

Summary of Town Council Minutes

February 2, 1984

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Special Town Council Meeting

February 2, 1984

5:30 p.m.

A special meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held in Council Chambers and was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Robert Parisi.

Answering present to the roll called by Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk, were Council members Bergamini, Diana, Gessert, Killen, Krupp, Papale, Parisi, Polanski and Rys. Mayor Dickinson was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

Mrs. Bergamini moved to table Item (3) appointment of Planning and Zoning Commission Alternate, to fill unexpired term of Terrence J. Shortelle. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Vote: Council members Bergamini, Diana, Gessert, Killen, Krupp and Rys voted aye and Council members Papale, Parisi and Polanski voted no. The motion was passed.

Mr. Gessert moved the name of Allen Bulmer for appointment to Board of Tax Review for a term of three years, commencing January 8, 1984 and ending January 8, 1987, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp: In light of the fact that the person being replaced on this board is the Chairman and whereas this board under State Statute must meet three times during the month of February, I move to waive the waiting period. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

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Mr. Krupp moved the name of Jared McQueen for appointment to Regional Planning Agency for a term of two years, commencing November 15, 1983 and ending November 15, 1985. Mr. Gessert seconded the motion.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp moved to waive the waiting period to appoint Jared McQueen to Regional Planning Agency because of the vacancy created by Allen Bulmer's resignation. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Gessert who voted no and the motion was passed.

A motion was duly made, seconded and carried and Item (10) moved to this position.

Mrs. Bergamini moved to table waiving the bidding procedure to adopt computerized indexing system for the Town Clerk's Office and transfer and appropriation associated therewith, seconded by Mr. Krupp.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Parisi noted that Edward L. Diana and Iris F. Papale have volunteered to serve on the Joint Committee on the Taber House, replacing former Council members Noma G. Beaumont and Andrew J. Mezzi. This entire committee will be reappointed on 2/14/84.

Mrs. Bergamini noted that there was a 90 day time constraint and once the committee is reappointed, we must take that into consideration.

Mr. Krupp moved reappointment of the Building Committee for Conversion of Armory to Police Station as follows:

Robert W. Berube, Joseph J. Bevan, Chief of Police, Daniel D. Combs, George W. Dombrowski, Jr. (non-voting member), Edward J. Dubiell, William R. Fischer, Chairman, David A. Gessert, Detective Thomas Hanley (non-voting member), Howard R. Marshall, Jr., Vice Chairman, Gerard R. McCormick, James M. O'Neill, Michael A. Papale and Iris F. Papale.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Mr. Parisi made an observation that Police Chief Bevan will be a voting member. He had been an advisory member but was taking the place of Neil Robison who resigned as a voting member.

There was some discussion about committees appointed by the Town Council which end at such time as the term of that Council ends and Mr. Killen stated that since there are occasions when committees may not be official, he requested that a public official sign the architect's contract for the police station.

Mr. Krupp stated that items that we know will continue in perpetuity, such as Committee on Aging or Public Celebrations Commission be established by ordinance at which point they no longer fall under that proviso.

Mayor Dickinson: Along with reconstituting the Committee, I would request that all bills go through the Police Chief's Office and then to Tom Myers.

Mr. Myers stated that the architect and Police Chief will come up with a budget for this project. I'll provide the financial statement, full financial accounting. Normally, the committee empowers an agent to authorize payment of invoices.

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Mr. Krupp moved to amend the list as presented of the Building Committee for Conversion of Armory to Police Station to designate Joseph J. Bevan as Treasurer and all financial transactions will go through Mr. Bevan to the Comptroller's Office. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Vote: (Reappointment of Building Committee for Conversion of Armory to Police Station as it appears on page 2.)

All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Gessert moved to establish a new account #202-203, Fuel Oil-Temporary Dog Pound. This motion was seconded by Mr. Krupp.

Mr. Killen: When we appropriate money at the beginning of the year, that is our A budget. B budget is expenditures. If the funds are coming from an existing budget, they are not an appropriation; they are a transfer.

Mr. Myers: The only reason I call this an appropriation is because we're establishing an item that was not presented when we adopted the budget.

Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Myers: I have a recommendation that we set by resolution a policy when a new account is established and we transfer or appropriate money from within that departmental budget to the new account, we call it a transfer. I have no problem with that as long as it is within that departmental budget.

Mr. Killen moved approval of a transfer of \$185 from A/C 202-200 to A/C 202-203 Fuel Oil-Temporary Dog Pound. Mr. Krupp seconded the motion.

Mr. Polanski suggested that the \$185 transfer may not be sufficient for oil while the Dog Pound is at a temporary location and would require Shirley Gianotti to return soon for another transfer.

Mayor Dickinson: The reason this is being handled this way is because we are taking oil that would normally be used in a Town facility and placing it in a tank on a private facility without any indication as to how long we are going to be there or as to how fast the oil is burned.

Mrs. Gianotti: Mr. VanBuiten provided one tank of oil and now I'm supplying the oil.

Mayor Dickinson: There's a larger issue concerned here. We're paying a certain amount per day. I'm asking you people, as is Shirley, to act on a matter where we're using Town funds to finance heat in a private facility. I understood the facility was being heated to a certain extent by Mr. VanBuiten.

Mr. Gessert: If we could amend this transfer to provide operating capital, it would eliminate Shirley's need for an emergency transfer.

Mayor Dickinson: If you are content to appropriate more money to fill the tank understanding what the situation is, I don't have any problem.

Mr. Killen: The big question here is how long is Shirley going to be out there?

Mayor Dickinson: At this point, we don't have a forecast on it. We're waiting for our consultant's report. I don't feel comfortable asking for funds for oil which could be left. I'm also responsible for giving the Council an accurate estimation as to the proper use of Town funds.

Mrs. Gianotti: The tank holds 250 gallons and lasts about 3 weeks.

Mr. Rys stated that amending the motion to \$350 would only leave \$165 for oil since \$185 of that will be to pay Shirley back.

Mr. Polanski moved to amend the transfer of \$185 to \$350 from A/C 202-200 to A/C 202-203 Fuel Oil-Temporary Dog Pound. This amendment was seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

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Vote: All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Vote: (Mr. Killen's motion on page 3) All Council members voted aye and the motion was passed.

Mr. Parisi read Item (9) (a), (b) and (c) for Public Works.

Mrs. Papale moved approval of \$18,000 from unappropriated General Fund Balance to A/C 504-458 Sand, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

Mr. Polanski: How much money is left in the unappropriated General Fund Balance?

Mr. Myers: It started out at \$450,000. We spent \$75,000 on the sidewalk claim, \$26,000 for the court settlement on the Gaetano purchase for the library building; that left \$349,000. If you take \$24,000 tonight, that will leave \$325,000.

Mr. Gessert: According to the budget, the Mayor cut this from \$45,000 to \$40,000. If we gave you \$45,000, you would still be \$13,000 short. I appreciate the job you have done with the last two storms but this to me does not seem like a particularly difficult icy, stormy year.

Mr. Deak: When we have a large storm, there are 18 trucks out. During the last storm, the snow stopped and we sanded and it began to snow again and this happened three times. We must respond to conditions of ice to make the roads as safe as possible.

Mr. Diana: Where do we get the sand?

Mr. Deak: We got the lowest bid from Southington, MacDonald.

Mr. Diana: My concern is that we have the fill from Community Lake.

Mr. Deak: Unfortunately, it is dirt, not sand. We are currently using reddish sand which the State uses, tested and approved by the State laboratory. Records are kept for the number of storms, loads of sand and mileage covered with each snow storm. This sand price was already bid by the State of Connecticut and we are buying at an established price. We also have a bid price on the salt for the whole year. We must mix salt with the sand to avoid having the sand freeze.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Krupp who left the meeting and the motion was passed.

Mr. Polanski moved approval of \$6,000 from unappropriated General Fund Balance to A/C 504-455 Salt Supplies for Public Works. This motion was seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Killen: Steve, you had \$5,000 at the end of the year which was unencumbered. Mr. Deak noted that is has been encumbered.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Krupp who left the meeting and the motion was passed.

Mr. Gessert moved approval of an appropriation of \$1,000 from A/C 805-323 to A/C 504-481 Meal Allowance for Public Works. Mr. Rys seconded the motion.

Mr. Myers: This account, 805-323, was provided for negotiated items in the Town's labor contracts. There's approximately \$3,000 left in that account, an appropriate place to extract the \$1,000 since this cost is certainly partially attributable to the increase there.

Mr. Killen asked what time the men in Public Works begin work and Mr. Deak stated 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Krupp who left the meeting and the motion was passed.

Mr. Rys raised the question of how much time people have to have their sidewalks cleared of snow after a storm. Mr. Deak noted that it is the responsibility of the Building Department to take note of sidewalks not cleared of snow.

Mr. Parisi stated that he has had complaints of unshoveled walks and a mechanism should be set and enforced.

Mr. Gessert mentioned that a great deal depends on when the storm ends. It should go through Carmen Spiteri's office but its impossible to inspect all walks after a storm. This must be done on a complaint basis.

Mr. Parisi: Carmen Spiteri must do this to the best of his ability and the word will spread that walks must be cleared.

Mr. Killen noted that the Center Street cemetary property is not cleared very often.

It was noted that a property owner has 24 hours after a snow storm to clear the walks and Mr. Rys stated that any complaints registered with the Police Department require completion of a form by an officer which form states the walks must be cleared within 4 hours. If the Police Department responds to a complaint, it should be acted upon and the summons enforced. A prime example is a couple of business establishments on Route 5 which Mr. Rys checked before this meeting.

Mayor Dickinson will check on the procedure and report back to the Council.

Mrs. Papale noted that the vacant store where Democratic Headquarters was located was not cleared today.

Mrs. Bergamini moved approval of the January 24, 1984 minutes, seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Krupp who left the meeting and the motion was passed.

Mrs. Bergamini moved approval of the January 27, 1984 minutes, seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mrs. Papale who passed and Mr. Krupp who was not present. The motion was passed.

A motion was duly made, seconded and carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Delores B. Fetta  
Council Secretary

Approved

  
Robert F. Parisi, Council Chairman

Date

2-14-84

  
Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

Date

2-14-84