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Town Council Minutes Summary

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Town Council Meeting

March 13, 1984

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held in Council Chambers, called to order by Chairman Parisi at 7:30 p.m.

Answering present to the roll called by Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk, were Council members Bergamini, Gessert, Killen, Krupp, Papale, Parisi, Polanski and Rys. Councilman Diana arrived immediately following roll call. Mayor Dickinson was also present. The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag.

Prayer by Reverend Gerald Eddy, Church of the Nazarene:

Our Father, we thank you for this community. We thank you for those who are willing to serve in places of responsibility. We ask that the spirit of God will guide them in their deliberations and give them wisdom in decisions that are made. We pray, Father, that all the business that is taken care of will be for the best of our Town and we pray, Father, that your blessing will rest upon all of us. Amen.

Mr. Gessert thanked Reverend Eddy for joining us.

PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

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David Bersch, 628 Sixth Ridge Road: There is a traffic light on the corner of Route 5 and Parker Street which, when it turns green, only stays green for about 15 seconds. Mayor Dickinson will look into this.

Mr. Killen requested asking the State to erect a NO TURN ON RED sign at the Christian Street intersection, at Route 5. There was one which is no longer there and it is a dangerous intersection.

Mr. Gessert: We receive monthly financial reports which give details of the money spent and the money received. Richard J. Piekarski is the Delinquent Tax Collector and \$300,000 is shown budgeted for arrears property and for the first seven months of this year, \$405,873 has been taken in, 135% of the quota for the year.

I would like to publicly commend Mr. Piekarski who works for Mr. Fields for the good job which is being done in that department. This should be noted and perhaps we can ask the Mayor to send a note to the people involved for the good job they are doing for the Town. This productivity is nice to see.

Mrs. Papale commended Mr. Parisi on the improved appearance of the Council Chambers, in particular the addition of the art work.

The Public Question and Answer Period ended at 7:40 p.m. Since the Public Hearing on Item (3) could not begin until 7:45 p.m., the Council moved to Item (4), (5), (6) and (7).

Mrs. Bergamini moved approval of a transfer of \$206 from A/C 503-130 to A/C 503-120 for the Public Works Department. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gessert.

Mr. Krupp asked if this item was not planned for in the budget and Mr. Deak explained that when the budget was prepared, this foreman was not yet hired.

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

Mr. Krupp moved approval of the following merit increases:

	<u>Increase Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Gregory Makuch-Water/Sewer Division	4/28/84	\$150.00
Vincent Mascia-Water/Sewer Division	3/12/84	411.00
Henry McCully-Public Works Department	4/16/84	206.00
Thomas Myers-Department of Finance	4/11/84	394.00

This motion was seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Gessert commented that the Merit Review Committee met on all of these people and approved the increases in discussion with the department heads and the Mayor.

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

Mr. Parisi read the letter pertaining to Item (6) and Mr. Polanski asked how the 12 people to be hired are chosen. Mr. Hamel stated that applications are submitted to the Guidance Department at school and the applicants must be disadvantaged and there are income levels under the program. Except for last year, the program managed to serve every disadvantaged young person who wanted to work. Income criteria is \$12,000 for a family of 4.

Mr. Krupp moved the following Resolution:

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD FOR A SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM:

Certified a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town of Wallingford at a meeting of its Town Council on March 13, 1984, and which has not been rescinded or modified in any way whatsoever.

March 13, 1984 Rosemary A. Rascati Delores B. Fotta
Date Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk Delores B. Fotta
Council Secretary

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapters 133 and 300a of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Human Resources is authorized to extend financial assistance to municipalities and human resource development agencies; and

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD FOR A SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM (continued)

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the TOWN OF WALLINGFORD make application to the State in order to undertake a Summer Work Experience Program and, to execute a Grant Action Request therefor. It is understood that the TOWN OF WALLINGFORD will provide a local grant-in-aid, where applicable, in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 133 and 300a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State assistance imposed by Chapter 133 and 300a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
2. That it recognizes the responsibility for the provision of local grants-in-aid to the extent that they are necessary and required for said program.
3. That the filing of an application by the TOWN OF WALLINGFORD in an amount not to exceed \$9,500.00 is hereby approved, and that the WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file such application with the Commissioner of Human Resources, to provide such additional information, to execute a Grant Action Request with the State of Connecticut for state financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, recisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the TOWN OF WALLINGFORD.

Mr. Rys seconded the motion.

Mr. Gessert inquired about work assignments of these applicants and asked if the Council had any input. Mr. Hamel stated that most of the children are assigned to the school system. Suggestions could be submitted to the Mayor.

Mr. Gessert noted that perhaps some of them could be used within Public Works helping to fill potholes, brush cutting, etc. It was noted by Mr. Hamel that many of the applicants are 14 and 15 years old and could not be utilized for such jobs.

In response to a question by Mr. Killen, Mr. Hamel noted that these jobs are for a 30 hour work week for a period of 6 weeks.

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

Mr. Rys moved immediate certification of the above Resolution, seconded by Mr. Krupp.

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

Mr. Parisi read the letter dated 3/6/84 from Philip J. Hamel, Jr. in connection with agenda item (7) and Resolution attached.

Mr. Gessert moved a Resolution amending the budget to accept workers compensation premiums from grant programs and appropriating same to self insurance account:

RESOLVED:

- (1) To amend the A budget to reflect the following increase in estimated revenues:

Account #641, Recoverable Workmens' Compensation Insurance, \$621.00.

- (2) To amend the B budget to reflect the following increase in budget appropriation:

Account #804-835, Self-Insurance - Workmens' Compensation, \$621.00.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Killen asked if this would cover the same amount no matter what the story and would not cause a problem by rolling this into the Town's program and Mr. Hamel explained that a premium was budgeted because it would be very costly to obtain a policy for 4 people. The premiums are turned over and over the years, there have never been claims comparable to what has been paid. 155

Mr. Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road: How have these premiums been paid--is the grant money used to pay the premium?

Mr. Hamel: Money is budgeted for workers comp on the small grant programs which is turned over to the Town.

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

Mr. Musso commented on the additional \$100,000 cost discussed at the Board of Education meeting on 3/12/84 for training children who were formerly sent out of town. He felt that since this program is mandated by the State, the State should bear the cost rather than the taxpayers at a cost of \$10,000 per year for each child.

Mr. Parisi read AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A SYSTEM TO VENT METHANE AT THE WALLINGFORD LANDFILL, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION and the public hearing on this Ordinance began at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Gessert: Have we received a report from DeCarlo & Doll which indicated where holes were dug and what readings were obtained?

Mr. Hamel: There was no report but we were with them when the borings were done and have had several meetings with them and we are well aware of the work done and are confident we have obtained our money's worth. A field survey is being done now and we will receive the final design.

Mayor Dickinson: One map will indicate every location drilled and whether or not methane was found. I assume we could also get the readings obtained.

Mrs. Papale: If this is approved tonight, when will work begin?

Mr. Hamel: The final design should be completed in early April. This must be approved by DEP and last night, P & Z approved the concept. Once the Ordinance is passed, there is a 21 day waiting period.

Mr. Killen asked if the bid was waived for this particular project and it was noted that it was in fact on March 5, 1984.

Mr. Diana: I have done some checking on this problem and have spoken with the Mayor of the Town of Shelton who had a similar problem. I am personally not in favor of this because I really don't believe in this procedure but on the other hand, I have nothing constructive to offer which is any better. I think the administration must go ahead with this but I do have reservations.

There is a question of any seepage into this trench from either the landfill or just water.

Mr. Hamel: There is an impermeable membrane on the street side of that trench, along the side of the stone. Even if there were gas right up against it, it would be stopped by this plastic membrane.

Mayor Dickinson noted that the water would seep through the stone rather than pool in the trench.

Mr. Gessert: I agree with Mr. Diana and until the digging begins, I will continue to search for another alternative.

Mayor Dickinson: In Passaic, New Jersey, a municipal building was constructed on top of an old landfill and they ended up with a methane problem. A trench was dug which did not eliminate the problem in the building and now they must dig underneath the floor of the building and install fans and other means of blowing the methane away. This problem will become more and more apparent.

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Reverend Gerald Eddy asked about researching the commercial value of the methane and Mr. Parisi stated that we do have a contract with Wehran to remove the methane but Wehran's drill is broken. Mr. Hamel has been asked to stay in contact with Wehran and appeal to their sense of fairness in view of the acute problem we have.

Mr. Gessert: Wehran is drilling in areas of the landfill with the highest concentrations of methane for commercial feasibility. While the methane along the road is a nuisance, it does not contain a high enough volume to be acceptable for commercial uses.

The Public Hearing on this Ordinance ended at 8:10 p.m.

Mr. Gessert moved adoption of the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A SYSTEM TO VENT METHANE AT THE WALLINGFORD LANDFILL, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION.

Be it Enacted by the Town Council in Session:

I.

The sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) is hereby appropriated for the cost of preparing the field survey, design and for construction of a trench system to vent methane at the Wallingford Landfill, including the cost of crushed stone, rental of construction equipment, engineering fees, administrative expenses, overtime costs for Town labor, costs of relocating a fence and water line, miscellaneous expenditures for items necessary for the completion of the system, attorney's fees, interest costs, costs of marketing temporary notes pending the sale of bonds, and other miscellaneous and contingent customary expenses connected therewith.

II.

To meet said appropriation, not more than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) of bonds of the Town of Wallingford shall be issued pursuant to Chapter XV of the Town Charter, as amended, and Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended.

III.

The Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer, or any two of them, with the approval of the Town Council, are hereby authorized to sell the bonds, either all at one time, or from time to time, in series, at public sale, either as a separate issue or combined with other authorized but unissued bonds of the Town of Wallingford, at not less than par and accrued interest, and advertisement of which shall be published at least seven days before the date of sale in The Bond Buyer. They shall determine the rate of interest of such bonds, and shall determine the amount of each issue of such bonds, their form, their date, the dates of principal and interest payments, the manner of issuing such bonds, and by whom such bonds shall be signed, either by genuine or by facsimile signatures, and all other particulars thereof. The Town Treasurer shall deliver the bonds and receive the proceeds thereof. The Connecticut Bank and Trust Company, N.A., of Hartford, Connecticut, shall be the certifying, paying and transfer agent. Adinolfi, O'Brien & Hayes, P.C., Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut, shall render an opinion approving the legality of such particular issue.

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A SYSTEM TO VENT METHANE AT THE WALLINGFORD LANDFILL, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION. (Continued) 157

IV.

The Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer, or any two of them, with the approval of the Town Council, are hereby authorized to sell temporary notes of the Town, from time to time, in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000), under and pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of bonds hereby authorized, and are authorized to comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a, as amended, if the maturity of such notes shall extend beyond the time permitted by Section 7-378; the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer, or any two of them, with the approval of the Town Council, are hereby authorized to determine the rate of interest of such notes, determine the amount of each issue of notes, their form, their date, the dates of principal and interest payments, the manner of issuing such notes, and by whom such notes shall be signed, either by genuine or by facsimile signatures, and all other particulars thereof.

Mr. Rys seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Myers: I have two resolutions with respect to this project which I will need the Council to pass. One will be to allow me to advance general fund cash to use on this project until such time as I can arrange temporary financing and the other will be to set up an exchange account to pay overtime to Public Works. I can pay it on their regular paycheck and then transfer the money back into the General Fund on the revenue side. About \$10,000 is anticipated in overtime. (Will be submitted 3/27/84.)

Mayor Dickinson: The 3-1/2 yard bucket digger will be rented at \$13,000 per month and in order to avoid an extra month of rental, overtime will be needed to use it to its capacity.

(The resolutions will be placed on the March 27, 1984 agenda.)

Mr. Parisi read the 3/2/84 letter from Charles L. Fields, Tax Collector regarding agenda item (8).

Mr. Krupp moved an appropriation of \$2,560 from 805-319 to 142-890 Refunds, requested by the Tax Collector. Mr. Rys seconded the motion.

Mrs. Bergamini questioned taking the money from 805-319 and Mr. Myers explained that there was no money available in Mr. Fields line items.

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

Mr. Parisi read the 3/2/84 letter from Charles L. Fields, Tax Collector, requesting approval of tax refunds of \$2,559.39.

Mr. Gessert moved approval of the following tax refunds:

Michael Montana	\$ 633.58
Litton Industries Credit	451.54
Dale & Sharon Wilson and/or New Haven Savings Bank	930.23
Frederick J. & Lillian E. Long and/or Jefferson Federal Savings	544.04
	<u>\$2,559.39</u>

Mr. Krupp seconded the motion.

Mr. Killen asked about the computation of interest on the Montana refund and Mr. Fields explained that it was computed by the Town.

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

Mr. Gessert: The arrears property looks like it's coming very well and hope it continues. We will be happy to be of any help if you let us know. We are at \$16,000,000 on a current property projection of \$20,000,000; do you expect to hit the \$20,000,000? Mr. Fields stated that he hoped to reach the budgeted figure.

Mr. Parisi read the 2/24/84 letter from Francis Francesconi with regard to agenda item 10(a) and the transfer for 10(b).

Mr. Gessert moved approval of full-time work for the part-time clerk in the Welfare Department for a period of 5 or 6 weeks. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Papale.

Mrs. Papale: When your full-time caseworker is on sick leave for 5 to 6 weeks, will she be paid from a sick pay account or get a regular paycheck?

Mr. Francesconi: She will get a regular paycheck as long as she has sick time.

For Workfare help, we get back \$35 per person as of the first of the month so our return on that is about \$4,000 over and above our regular 90% reimbursement.

Mr. Gessert: Do you have any on Workfare now who are capable of picking up the papers on Pent Road?

Mr. Francesconi: About 12 or 15. I do send them to Public Works and they distribute the work.

Mr. Krupp: Why don't you use someone from Workfare for this?

Mr. Francesconi: They could go off in a day or week and it will put me back in the same bind.

Mr. Polanski: How many cases are handled by the Welfare Department?

Mr. Francesconi: It averages 70 to 75 cases a month which may represent 100 to 125 people.

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

Mrs. Papale moved an appropriation of \$350 from 805-319 to A/C 306-135, requested by Francis Francesconi, Welfare Administrator. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gessert.

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

A motion to move agenda item (14) to this position was duly made, seconded and carried.

Mr. Parisi read a memo dated 3/1/84 from Fire Chief Jack McElfish requesting a transfer of \$2,200 for utilities, North Farms Station.

Mr. Krupp moved a transfer of \$2,200 from A/C 203R-200 to A/C 203NF-201, requested by Chief McElfish. Mrs. Papale seconded the motion.

Mr. Polanski asked when the renovations would be completed at North Farms and Mr. McElfish noted the contract stated April 15. The carpentry is about 80% complete, electrical 50%, mechanical 50% and there are finish items to be done.

The transfer states to carry us through the next four months. At a special meeting in January, \$800 was taken out of the utility account for temporary rental of a station.

Mr. Parisi: Who negotiated the remodeling and when did it begin?

Mr. McElfish: The Engineering Department and it began in late October. The deadline for completion is either April 15 or 23. There are no penalties for late completion because if the job were finished early, additional money must be given.

Mr. Killen: This is the second time we've been caught with unforeseen expenses here--weren't any of these things figured in at the time the work was decided?

Mr. McElfish: I've never been involved in a remodeling project before. We had planned on having the units in there by December 15. The contract was drawn in August and was awarded around October 1 but work was not started until October 28.

Mr. Killen: In the future, these things must be considered. It also changes the opinion of some people at this table as to whether or not they will go for it.

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Mrs. Bergamini: That is sometimes the problem with low bids. This money was approved in May and the money available in July. It takes so long for these things to get rolling. Immediate bids were not sought. Had the contract gone out immediately, the work would have been started in August.

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

Mr. Rys: Is Engine 1 back in service now and was Bell-Detroit able to give you any synopsis of the problem?

Mr. McElfish: It's been back in service for 3 weeks and we have not yet received an opinion. Bill Barr is attending a program in Detroit.

Mr. Parisi read a letter dated 3/5/84 from Councilman Diana for Council consideration to form a committee to study uses of the Parker Farms School building.

Mr. Diana noted that the committee would have 7 members rather than 3 because of the interest of some Council members to serve on it. A 10 member committee was agreed upon after discussion.

Mr. Parisi: I felt Mr. Diana, Mr. Krupp and Mr. Rys would be able to deal with this situation, along with myself. We also thought about inviting 3 non Council members to form this committee.

Mr. Krupp moved the formation of a committee to study uses of the Parker Farms School building. (See names on page 11.)

This motion was seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Gessert: Perhaps we should have an update from a member of the existing committee to determine what they have done.

Mrs. Noma Beaumont: In September, 1983, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wise and myself were appointed to study Parker Farms School disposition. We wanted something in writing from the Board of Education, a projection of their needs for the next 5 years. On 2/10/84, a letter arrived at Mayor Dickinson's office urging the Town not to dispose of the property because of the possibility of an all day Kindergarten.

A rough estimate of \$250,000 has been arrived at with Mr. Deak, etc. for the many repairs necessary at Parker Farms School. Heating system, leaky roof, repointing and repair and repaving of the driveway are some necessary repairs. We would like to be included on your committee. Budget time would be an appropriate time to consider the \$250,000 needed.

It could possibly be rented as office space but must go before P & Z.

Mr. Gessert: I would like to amend the motion to appoint 10 members to the committee rather than 7.

Mrs. Beaumont: We have accepted this from the Board of Ed but as a taxpayer, it is upsetting to see literal heaps of books just thrown on the floor and hundreds of desks just piled.

Mr. Diana: We went to the Liaison Committee meeting the other night and one of the questions I asked what was to be done with everything stored at the school. I presumed they belonged to the Board of Ed but found out the contents belong to the Town.

Mr. Krupp: Whatever was left over in their excess inventory becomes the Town's property when it is turned over.

One of the disturbing points is that this is not something that happened since the school was closed but is an accumulation of years of neglect in that building which is now being inherited.

Mrs. Bergamini: It would be interesting to know what happened to the \$46,000 appropriated for the Parker Farms roof.

Mr. Diana: The purpose of the committee is to look into uses now because at very best, all day Kindergarten is 3 years away.

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Mrs. Bergamini: Have any Council members talked with any of the teachers at Yalesville School? I would suggest that each of you contact a person you might know and ask them, "does it fit?" That is a question I asked at a Board of Education meeting and I never got an answer. I guarantee you 9 out of 10 will tell you they do not fit at Yalesville School.

Mr. Killen: Some of the contents at Parker Farms School were left there by court order--was that ever resolved?

Mr. Krupp: The court order only required that an inventory be recorded of all materials and the track be maintained.

Mr. Killen: We now have a Town Planner. It is about time the Town Planner sat down with the Department Heads and told us what we are going to need now and over the next 5, 10, 15 years. In the past, we have taken buildings which make suitable gyms and made them into libraries and taken libraries and made them into school buildings and taken school buildings and made them into railroad stations. Let us sit down, see what we have, see what we need and know where we are going. We always wait until we are under the gun. We need a long-range plan of what we need and what we have in front of us.

Mayor Dickinson: One of the first steps is to get an inventory and we will proceed with that.

Mr. Parisi noted that the members of the committee are Mr. Diana, Chairman, Mr. Krupp, Mr. Parisi, Mr. Rys, Mr. Anthony Avitable, Mrs. Corinne Sommo, Mrs. Gail Devine and three former Council members, Mrs. Beaumont, Mr. Wall and Mr. Wise.

Mr. Musso: I object to having troublemakers on that committee. The State Police are looking to expand and that might be an ideal place for them.

Mr. Parisi noted that the Mayor could contact the State Police.

Vote: (Parker Farms School Committee) All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Rys who was not present for the vote and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp moved an appropriation of \$4,550 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance to A/C 132-901 Professional Services, requested by the Town Attorney. Mrs. Bergamini seconded the motion.

Attorney McManus and Mayor Dickinson explained the details of the bill for which this appropriation is necessary and Attorney McManus stated that there is enough equity in the property to pay back the Town. The attorney handling the case has been working on it since 1979 and has expended a good portion of this money from his own pocket. This property is on South Curtis Street. Mayor Dickinson noted that the Town will get reimbursed on this only at the point that the property will be sold once the Town's ownership is cleared.

Mr. Killen: Do you have any idea of why an outside attorney was used for this? It's a technicality but by our Charter we are not supposed to be going to outside attorneys. There are no exceptions.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Parisi who was not present for the vote and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp moved the transfer of \$365 from A/C 603-415 to A/C 603-406, requested by the Town Clerk. Mr. Diana seconded the motion.

Mr. Killen asked if we would get money back from the State and Mrs. Rascati stated we would on the Presidential Preference Primary but this was for the Democratic Town Committee Primary.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Parisi who was not present for the vote and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp moved to waive Rule V to discuss another transfer for the Town Clerk's Office. This motion was seconded by Mr. Killen.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Parisi who was not present for the vote and the motion was passed.

Mr. Krupp moved the appropriation of \$275 from A/C 805-319 to A/C 603-406, requested by the Town Clerk. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

Mr. Krupp noted that this appropriation was for the purpose of covering the Town Clerk's costs related to the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary scheduled for March 27 and there are no scheduled Council meetings between now and then.

Vote: All Council members voted aye with the exception of Mr. Parisi who was not present for the vote and the motion was passed.

Mr. Gessert read the 3/7/84 letter from Mayor Dickinson concerning a \$510 appropriation for fact finding costs.

Mrs. Papale moved an appropriation of \$510 from A/C 805-319^{*} to A/C 130-602 for fact finding costs, Local 1570, Council 15, AFSCME Case No. 8081-MBA-71. Mrs. Bergamini seconded the motion.

Mr. Krupp: Am I correct in assuming that this had to do with the Board of Education custodians' contract? (YES.) As a matter of principle, I am going to vote the same way I did on that contract.

Mayor Dickinson: This bill represents monies owed by the Town for the preparation of the briefs and the services rendered by the Fact Finder.

Mr. Gessert: Do we pay Donald Powers extra for this or Gallicchio, Merati, Gawrych & Griffin?

Mayor Dickinson: I believe this money is only for the Fact Finder. We pay \$508.70 and the union pays \$508.70.

Mrs. Bergamini: We have appropriated money for Mr. Donald Powers.

Mr. Myers: That is his contract.

*Mayor Dickinson noted that the account could be amended to 805-323 rather than 805-319.

Mrs. Papale amended the motion above to appropriate \$510 from 805-323 to A/C 130-602. This motion was seconded by Mr. Killen.

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

Mr. Parisi read the letter dated 2/27/84 from Councilman Diana regarding the establishment of a committee to undertake a study of the possible uses of Robert Earley School.

Mr. Gessert moved to table appointing a committee to consider possible uses of Robert Earley School. (No second to motion.)

Mr. Killen moved to appoint a committee to consider possible uses of Robert Earley School, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini. (NO VOTE TAKEN.)

Mr. Diana: I have no intention of naming the committee tonight. I would like to get the consensus of the Council as to whether or not they agree in principle and we attempt to get this off the ground by forming a committee. Everyone on the Council could submit one name, along with the Mayor, for a 10 member committee, very similar to what we did with the Armory.

Mr. Parisi suggested this be noted tonight and tabled until the next meeting for the purpose of direct action at that time.

Mrs. Papale: Why are you against the attempt to form a committee tonight, Bob?

Mr. Parisi: Give the Mayor a chance to think about it.

Mr. Killen: We have an incomplete motion. It is a suggestion by Ed and we have to take it a step further. There is no mechanism here; he has not set a deadline and set the number of members of the committee. Our consensus is that we would like to go forward and discuss it and I don't see why we should have to wait 2 weeks. These committees are strictly advisory and during the winter they could work on ideas.

Mr. Diana: I am simply trying to determine the Council's intention and if they are in agreement that we form a committee. If yes, I would like names submitted at the next Council meeting to form it. I am looking more for intent tonight than specifics.

Mr. Parisi: In the past, the Mayor's Office picked 2 or 3 people and each Council member picked 1.

Mrs. Papale: For the Police Station Building Committee, each Council member picked a layman and there were 3 Council members. The Mayor was not on that committee but the Police Chief was because of his expertise. I am on that committee and I find it a very good working committee.

Mr. Krupp: It has been pointed out to me it is not a good idea to have an even number of people on the committee so each Council member picks one and the Mayor picks two. If Council members are on the committee, I have a feeling that preconceived notions would be imposed on this committee which I'm not sure is something we want.

Mayor Dickinson: I have indicated in the past and I will state again that definitely within the two years but hopefully within this calendar year, there will be a proposal on Robert Earley. I have not been without some activity looking into options. At this point, I am not prepared to say what the proposal would be. I don't have any objection to a committee being formed but I want all of you to know that there is some activity.

Mr. Diana: My intention, just to make it clear again, is that each Council member picks one person and the Mayor picks one.

Mr. Killen: Technically speaking, the choices should be confined to the Council--they have the authority to pick an advisory commission. The Mayor has a right to choose his own commissions if he desires some other way.

Mr. Krupp: May I suggest that the item be accepted in principle pending a definition of an exact mechanism by the next meeting. For any committee of this type, there should be an enabling resolution.

Mayor Dickinson: I might point out that this has been studied and I don't know what a committee will come up with other than a complete report which we have. What we need is really a funding proposal; if it is feasible for the Town to fund for a Town Hall is one direction. The other direction is selling it for office or other space. You are talking financing proposals. Studying what to do with the building has been done. I would welcome new information.

Mr. Diana: The worst thing that will happen is that this committee will be a part of just what you are suggesting. Right now, we don't have anybody doing that other than yourself. I respect that and hope that you are in fact doing something behind the scenes. I would like to see a committee formed so that it is on record that the Town is concerned about the property and we are trying to handle the problem rather than letting it drag on another 2 years. Politically, there will still be a 6-3 split as far as committee membership. I am not looking for anything other than getting this thing going.

Mrs. Bergamini inquired about the Economic Development Act pertaining to sale and leaseback and asked if it were still in effect.

Mayor Dickinson noted that it was. It has been under attack in Congress for a while but municipalities as well as private interests have some concerns on it but it still is alive. 1.3

Mrs. Bergamini stated that the suggestion was made 2 years ago that the Town of Wallingford should go that way and I would like to see that avenue pursued. It certainly would give us a Town Hall at no expense to the taxpayers and would release this property which everyone thinks is a goldmine. I don't see any other choice with the bills we have facing us with the sewage treatment plant.

Mayor Dickinson: I have every intention this calendar year and the sooner the better as far as I'm concerned to resolve this. In order to set a direction, you must know who is interested in doing what. It is a question of financing and you have to make a decision of whether a committee can work on that or not.

I will definitely not come to you with a finished package and ask for an appropriation because it's all set. The Council has to be part of the process and it will be. You have my assurance on that.

Mrs. Papale: I have to agree with Ed. We don't want to happen what happened in the last 2 years. During election time, the Democrats heard everywhere that we never did anything as far as the Town Hall.

Mayor Dickinson: Understand if it is a committee to look at what options are available, that is one thing, but I think we know the options. Everyone must cooperate on this sort of project. I can come up with proposals and if you don't agree, they don't go anyplace. You would require some input from an administration in order to put together a package. I am in full agreement that somebody must move.

Mr. Krupp: I don't think it was just the candidates on the Democratic side who addressed the issue--I don't know of any of us who didn't at some time or another. We made a commitment and we are going to do something about it.

Mr. Diana: We can put it off until the 5/22/84 meeting which will give us plenty of time. It gives the Mayor time to formulate what he is doing and gives us time to consider whether or not we want a committee.

Mr. Gessert moved to table until May 22, 1984 the appointment of a committee to consider the possible uses of Robert Earley School. Mr. Krupp seconded the motion.

Mr. Musso commented that Robert Earley School is an ideal spot for a Town Hall and should be undertaken with a sale and leaseback. Many Wallingford citizens agree this should be the Town Hall.

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

Mr. Krupp moved approval of the minutes of March 5, 1984, seconded by Mr. Killen.

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

Mr. Krupp: Before we consider the Resolution establishing a Charter Revision Commission, on the first page of the Resolution, line 13 of section 1, change ten (10) to eleven (11) resident electors of the Town of Wallingford, and shall be appointed as follows: two (2) appointees by the Mayor. This is just changing it for a total of 11 members, an odd number of members.

Mr. Killen: Was this not supposed to go to the Town Attorney's Office first?

Mr. Krupp: It was delayed for two weeks while the Town Attorney wanted to review it.

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Mr. Gessert moved a Resolution establishing a Charter Revision Commission, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

The Town Attorney read the Resolution before the meeting and found nothing wrong with it.

Mr. Killen: Under State Statutes, the Mayor is ineligible to name anyone.

Mr. Krupp: The Mayor is eligible and in fact named to the last Charter Revision Commission.

Mr. Killen read from Connecticut's Home Rule Law and stated that the Council is the appointing authority, 7-187. There is a specific timetable during which you must do certain things. The commission must be named with a 30 day period. The proposal must be initiated by 2/3's vote of the entire membership and you need a simple majority to appoint the Charter Revision Commission and within 30 days of the Resolution, you have to adopt that particular commission and they must be named. Your Resolution states no later than May 22, 1984, Jim.

Mr. Krupp moved to suspend his motion pending an answer by the Town Attorney. Mr. Gessert seconded the motion.

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

Mrs. Bergamini moved to note for the record the financial statements of the Town of Wallingford for the month of February, 1984. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Papale.

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

Mr. Myers: I would like to make one point to the Council. While in the past, our arrears property taxes have been averaging over the past 4 or 5 years \$300,000 in the aggregate that we have been actively been able to collect in subsequent fiscal periods, this year we have collected in excess of the \$300,000 to date. That is basically due to one large account, Capital Incubators. The taxes owed plus the interest was around \$130,000 on that account and had been outstanding for several years. The reason I mention it is because when you collect one this large, it throws the average out of norm and that is the circumstance here. I thought that was important to mention. I just wanted to explain why it was above the estimate.

Mr. Parisi addressed the setting of a meeting with The Wallingford Board of Independent Insurance Agents.

Mrs. Papale asked to be sure everyone could come. A meeting was set twice last year and each time, a quorum was not present. It was very embarrassing.

Thursday, March 22 at 6:15 p.m. was selected, providing The Wallingford Board of Independent Insurance Agents find that date and time suitable for them.

Attorney McManus stated that Mr. Killen is correct in his statement and the Charter Revision Commission must be named within 30 days after adoption of a Resolution to establish such commission.

Mr. Krupp moved to table a Resolution establishing a Charter Revision Commission until further notice, seconded by Mr. Gessert.

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

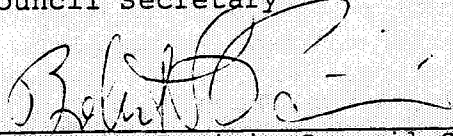
Mr. Parisi noted a letter received from Martin A. Van Buiten of Holiday Pet Lodge, Inc. dated 3/1/84 and a letter dated 3/11/84 from James E. Kennedy of The Simpson-Taber Residence Preservation Committee.

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A motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Delores B. Fetta
Council Secretary

Approved


Robert F. Parisi, Council Chairman

Date

March 22, 1984


Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

Date

3-22-84

Summary of Town Council Minutes

March 22, 1984

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