2 tons per month per building and they only wanted high quality paper. They will pay us \$15 per ton. They were not interested in the schools because of the quality of paper the schools buy. They will take the paper from the schools but we will have to pay them \$45 per month per container. They will be willing to enter into a 90 day trial program with the town because we couldn't guarantee 1 1/2 tons per month per building. We really don't know how much we have. They will supply the town with desktop collection containers which will list the acceptable items. They will also supply larger hampers or containers on wheels for each floor of each building that will be served. We would have to move the hampers to a doorway for collection. Weight will be determined by weighing the truck and dividing by the number of hampers emptied into the truck. They will also provide appropriate insurance in case something happens while their employees are on town property. The 90 day trial program will begin on May 1, 1989.

I recommend we go ahead with this. The benefits are we will be doing some recycling and we will find out how much paper we actually have. And it is one step farther toward getting into a long term permanent paper recycling program.

Mr. Bradley asked is there any way to consolidate the buildings by bringing the paper to a central point for collection?

Mr. Hamel replied during the trial program they won't require any tonnage per building. After that we'll talk about how we are going to accomplish a longer term program. Additionally, if we purchase the hampers ourselves, we could wait until they're full and then call them and they would pick them up and pay us \$15 per ton.

Mr. Bradley asked how many hampers would we need?

Mr. Hamel responded we would get 4 for Town Hall, 1 for the Police Station, 1 for Fire Headquarters, 1 for Simpson School, 1 for the Library and 1 for the Board of Education Administrative Office.

Mr. Bradley asked as far as newsprint are we just looking at town buildings on this or are we looking at any further expansion for residents?

Mr. Hamel replied right now the newspaper drop off point is at the landfill. If we get into this at the schools, the kids could bring in newspapers. For right



now we want to go with the 90 day trial program. During that time we will be looking at ways of expanding it to get more paper out of the waste stream.

Mr. Bradley asked do we need any town funds for the 90 day period?

Mr. Hamel responded no it will cost us nothing. Next year we will probably be looking for some money. I've recommended to the Mayor that we put several thousand dollars into contingency for this.

Mr. Zandri asked could you describe the containers?

Mr. Hamel replied my understanding of the containers is they are 45 gallon containers on wheels. They would be picked up once a week.

Mr. Zandri stated we have those in our office. It's just a big trash barrel on wheels. AMH says they cost \$90 a piece?

Mr. Hamel replied the ones they buy are \$90 a piece.

Mr. Zandri asked is there any way we could do additional spots for newspaper pickups besides the landfill? When we had a drive recently, people made the comment that they do not like to go down to the landfill and have to wait in line just to drop off newspaper.

Mr. Hamel responded New Haven has recently initiated a program where they have igloos which pretty much stay closed. They have little swinging doors that are spring loaded so they close after someone has deposited paper. They have 5 or 6 areas going where they collect glass, aluminum, and newsprint and the total cost per year is \$100,000. We could look into a program that's smaller than that and see what would be available and how much it would cost.

Mr. Zandri asked is there any reason why we couldn't use the Town farm as a spot for dropoff. Basically there's always someone there. Another possibility is the firehouses.

Mr. Hamel replied I'd have to talk to Steve Deak. I don't know what the space limitations are there. I'll look into it and find out how much it would cost. Right now newspaper is not paying for itself so there would be some cost involved for the equipment. I'll look into it.

Walt Sawallich, Jr., 100 Jobs Road, stated I think the Wallingford Recycling Committee and the haulers of the local areas should be consulted on handling residential recycling. As long as we have a place to dispose of it I think we have it pretty well worked out how we can make this work pretty easily as far as being picked up and hauled away.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Enter into a 90 Day Trial Office Paper Recycling Program with Automated Material Handling beginning May 1, 1989. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

Mr. Hamel stated after the 90 days I will come back to the Council.

Mr. Bradley asked that the Wallingford Recycling Committee be kept informed.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 11. Consider and Approve Appointments to the Wallingford Recycling Committee.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to appoint the following individuals: Elizabeth McLaughlin, Kate Donahue, Walt Sawallich, Jr., Mario Tolla, Jr., Sal Greco II, Jim Williams, Cynthia Horan, Mary Lou Banks and Scott Singer. Seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 12. Set a Public Hearing Date for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to set a Public Hearing Date of April 11, 1989, at 7:45 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Solinsky.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM 13. Discuss Cable Access Television. Motion was made by Mrs. Papale, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Mrs. Papale read the attached letter, dated January 24, 1989, from James Acton to Mayor Dickinson.

Karen Roesler stated in 1975 the Cable company signed a contract with the Board of Education in Wallingford in return for placing their hub on Sheehan High School they guaranteed there would be 3 access channels for the Town of Wallingford. These channels were the Public Access Channel, the Education Channel at Sheehan, and the Municipal Access Channel. When the Municipal Access Channel was offered no other town departments were interested in using it. Our Library director at that time thought that cable TV was a powerful tool for disseminating information to the community which is part of the library's goal. With that in mind, the cable drop was placed in the Library and our first equipment was bought through a State grant. The first broadcast on that was in 1976. Quickly after that the Library found we needed to make some policies about using the channel. In 1978 we hired a part-time video person because we found the librarians didn't have time to do any video taping and in 1979 he went full time. When we moved to our new building we were able to purchase new equipment and we had a studio which was shared with the Community Room which was for public and library use. In 1986 we approached the Council to get some direction on where this service should go as far as expanding, terminating or staying the same. Since that time we have been trying to put together some sort of committee to education themselves as to what is involved. It became apparent to the Library Board that the best solution is that it be governed by an independent board and deal with the Town as such. But we need feedback from the Town to find out what it wants.

Mr. Killen stated I think you're all aware there is not much room in any of the municipal buildings. I'm not holding out much hope for you right now. That's

not saying it will not appear in the future, but we'll need to know what size facility we're talking about. So I would think the first point you would want to address is the ad hoc committee.

Scott Hanley stated my concern is there are so many options available to the Town that they really have to be explored. I'm concerned about how we are now using committed resources. We are limited at this point in what we can do. The Library has been a terrific parent for this operation but it's now at the point where it cannot grow where it is.

I know the Town is always concerned about the resources of funding and there are other opportunities. One thing that hasn't been fully explored is the Cable company. Heritage Cablevision is in the middle of franchise renewal. If this community could apply some pressure on the DPUC to provide more funds for community television, then the Town could perhaps see that as another source for this type of activity. There was also an attempt to push through some legislation in Hartford this year to require cable companies to provide more support for community television.

Mr. Adams asked how much space are we talking about?

Mr. Hanley replied an ideal arrangement with a dedicated studio space would be about 3,000 sq. ft. That would include office and storage. The studio space would be less than 1/2 of that. At the Library right now we have about 1,500 sq. ft. which is scattered.

Mr. Zandri asked what types of programming do you do?

Mr. Hanley responded Focus on the Mayor, we cover municipal elections, we have a program entitled Leisure where people share their hobbies, we're doing a show on the environment, Wallingford Newsmakers, and we occasionally do location programming such as a segment on the plight of downtown retail which was coordinated by a student intern. This is just an example of some of the things we have done. We've also been approached by countless individuals to do even more than that. We cannot go on location as much as we would like because of the limited resources.

Mr. Zandri asked who makes the final decision on what programs would be put on?

Mr. Hanley replied ultimately the final decision would rest with the Board of Managers, but in many cases decisions are made by the co-directors and I make some decisions. It depends on the nature of the program we're considering.

Mr. Zandri asked do you have any idea how many people watch the programs?

Mr. Hanley replied we do not have the resources to do a formal survey, however, we get a great deal of feedback by word of mouth.

Mr. Zandri asked is this funded through the town only or do you do any advertising on this at all?

Mr. Hanley responded at this point in time it's strictly funds that are contributed to the Library for this purpose.

Mr. Bradley asked if you had your own facility would your usage increase from two days?

Mr. Hanley responded it's likely we would see as many as five days a week. One of the problems now is we have to dismantle sets and build sets. If we had a dedicated space it would be much easier to go in and set up the cameras because you wouldn't require that preparation time. That would free the staff to devote more time to actually coordinating the production of programs and pursuing program topics and participants.

Mr. Bradley stated on Item No. 4 it says, "It has become increasingly burdensome for the Library's Board of Managers . . ." Is this where you're suggesting this ad hoc committee to take over this piece?

Mr. Hanley replied the ad hoc committee would be a step towards establishing a separate non-profit board of directors that would eventually take that responsibility.

Mr. Holmes stated I read in the paper this morning that you would not be showing the tape from the public hearing concerning the reorganization.

Karen Roesler replied in the Library we try to represent all sides of an issue. In the case of the cable television, we have learned that we just don't have the staff or facility to provide equal time. And with a controversial subject we get into people wanting to come back and show their side and then there's a rebuttal. You have to draw the line some place. We're willing to have a program on school reorganization but with both sides represented.

Mr. Holmes stated there's two tapes available, one presenting the Board's plan and the other showing the public's side. Mayor Dickinson, what can we do to get that tape shown on the air? There's a lot of public money supporting these ventures and the public can't see what they want to see.

Mayor Dickinson replied I don't have an answer for you right now.

Karen Roesler replied they can take the tape to the Public Access Channel in Branford (Channel 8) and it can be shown.

Mr. Holmes stated I just think we should be able to go to a Wallingford facility and use the facilities we have paid for.

James Acton responded we debated just this sort of thing a few years ago and wrote those policies to partly protect the Library so that if a hot topic came along like this we would have some kind of an approach we could use so everyone would get a fair hearing.

Mr. Adams suggested maybe a program on revaluation could be put together since Wallingford will be facing that in the near future.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to form an ad hoc committee for the proposed reorganization and relocation of WPL-TV. The committee will consist of 11 people. Three individuals will be appointed to staggered terms by the Library's

Board of Managers, two by the Mayor, four by the Town Council and two at large members selected from the community by the committee. Names are to be presented at the next Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Mr. Killen noted that Mario Tolla will be the Acting Chairman for the Wallingford Recycling Committee.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to go into Executive Session to settle a pending lawsuit. Seconded by Mr. Solinsky.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Papale to Allow the Board of Education to Pay Attorney's Fees of \$3,000 in the Case of Gervais vs. Wallingford Board of Education. Seconded by Mr. Bradley.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Correct Minutes of March 14 on Page 13 - Change \$75,000 to \$7,500. Seconded by Mr. Adams.

VOTE: Mr. Holmes was absent; all other ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mrs. Papale.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 a.m.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:  
Katrina M. Manley, Council Secretary

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert E. Killen, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date