

ANNUAL BUDGET 1986 - 1987

PUBLIC HEARING

LYMAN HALL HIGH SCHOOL

7:30 p.m.

April 15, 1986

Chairman David A. Gessert called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. for the Public Hearing on the 1986-1987 Annual Budget. Town Clerk Rascati called the roll and the following Council Members were present: Bergamini, Gessert, Gouveia, Holmes, Killen, Papale, Polanski and Rys were present. Mayor Dickinson was also present, along with Comptroller Thomas A. Myers and Deputy Comptroller Klocko..

Mr. Gessert apologized for the slight delay and commented that prior to the Public Hearing, the Council was in the library at Lyman Hall to honor ten outstanding students who are being vested in the National Honor Society, along with Mayor Dickinson, Board of Education Members and many of the Lyman Hall staff. Councilman Killen was made an honorary member of the National Honor Society and the Council is very proud of that. (APPLAUSE)

Mr. Gessert indicated that the meeting would begin with remarks from Mayor Dickinson and then the Board of Education Budget, Utilities Budget and then department by department. The public will have an opportunity to ask questions as each department's budget is presented. Mr. Gessert turned the meeting over to Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr.

Mayor Dickinson commented that each of the budget books include a message from the Mayor's Office and as he indicated earlier this evening at a meeting, Ernest Hemingway rewrote "OLD MAN OF THE SEA" forty-six times and it seems like we keep coming out with budgets every year, trying to get them right. The Mayor does not know that this is a perfect budget but it is a budget that addresses a multitude of issues, directions, policies and needs of the Town of Wallingford. The Mayor further stated that, as you know, it represents a 1.8 mill increase--no one suggests a tax increase lightly. However, between outside influences such as insurance costs, such as reduction in revenues from state and federal sources, when you consider employee wage increases, construction projects, budgeting money to pay notes and bonds, when we look at the needs of education, when we balance all of those needs--public safety, Public Works, Education, new construction, utilities, it is impossible to operate Town Government in this boom period without facing a tax increase.

Mayor Dickinson welcomes comments from the public. Please review the budget and his message and proceed.

Mr. Gessert thanked the Mayor for his comments.

Mr. Gessert introduced the following people: Tom Murphy, Business Office, Board of Education, Board of Education Members Roberta Shaw, Chairman Jim Annis, Cle Palsco, Andrew Bravo, Roger Rivers and Roger Appell, along with Building and Grounds Superintendent Mr. Cei.

Mr. Gessert turned to Page 132, Board of Education Budget, requested amount \$22,353,511; approved figure \$21,876,418. Mr. Gessert asked if there were any questions on this budget.

Mr. James A.G. Krupp, 2 Jonathan Road, asked where the cuts would start with the \$477,093 cut--remedial programs? Roberta Shaw addressed this question but her answer was totally inaudible. Mr. Krupp rephrased his question in this manner, "When you received the full request last year, were you able to make substantial progress in the area of education?" Again, Mrs. Shaw's response was not audible. Mr. Krupp commented that it would seem reasonable if we are going to be saddled with tax increases, we can pretend this is an election year and give the Board of Education its full amount asked for.

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Mr. Martin Truehart, President of the Wallingford Education Association, asked that the Council increase the education budget. He believes Wallingford has taken a back seat which he does not necessarily believe is due to the present Council or the present Mayor but is a fact that for twenty years, this has occurred. The cost of personnel is the most costly of many items and should not need defense but rather should bring a sense of pride--pride that Wallingford will continue to attract the highest quality individuals so that we don't have to settle for the wrong applicants which, in some instances, has begun to be the case. In the same light, let's look upon class sizes. Class sizes in Wallingford are overall reasonable. In some of Connecticut's depressed towns, especially those in the valley, have 12 and 13 students in academic and general classes and we in Wallingford have as many as 30 or more in similar classes--something needs to be corrected. Did you know that Wallingford's ratio of guidance counselors in the middle schools ranks among the bottom 5% in the State? The Board of Education is continuously denied these additional personnel when Wallingford students, just like all of those throughout the entire state and nation today face more problems than at any other time in history--the number of broken homes, abused children, etc. reaching unprecedented proportions.

Mr. Truehart further commented that one will find that because of Wallingford's failure to properly fund education for some 20 years, our students in too many instances lack the proper equipment and some many things that next door towns such as Hamden, North Haven and Cheshire have. Computer education, a growing concern, is sorely hurting in this town although both high schools have excellent programs. Don't blame the Board of Education for this--with limited budgets over the years, priorities had to be made and programs were cut--equipment, books and supplies in many instances were deleted. Many of our buildings have been deteriorating because too many dollars were cut in past years.

Mr. Truehart stated that Wallingford has closed 4 schools in the past 15 years but the dollars saved have not been used to upgrade present facilities but rather to facilitate the cost of educational budgets. In conclusion, Mr. Truehart asked if the taxpayers are going to be upset if you make up for past deficiencies and asked that you weigh the number of people who really call and/or write to you and say that education should not be funded as requested. Finally, Mr. Truehart asked that Wallingford, as some of the bumper stickers indicate, not only be "THE HOME OF CHAMPIONS" but begin a process that will recognize us as an educational paradise, a paradise in which families will feel that Wallingford Public Schools are the schools in which they want their children educated--not in the Hamden or North Haven or Cheshire schools--but in Wallingford.

Mr. George Soltesz, 7 Russell Street had 5 children go through Wallingford schools and has 1 left and he is totally against the teachers getting a 10.4% increase since people in private industry are lucky to get 5% or 5.5%. Benefits are being cut and he feels it is totally uncalled for that the Wallingford teachers gave up 9.2% and the arbitrators, the culprits, gave them 10.4%. Mr. Soltesz is going to speak to his legislators and tell them to get on the stick and tell them a few things up there--he feels the unions are paying them off. Taxes are never paid off. Mr. Soltesz is not against education and feels that teachers salaries should be raised for starting teachers but the contract percentages are way out of line since inflation is about 4%. In private industry, if you don't like it, you are shown the door, and that is what a lot of teachers and town employees must learn.

There were no other questions on the Board of Education Budget and Mr. Gessert turned to Page 149, Cafeteria Fund. There were no questions on the Cafeteria Fund.

Mr. Gessert turned to the Department of Public Utilities Commission, Page 127, and there were no questions. He then turned to Page 139, Electric Division.

Mr. Krupp stated that a NET LOSS was shown slightly in excess of \$4,000,000 and indicated that this would not appear to be consistent with the State Statute which requires earnings of

between 5% and 6% and asked how the Electric Division reconciles this. Mr. Walters commented that what the Electric Division is attempting to do is to phase in the rate increase from CL&P in a way to make it as palatable as possible for customers--also in process is an attempt to get the State Law changed through the legislative process. 201

Mr. Krupp finds the reasons admirable but asked if the Electric Divisions agrees that it is not consistent with the State Statute and Mr. Walters stated that he was afraid that is correct.

Mr. Krupp turned to Page 181, Personnel Detail and Salary Calculations, Department of Public Utilities, Electric Division, and observed that most of the increases within the budget appear to be reasonable; however, he referred to Key Punch Operator who is receiving a 26.5% increase and immediately below a Key Punch Operator receiving a 18.2% increase and a Junior Account Clerk who is receiving a 36.8% increase and Mr. Krupp feels that these do not appear to be reasonable. Mr. Walters felt that Mr. Krupp is seeing a situation where vacancies existed at a time when the previous budget was put together where they were listed at a bare minimum. Mr. Krupp pointed out that the number was Actual Prior 1985-86 and not budgeted. Mr. Walters said that from what Mr. Lee tells him, Mr. Krupp is correct, because that is the actual amount expended, and it comes about because there was a vacancy for a period of time which meant that there was not able to be a report for the time. Mr. Krupp asked why one Key Punch Operator is being paid \$13,904 in Grade 9-1 and another \$16,904, a \$3,000 difference for the same labor grade and same position. Mr. Walters felt that this is a typographical error and the \$13,904 is correct. Mr. Krupp asked if the error appeared in the bottom line totals. Mr. Krupp added that if a member of the public can pick this up after a quick perusal of the budget, it would have seemed reasonable that either the Electric Division or the Public Utilities Commission, who is supposed to review this budget carefully, should have picked it up. Mr. Gessert thanked Mr. Krupp and felt this was a good point.

Mr. Gessert turned to Pages 139, 140, 141 and 142 and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jared McQueen, 29 High Hill Road questioned the Purchased Power going from \$23,481,250 in 1985-86 to \$32,780,000 on Page 140 with decreasing fuel prices and fuel adjustments passed along to the customer, it would seem that we are not dealing with reality. Mr. Gessert felt this is an excellent issue and that there are several different factors in work at the same time and he asked Mr. Ray Smith to review those.

Mr. Smith indicated that the price of purchased power is in fact going up when the wholesale rate takes effect. This budget was prepared in December, 1985 and January, 1986 when there was no idea of what the fuel adjustment would be and this is traditionally budgeted at -0- and that has always been a problem with preparing the budget. Some of the credit that you now see will roll back into the new wholesale rate. We are experiencing a significant fuel adjustment this very month. Mr. McQueen asked how much of a percentage increase in the amount of purchased power this fiscal year as opposed to last year to which Mr. Smith indicated 4%. Mr. McQueen felt that the fuel adjustment as it passes through reduces the income, reduces the expense in the purchased power fuel adjustments and pretty much passes through to the bottom line which is about the same as last year. Mr. Smith indicated that this is true.

Mr. George Soltesz asked how long the 10% surcharge tax will be in effect on the electric bills and also asked what CL&P is charging for power. Mr. Smith responded that the 10% surcharge will cover the anticipated increase until Millstone becomes commercial which will be scheduled for April 24, 1986. They will then have their accounting ruling from the PUC.

Mr. George Soltesz mentioned that he talked with John Marcheski and Mr. Marcheski said that the rates in Massachusetts are lower than Wallingford's because they are using coal and asked why Wallingford can't use coal. Mr. Smith felt it was not feasible to use coal right now and even though the coal would

make the energy costs less, there would be added labor costs, which sometimes gets to be 1¢ or 2¢ per kilowatt hour. Mr. Soltesz asked if any hydroelectric power was being obtained from New York and Mr. Smith indicated it was and Wallingford's rates are very favorable compared to CL&P and Mr. Soltesz realizes that. 202

Mr. Geno Zandri, 61 Colonial Hill wondered if there was ever a study done to determine if the town should continue with the Electric Division and Mr. Smith said a power study was just continued to study various options. Mr. Zandri asked if it paid for the taxpayers of Wallingford to have the Electric Division with the problems and would it be more beneficial to be sold. Mr. Smith's response to Zandri was inaudible. Mr. Nunn commented that the real value of the Electric Division of the Town of Wallingford is the ability to buy whole and resell at a retail rate that is lower than adjoining communities. There is an abatement of taxes by the turnover of funds from the Electric Division to the town, lower rate than the neighboring communities and the degree of service to troubled areas. Because there is a difference in control over the municipal electric division, that is control by the Federal Regulatory Commission in Washington, as compared to the control levied over the private electric companies by DPUC in Hartford. Time is needed to resolve the rate increase issue.

Mr. Gessert turned to Page 143 to 145, Water Division, and there were no questions from the public.

Mr. Gessert turned to Page 146, 147 and 148, Sewer Division.

Mr. Salvatore Falconieri, 281 Grieb Road asked about the Siphon Chamber on Page 148 for \$310,000 and said that the sewer line to which this pertained was put in during 1960 according to the weight limitations at that time and he asked why it had to be removed now after 26 years. Mayor Dickinson stated that the State of Connecticut has placed a limitation on the bridge due to that structure and Mr. Costello, the Town Engineer, would be better able to address this question. The State of Connecticut is inspecting all bridges for potential problems and they determined that because the sewer line is supported by the bridge structure, it is not appropriate. Mr. Costello pointed out that there is also a problem that it creates a flood hazard and Conservation Service has recommended that it be removed.

Mr. Falconieri stated that water was all over that road and it did not affect the integrity and if the State wants it removed, they should pay for it since they have a \$500,000,000 surplus and the Town of Wallingford is always getting the shaft. He felt that the Mayor should fight this since the Sewer Division can use the \$310,000 elsewhere. Mayor Dickinson pointed out that we are the ones who want the structure removed but the State feels it is not a sufficient strength to handle a vehicle over a heavy weight. Mr. Falconieri felt it should remain as it has for 26 years but Mayor Dickinson cannot allow it to sit there and cause a potential public safety problem as indicated by the State of Connecticut and hope that nothing happens. The Mayor thinks we have to act in a constructive order.

Mr. Falconieri asked if the town instigated the weight limit and Mr. Costello indicated that the state made the investigation and determined that because of the load on the stringers by the large utility line that the stringers were overstressed. Mr. Falconieri felt that the towns were always being forced to pick up the tab. Mr. Soltesz agreed with Mr. Falconieri and commented that 6 legislators recently asked what should be done with the state surplus and Sal's suggestion should be recommended.

There were no other questions and Mr. Gessert turned to Page 28, Town Council, and indicated that he would welcome any questions. Page 28, Town Council, total requested \$30,080; approved figure \$30,080. Mr. Killen mentioned that perhaps the 1985-86 Appropriation should be included when Mr. Gessert reads the figures. Mr. Gessert stated that the 1985-86 Appropriation was \$27,950 and \$30,080 was approved this year.

Page 29, School Handicapped Renovations, \$2,075 last year; \$2,300 for next year for the Building Committee. Page 30, Parker Farms Renovation Committee -0- for the previous year; \$2,300 for the coming year. 203

Page 31, Transit Authority, \$33,629 last year; \$33,629 next year.

Page 32, Board of Selectmen, \$750 last year and this year.

Page 33, Mayor's Office, \$140,951 last year; \$145,143 this year.
Page 34, Mayor's Conference \$4,050 last year; \$4,050 this year.

Page 35, Holidays & Celebrations, \$13,775 last year; \$11,775 next year.

Page 36, Town Attorney's Office, \$147,459 last year; \$152,497 this year.

Page 37, Audit Contract, \$29,900 last year; \$32,900 this year.

Page 38, Board of Tax Review, \$4,500 last year; \$4,500 this year.

Page 39, Comptroller, \$307,363 last year; \$320,434 this year.

Page 40, Tax Collector, \$156,413 last year; \$144,645 this year.

Page 41, Assessor, \$115,469 last year; \$150,438 this year.

Page 42, Treasurer, \$48,153 last year; \$48,415 this year.

Page 43, Purchasing, \$93,145 last year; \$93,046 this year.

Page 44, Central Services, \$82,814 last year; \$87,757 this year.

Page 45, Library, \$673,725 last year; \$784,903 for next year. Mr. George Soltesz, 7 Russell Street believes this is about a 15% increase and he cannot understand this because this is a new building and Mr. Gessert asked Karen Roessler from the Library to address this question. Ms. Roessler stated that the Library has requested, for the fourth year now, an additional librarian, along with a request for more video equipment since this service provided is appreciated by the public. Mr. Soltesz asked how many personnel the Library employed and Ms. Roessler stated 15 full time and Mr. Soltesz indicated that while an additional person may be needed, we must watch the dollars.

Page 46, Work Study Program, \$6,518 last year; \$7,898 this year.

Page 47, Board of Ethics, \$200 last year; \$200 this year.

Page 48, Personnel and Labor Relations \$108,668 last year; \$107,139 this year. Mr. Krupp referred to line item 570 -0- expended in fiscal year; \$215 year to date and an appropriation this year of \$5,000 and in light of past experience, it appears that \$5,000 is somewhat of an excessive amount. Mr. Seadale indicated that this is the first year of the program and there has been some money expended since then but people have not flocked to it but he is hoping people will take advantage of it because, in the long run, the town will benefit. Mr. Krupp then asked if the Town of Wallingford still has a Board of Ethics and Mr. Gessert replied, "to the best of his knowledge."

Page 49, Personnel Pension & Appeals Board, \$250 last year; \$250 this year.

Page 50, Public Safety, \$10,162 last year; \$15,062 this year.

Page 51, Police Administration, \$208,285 last year; \$199,978 this year.

Page 52, Police-Accident Investigation, \$122,236 last year; \$158,822 this year.

Page 53, Police-Crime Prevention, \$31,471 last year; \$39,970 this coming year.

Page 54, Police-Detective & Narcotics, \$315,204 last year; \$337,809 for the coming year.

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Page 55, Police Patrol, \$1,562,674 last year; \$1,662,558 for the coming year.

Page 57, Police-Records Division, \$71,883 last year; \$80,446 for the coming year.

Page 58, Police-Traffic Maintenance, \$144,466 last year; \$111,449 for the coming year.

Page 59, Police-Youth Services, \$56,576 last year; \$65,956 in the current budget.

Page 60, Dog Pound, \$53,962 last year, \$65,880 coming year.

Page 61, Ambulance, \$65,494 last year; \$40,705 coming year.

Page 62, Fire-Regular, \$1,785,323 last year; \$1,789,670 for the coming year.

Page 64, Fire Surgeon, \$14,410 last year; \$40,454 proposed.

Page 65, Fire-Emergency Center, \$34,524 last year; \$23,194 approved for next year.

Page 66, Fire Marshal, \$82,373 last year; \$84,020 approved for this year.

Page 67, Fire-East Wallingford, \$52,432 last year; \$99,505 for the coming year. Mr. Krupp stated that one could hardly argue the salary figures for the services rendered. He felt that this may be the year to replace some of the outmoded equipment that the Volunteer Fire Departments are forced to work with. Mr. Gessert felt that significant progress has been made in updating equipment over the past several years and plan to continue.

Page 48, Fire-North Farms, \$45,775 last year; \$38,698 this year.

Page 69, Fire-Cook Hill, \$21,089 last year; \$27,168 this year.

Page 70, Fire-Yalesville, \$31,281 last year; \$89,654 this year--the major increase is in capital expenditures.

Page 71, Jury Committee, \$625 last year; \$625 for the coming year.

Page 72, Building Inspection, \$117,211 last year; \$117,243 for the new year.

Page 73, Sealer of Weights & Measures, \$800 last year; \$800 for the new year.

Page 74, Civil Defense, \$16,088 last year; \$20,885 coming year.

Page 75, Health Department, \$57,150 last year; \$58,870 new year.

Page 76, Visiting Nurses Association, Contributions \$173,540 last year; \$182,234 for the new year. Ms. Ellen Mandes, 13 Old Lane, questions the VNA budget every and wanted to know what this money is spent on. Ms. Muriel Lemay responded to Ms. Mandes but her response was not picked up by the microphone. This portion of her response was heard, VNA follows infants until they are school age, potential child abuse, etc. The town gets quarterly reports of the services provided.

Page 77, Welfare, \$244,506 last year; \$281,227 this year. Mr. Krupp asked about \$140,000 for General Necessities and felt that the increase from last year was disproportionate. Mr. Francis Francesconi stated that this figure includes food, shelter, personal and household supplies, etc. Last year, \$20,000 was dropped from that account, making it appear to be a greater increase.

Mr. Ernest Cipolli, 33 West Ridgeland Road, asked about Page 64, going from \$14,410 in 1985-86 to \$40,454 in 1986-87 and Mr. Gessert indicated that the biggest increase in that account is in Line 576, \$22,620 for physical exams. Chief McElfish stated this cost is for a complete physical including back x-rays,

etc. for all the career personnel and it is an OSHA requirement for healthy, fit people. An employee is not required to use his own insurance for such an exam since they, the employee has to pay 80% of costs over the \$100 deductible. Mr. Gesert also stated that the union contract prohibits forcing an employee to pay for this physical. 205

Page 78, Social Services Contributions, \$151,198 last year; \$188,401 this year. Ms. Shirley Fritz, 7 Surrey Drive commented that the Wallingford Association for the Retarded does in fact provide transportation for retarded people and for the handicapped to sheltered workshops. (The balance of Ms. Fritz's comments were inaudible.)

Page 79, Veterans Center, \$51,334 last year; this year \$52,546.

Page 80, Recreation, last year \$237,557; this year \$245,167.

Mr. Krupp referred to Page 81, line 670, it was specifically requested at the last budget hearing that the figure be split into two separate accounts and it is not reflected in this year's budget. Mr. Myers stated that this is the way it was requested by the Recreation Department. Mr. Krupp said it was split in line 670 and line 678 but the name was not changed in line 670.

Page 82, Community Pool, last year \$57,945; this year \$54,909.

Page 83, Sheehan Pool, last year \$19,137; this year \$15,346.

Page 84, Engineering, last year \$230,070; this year \$245,161.

Page 85, Engineering-General Improvements, last year \$72,000; this year \$82,000.

Page 86, Public Works-Administration, last year \$112,848; this year \$117,437.

Page 87, Public Works-General Highway, last year \$1,141,635; this year \$1,033,152.

Page 88, Public Works-Parks, last year \$68,522; this year \$95,800.

Page 89, Public Works-Snow, Ice Control & Sand Pickup, last year \$446,674; this year \$367,000. Mr. Krupp asked how many plow trucks the Public Works Department has and Mr. Deak replied that there are twenty, with two new requested last year and this year. Mr. Krupp asked if ten years is a reasonable life for the trucks and Mr. Deak said it would depend. Mr. Krupp then asked if Mr. Deak had sufficient manpower in the garage for maintenance and Mr. Deak indicated there was. Mr. Krupp asked if Mr. Deak could afford to cut back one mechanic and Mr. Deak replied yes.

Page 90, Public Works-Central Garage, last year \$319,041; this year \$315,575.

Page 91, Public Works-Landfill, last year \$170,805; this year \$169,096. Mr. Krupp asked if the Landfill either now belongs or will belong to CRRA. Mayor Dickinson stated that it doesn't at this point but it will be in about a year and one half when construction starts.

Page 92, Public Works-Tree Planting, last year \$33,825; this year \$30,000.

Page 93, Public Works-Street Lighting, last year \$320,000; this year \$400,000.

Page 94, Public Works-Municipal Building-Center Street, last year \$66,583; this year \$71,302.

Page 95, Public Works-Municipal Building-North Main Street, last year \$19,718; this year \$21,101.

Page 96, Public Works-Municipal Building-Railroad Station, last year \$25,053; this year \$19,317.

Page 97, Public Works-Municipal Building-Other, last year \$10,376; this year \$8,439. 206

Page 98, Public Works-Municipal Building-Washington Street School, last year \$7,200; this year \$8,400.

Page 99, Public Works-Municipal Building-Simpson School, last year \$64,116; this year \$75,942.

Page 100, Public Works-Municipal Building-Washington Street-Senior Center, last year \$21,800; this year \$22,300.

Page 101, Public Works-traffic Control & Sign Shop, last year \$2,500; this year \$2,500.

Page 102, Public Works-Municipal Building-240 Washington Street, Civil Defense, last year \$2,400; this year \$2,400.

Page 103, Public Works-Municipal Building-50 Main Street, Robert H. Earley School, last year \$28,400; this year \$31,800.

Page 104, Public Works-Municipal Building-Parker Farms School, last year \$2,200; this year \$2,400. Mr. Krupp asked if, with the current vacant space in the Town Hall, any other operations such as those at 370 Center Street, 240 Washington Street, etc. would be moved into the main Town Hall and if so, why wouldn't the savings be reflected in this budget from vacating those buildings? Mayor Dickinson said there is a plan to move Civil Defense into 350 Center Street if anyone is moved from Simpson School--regarding the other space opened up, offices were moved around and a conference room created. Mr. Krupp asked if any cost savings were created and the Mayor stated that, ideally, everyone should move to Robert Earley. The Health Department was located with Building, with no privacy and virtually no file space and a common telephone. It was necessary to provide them with their own office at 350 Center Street. The Mayor felt that creating a conference room enables accommodation of the needs of many civic groups. In addition, the Purchasing Department's inventory is in the Town Hall instead of at Simpson School.

Page 105, Elections, \$57,670 last year; \$61,189 this year.

Page 106, Elections-Primary, \$8,924 last year; -0- this year.

Page 107, Town Clerk, \$102,976 last year; \$113,771 this year.

Page 108, Planning & Zoning, \$63,633 last year; \$81,386 this year.

Page 109, Zoning Board of Appeals, \$8,115 last year; \$9,175 this year.

Page 110, Development Commission, \$16,015 last year; \$8,050 this year.

Page 111, Conservation Commission, \$2,600 last year; \$2,600 this year.

Page 112, Conservation Commission-Woodcutting Program, \$3,375 last year; \$3,375 this year.

Page 113, Town Transportation Allowance, \$8,365 last year; \$9,745 current year.

Page 114, Car Pool Expense, \$8,100 last year; \$7,900 current year.

Page 115, Town Conventions & Dues, \$13,125 last year; \$13,208 coming year.

Page 117, Debt Service, \$2,958,340 last year; \$3,262,971 for the coming year.

Page 118 through Page 121 provides details of the Debt and Interest Schedule. Mr. Krupp referred to Page 120 (Sheehan High School funded by Capital and Non-Recurring Budget)--an ordinance creating the Capital and Non-Recurring Fund specifically prohibited the use of monies from that fund for the retirement of school building issues. Mr. Krupp would ask the Council to either find a different way of funding it or changing the ordinance, one way or the other. 207

Page 122, Pension Funds, last year \$1,835,000; coming year \$2,005,000.

Page 123, Insurance, last year \$988,662; new figure \$1,235,000. Mr. Krupp asked when the Council expects its report from the consultant it hired? Mayor Dickinson indicated that he expects a report probably no earlier than the middle of May, more likely in June and he does not expect to see any savings in the figure, principally because there are not many companies writing municipal insurance. The Mayor further stated that the real value of a consultant is to provide us with specifications for the purpose that we own them which we do not at this time. Mr. Krupp commented that he was under the impression that the consultant might save the town some money.

Page 124, Insurance-Employees, \$727,000 last year; \$882,000 for the coming year. The major increase here is in Blue Cross.

Page 125, Contingency Accounts, \$528,014 last year; \$1,006,337 for the new year. Mr. Krupp asked if the Contingency Reserve-General Government--was that the amount originally approved last year or is it the net remaining after transfers. Why is there an increase in that account equivalent to one-half mill? Mr. Myers stated that \$492,263 is the amount remaining and he estimated that not more than \$10,000 has been transferred out. Mr. Krupp asked why \$917,392 was necessary this year and Mr. Myers stated that there is some confidentiality about that account because the item in there has a double cost factor in 1986-87. Mr. Krupp felt it was a tremendous increase and it is one-half mill of the total increase being proposed of 1.8 mills.

Page 126, Probate Court, \$1,890 last year; \$1,890 this year.

Page 128, Center Street Cemetary, \$10,000 last year; \$10,000 this year.

Page 129, Capital & Non-Recurring, \$1,834,969 last year; \$1,690,000 this year.

Page 130, Police Station-Capital Project, \$41,298 last year; -0- appropriated this year.

Mr. Krupp commented that the Electric division is planning a \$4,000,000 loss for the coming year and the town earns 55% of their net income, how logically are you planning an \$880,000 intake from the Electric Division? Mr. Myers stated that because the Electric Division is an enterprise fund, that fund will contribute \$880,000 from Retained Earnings in check form in lieu of 55% of net income.

Mr. Krupp asked if the ordinance has been changed to reflect this and Mr. Myers stated that the 55% is from net income and if there is no net income, he does not believe an ordinance amendment is necessary, if the contribution from Retained Earnings is approved in the form of a line item in the Electric Division. Mr. Myers was concerned because the Town of Wallingford has existing bonds pledged against the income of the Electric Division. Mr. Krupp felt that in view of the fact that rules were amended by taking money into this account, in addition to the fact that an ordinance is being violated by funding the west side high school, it may finally be time to take Mr. Killen's suggestion and take a very close look at that ordinance as far as amending it.

Page 131, Center Park Special Fund, -0- last year; -0- currently.

Page 1, General Fund, Estimated Revenue Budget, line 1, Estimated Cash Balance \$2,141,933 last year; next year \$1,335,921. Taxes \$28,136,925 last year; \$31,990,137 this year. License & Permits \$718,800 last year; this year \$816,680. Use of Money or Property \$795,450 last year; \$795,650 this year. State Grant School Aid \$6,851,940 last year; \$6,975,105 this year. State Grant Aid Other \$311,325 last year; \$387,734. Federal Grants in Aid \$404,851 last year; \$470,067 this year. Recoveries Other Towns \$29,000 last year; \$31,000 this year. Current Services \$630,034 last year; \$581,034 this year. Proportionate Charges \$214,542 last year; \$229,227 this year. Other Revenue \$38,460 last year; \$33,510 this year. Non Operating Revenue \$185,800 last year; \$210,800 this year.

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Mr. Krupp indicated that Licenses and Permits realized an intake of \$852,057 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1985. Year-to-date 1986, against a budget of \$718,800, we've already realized \$785,595 through eight months. If we are budgeting less in 1986-87 than we realized in 1984-85, Mr. Krupp would like to ask why. Mr. Gessert stated that one of the largest permits issued by the town was to Bristol-Myers. Mr. Myers indicated that was correct. Mr. Krupp felt that backing Bristol-Myers out for \$200,000, it would still appear that the 1986-87 figure is conservative. Mr. Gessert felt it is better to be conservative when it comes to revenue and Mr. Krupp commented that if one is conservative, one realizes \$1,000,000 surplus.

Mr. Gessert moved to page 10, 11, 12, 21 with a bottom line of \$2,223,626 last year; \$1,906,125 for the coming year. Page 26, Federal Revenue Sharing, \$573,000 approved 1985-86; \$655,957 approved for the coming year. On page 26 is a breakdown of how those funds will be expended with Public Safety a top priority, \$404,851 last year; \$470,067 this year, Youth Service Bureau \$54,745 last year; \$59,453 this year, Total Food Programs, \$25,000 last year; \$31,000 this year, Program Planning, \$48,144 last year; \$52,493 for the coming year; Total Program Planner \$59,159 last year; \$64,393 this year on Page 27A.

Mr. Gessert asked if there were any other questions and there were none from the audience.

Mr. Gessert thanked the public for their participation and mentioned that the Council will be holding their budget workshops with department heads in Council Chambers and the public is welcome to attend but discussion is limited to Town Council Members and Department Heads.

A motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Meeting recorded by:
Lisa M. Bousquet
Town Council Secretary

Meeting transcribed by:
Delores B. Fetta

Chairman Gessert called the first budget workshop to order at 7:05 p.m. on April 17, 1986 and commented that Mr. Myers would like to review some items with the Council before the workshop begins. In attendance were Council Members Bergamini, Gessert, Gouveia, Holmes, Killen, Papale, Polanski and Rys. Councilman Diana is on vacation. 209

Mr. Myers presented the Council with a report which shows by line item the original budget, any additional appropriations that changed the original budget (an increase to the original budget) and transfers from and transfers to which is important in this report. Please also note that this report is dated as of April 11, 1986, up to date. If the Council, during the workshops, feels the necessity, for a more up to date printout on larger departments such as Board of Education, Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, please let Mr. Myers' office know and he can provide this as close as one or two days before the meeting of that particular department. The value of this document is that it will show the Council where the funds have been transferred in and out of the accounts. Mr. Myers also presented the Council with another document, detail for the contingency accounts and what comprises these contingency accounts, with a cover letter included. Mr. Myers advised the Council that they could call him during the day if any additional information is requested throughout the budget process and he will provide this information.

TRANSIT AUTHORITY, page 31

Mr. Gessert introduced Mr. Roger DeBaise and told him that the Council Secretary would direct a letter to both the Democratic Town Committee Chairman and the Republican Town Committee Chairperson informing them of the two vacancies existing on the Transit Authority and requesting names of candidates.

Mr. DeBaise indicated that the Transit Authority budget has been about the same for the last three or four years and asked the Council to look at page 16 of the budget book which shows a State Grant-in-Aid, Public Act 73-608 and there are no local funds involved. Mr. DeBaise mentioned that a few years ago, all the glass in the bus shelters was replaced and a year or two before that, all seats in two of the buses were replaced. There have been advertising campaigns and over the years, various things have been done by the Transit Authority. This year, there are no extras in the budget and this is a basic, bare bones budget which includes telephone, radio equipment, office salary, supplies, etc. Mr. Gessert mentioned that in his thirteen years on the Council, he cannot remember two complaints about the bus service in Wallingford and he believes that the people who use this service enjoy it and it's a good service and you can't beat the price.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of Transit Authority, page 31, seconded by Mr. Rys. Mr. Killen thanked Mr. DeBaise for a job well done.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN, page 32

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of Board of Selectmen, page 32, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS, page 35

Mr. Killen asked what the \$2,000 contribution to Christmas Lights entailed and Mr. Myers said this \$2,000 goes to AWARD, for the window lights. Mr. Killen suggestion coming back to this page until information is received about whether or not the lights have been purchased, etc.

Mr. Gessert said that AUDIT CONTRACT will be held until the end of the budget process.

Mr. Killen asked if line 601, Commission Expenses, is accounted for and Mr. Myers stated it is a flat allowance. Mr. Rys asked about line 571, Assessor's School, and Mr. Myers said it was run in the spring, at UConn and usually one or two members of the Board of Tax Review attend for continuing education to pick up changes in assessment of property and tax laws. Mr. Killen noted that only \$334 was spent as of 1/31/86 and Mr. Rys felt that he would like questions answered by the Board of Tax Review and will wait until they are present.

TAX COLLECTOR, page 40

Mr. Rys questioned line item 891, Refund of Overpayments, and Mr. Myers stated that this item slipped by him and he should not have asked Mr. Norman Rosow to put this line in the budget since this involved the refund to Mohawk Aluminum, a double payment on their taxes this fiscal year. This cannot be foreseen and it is handled through a budget amendment process. Mr. Killen asked if line 890, Tax Refunds, was budgeted in the beginning and Mr. Myers indicated it was not--by State Statute, the town is required to withhold the money for six years so it does clear out through bookkeeping at the end of the year. Mr. Killen asked how \$12,309 was arrived at and Mr. Myers indicated it was a sheer guess. Mr. Rosow stated that it is not known who will claim a refund. Mr. Killen asked if anything was shown on the appropriation side to offset the \$12,309 and Mr. Gessert said we do--the taxpayer--but it is not broken down into overpayments. Mr. Killen felt that the budget can be amended at any particular date when someone comes in for a tax refund and Mr. Myers mentioned that in many cases, the refund goes back over several years and it is not in current revenue. Mr. Killen felt that this does affect the bottom line and he questions even putting this item in the budget since he feels it's much easier to amend the budget for this.

Mr. Polanski also feels that Refund of Overpayments should not be in the budget since this is handled on an object by object basis during the year. Mr. Myers explained that if an amount is overpaid and claimed in the same fiscal year, the money is in the current budget but if it was overpaid last year, how can the money be taken from the current budget. Mr. Myers felt that some figure should be in the budget because not all refunds occur from current overpayments--some occur from prior overpayments. Mr. Rosow mentioned that the actual 1984-85 is \$7,388 and actual to 1-31-86 is \$10,835 and these numbers are historic recent history and \$12,309 isn't too far off the mark. Mrs. Papale asked if most of the budget is an estimate and Mr. Myers indicated it was. Mr. Killen asked how much was received in of the \$7,388 and \$10,835 to offset and if a lesser figure was put in, would it have been far out of the way? Mr. Myers felt that this was the key question.

Mr. Killen moved to reduce line 890, Tax Refunds, to \$5,000, seconded by Mr. Polanski.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mrs. Bergamini, Mrs. Papale and Mr. Rys who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Gessert asked if line 900, Data Processing, was paid at the end of the year and Mr. Rosow said he received a bill and paid it last month.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of page 40, Tax Collector, as amended, seconded by Mr. Polanski.

Mr. Myers stated that under the State Statute, when overpayments are reserved, they wash out through bookkeeping when the books are closed at the end of the year and that figure is reflected in Account 904 on page 19 in Revenue since this is required to be reserved for a six year period. The first line will show what was being carried for six years which fell out under the statutory limitation.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

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Page 152, TAX COLLECTOR - 142

Mr. Gessert mentioned that the Delinquent Tax Collector title makes it sound like he does not perform his job and he would like to see some move to upgrade that job or reevaluate it and make it Deputy Tax Collector or Assistant Tax Collector to empower this person to act on the Tax Collector's behalf when he is away. Mr. Rosow stated that there are no checks that must be signed and his job is to collect the money and that is clear. Mr. Rosow cannot envision a situation, other than in a city such as Hartford, Bridgeport, New Haven where a Deputy Tax Collector was necessary. The Delinquent Tax Collector has the authority to sign tax warrants since he is deputized and he is able to release a lien and Mr. Rosow does not know how you can enhance that position to a Deputy when there is no need. Mr. Gessert felt that the position should be reviewed and Mr. Myers believes there is a review set with Mr. Seadale.

Mr. Polanski observed that the Police Department and Public Works Department have one Chief Clerk and the Tax Collector's Office has three Senior Clerks and no Chief Clerk and he wondered if it would be advantageous to have one Chief Clerk. Mr. Rosow has no objection to that suggestion and Mr. Gessert felt that Mr. Seadale could evaluate this. Mr. Gessert referred to Clerk Typist II and Mr. Rosow stated that a new person will be hired. Mrs. Bergamini wanted the salaries of the Senior Clerks kept in mind when considering a Chief Clerk position.

Mr. Killen noted that there was no request for overtime but there was an approval and Mr. Myers stated that this item was missed at his stage and then put in because during the heavy collection periods, it is a real asset to have staff present an additional hour in the morning and afternoon. Mr. Myers told the Council that Mr. Rosow began work on December 2, 1985 and the Tax Collector's Office is right up to stuff, right on target, and Mr. Myers receives his information quickly, as fast as he ever received it with the former Tax Collector and it is accurate when balanced every month and Mr. Myers is very, very pleased and extremely satisfied and happy to have Mr. Rosow on his staff. The transition has been very smooth and better than Mr. Myers could have ever envisioned.

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of Tax Collector - 142 on pages 152 and 153, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 134, Capital Requests, Tax Collector - 142

Mr. Rosow told the Council that the Data Terminal Systems Series 500 requested for \$4,160 does not have a screen and this item is a description of a cash register, exactly the cash register in his office now and will be the third one in his office.

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of Capital Requests, Tax Collector - 142 on page 134, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 42, TREASURER

Mrs. Collins informed the Council that she plans to retire and indicated that her budget will be subject to some revision during the year. Mrs. Bergamini asked when Mrs. Collins plans to retire and she indicated that as soon as there can be some distribution of the responsibilities of her office. Mrs. Collins has spoken with Mr. Seadale and he requested a determination from her of where the responsibilities of the Treasurer's Office should lie before she terminates. Mrs. Collins feels that due to all the responsibilities given her, such as the insurance matters, that nothing is getting the full responsibility that it should.

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Mrs. Papale asked if this job would be advertised as more than just Treasurer and Mrs. Collins felt that two-thirds of her responsibilities really belong in the Personnel Department.

Mr. Rys moved acceptance of page 42, Treasurer, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 153, Treasurer - 144

Mrs. Collins has talked with Don Roe who has money in his budget for this year and next and he can provide the summer help so the \$1,062 can be deleted. Mr. Roe can provide a college student who is a junior in accounting.

Mr. Killen moved to delete Summer Help (New) for \$1,062 on page 153, Treasurer - 144, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mrs. Collins indicated that the summer help is predicated on Mr. Myers' desire to have another actuarial update this year.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of Treasurer - 144 on page 153, as amended, seconded by Mr. Killen.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Myers pointed out that he has \$1,890 under Contingency for the Treasurer's Office and the Contingency Account should be adjusted when the workshop is held on this account.

Page 50 - Safety

Mrs. Collins noted that the Mayor cut Line 900 Professional Services- Insurance from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and felt that the \$5,000 should be wiped out since her idea was to get possibly a retired insurance executive to come in and act as a Risk Manager for the Town of Wallingford and she felt that \$5,000 will not allow that. Mrs. Collins felt that it is absolutely important to get someone in as a Risk Manager and a full-time person will cost \$35,000 to \$40,000 and Wallingford's size does not require a full-time Risk Manager. The feeling from people in the know was that \$10,000 would be adequate and you cannot expect inexperienced people to handle insurance and if you are not going to allocate \$10,000, don't give it any. Mrs. Bergamini asked, if the \$10,000 were restored, would Mrs. Collins be here to procure a part-time Risk Manager and Mrs. Collins indicated she certainly would. Mr. Holmes asked what the chances were of obtaining someone and Mrs. Collins feels they are excellent but she does not have anyone in mind. Mr. Myers feels the Council should consider cross billing this figure to Water, Sewer and Electric enterprise funds since they are part of the overall insurance package.

Mrs. Collins pointed out that she also handles all of the utilities' workers' compensation and she spends a great deal of time on this. Mr. Myers felt that this is a good point and should be cross billed since a definite service is involved.

Mr. Holmes asked who would make the determination of where the responsibilities of this department lies and Mrs. Collins said she will draw up something and it will be up to Mr. Seadale. Mr. Holmes asked if personnel is available to handle any divested responsibilities of the Treasurer's Office and Mr. Killen pointed out that things have been given to Charlotte which can be handled by other departments which are fully staffed. Mr. Gessert felt that a full review with the Mayor, Personnel Director with Mrs. Collins input can properly allocate duties where they rightfully belong. Mr. Myers pointed out that the Fire Department has a minicomputer and Charlotte performs the ambulance billing without a computer. Mrs. Collins said that her Clerk Typist spends about 75% of her time preparing ambulance bills.

Mrs. Bergamini moved to restore \$10,000 to line 900 Professional Services - Insurance, Safety, page 50, seconded by Mr. Killen.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

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Mr. Killen asked if \$1,500 was necessary in line 570, Training, and Mrs. Collins mentioned that many of the expenses in that line come in late.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of page 50, Safety, as amended, seconded by Mrs. Rys.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 154, Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, Safety - 162

Mrs. Papale mentioned that Mrs. Collins has one part-time clerk at 19 hours a week and another at 35 hours and asked if this is the reason Mrs. Collins has so much work. Mrs. Collins said that she has a full time clerk who is given over to typing ambulance bills--that's it. Mrs. Collins pointed out that the 19 hour clerk puts workmens' comp figures on the only computer to which her department has access, a Radio Shack computer that has more down time than up time. Mrs. Collins has talked with Mr. Seadale and Mr. Myers and it may be possible for her office to use an IBM PC Computer. Mr. Hamel will put the necessary programs on the IBM PC since the current computer loses data and is counterproductive. It is necessary to have quarterly reports on workers' comp for all departments.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of Safety - 162 Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, page 154, seconded by Mr. Killen.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Collins indicated that she has other budgets to be presented, such as Insurance on page 123.

Mr. Gessert asked about vehicle coverage and Mrs. Collins said that The Hartford is a little different from Aetna who would put endorsements on immediately for deletions or additions. The Hartford, unfortunately, waits until the end of the year. A great number of new vehicles have been added and some collision removed on others and Mrs. Collins does not know what the end result will be. She has an appointment to meet with Dave Ferguson the end of this month. Mr. Gessert mentioned that Mr. McGuire was going to get back to the Council on the equipment policy and Mrs. Collins indicated he has been working on this and all the schedules are being revised.

On page 123, Mrs. Collins' items are 825, 826, 827, 835, 836, 840 and 841.

Mr. Rys moved to line 840, Hypertension-Police and Mrs. Collins indicated that she overestimated that last year--it had historically been an increase of about 10.5%. Every October, there is the possibility of an increase that is set by the State Workers' Compensation Commission and it did not work out to that this year but Mrs. Collins feels that she will need it next year. Mrs. Collins believes there will be an overage in that account which she will need to transfer to account 841 because there is a widow who will be receiving benefits under the Hypertension-Fire who has already been paid \$3,000. Mr. Rys asked what kind of percentage will be needed over \$60,000 and Mrs. Collins felt that 7.5%.

Mr. Holmes asked what is covered under the Education Insurance and Mrs. Collins said it is everything on the schedule she passed out--their auto, general liability, property, umbrella contract. Mr. Holmes asked if this could be rolled into the Education Budget in the future. Mrs. Collins believed that this is historical and the town pays the bills to be sure they will be paid. Mr. Holmes felt that this doesn't truly reflect the Education Budget. Mr. Killen asked why, in the interest of pure bookkeeping, it hasn't been transferred back to the Board of Education and brought before the Council at budget time and budgeted. Mrs. Collins thought that this is up to the Comptroller's Office. Mrs. Bergamini asked that question in the past and it was felt that since the Council did not have line item control, this item would not be sent back to the Board of Education. Years ago,

money was earmarked for insurance and money was overspent in another area and the insurance was not paid and something was uninsured and the Mayor at that time took it away from them and put it in the town budget. Mr. Killen felt that this was not the way to cure somebody of sloppy work habits and he felt that it should appear under the Board of Education in the next year's budget and be administered by them. Mr. Gessert felt it was easy to say, "do it next year" but perhaps this \$235,000 should be transferred out of this account and back to the Board of Education at this time.

Mrs. Collins pointed out the experience when the Board of Education bid their health insurance themselves which got them in a kind of a bind. If this money is given to the Board of Education, they can bid their insurance themselves to which Mrs. Collins has no objection but they also have to handle all the claims and do all the processing which is not as easy as it sounds. Mrs. Collins would like to see them have the responsibility of paying the bills but not the responsibility of deciding how much insurance they want and what they want to insure--there are two sides of the coin here. Mr. Killen is aware of that but feels that we could end up with someone who cannot do the job either and take a chance of losing either way and that is why this matter is being questioned by the Council. Mrs. Collins felt that in insurance, when you get your feet wet, you learn.

Mr. Gessert referred to Town Insurance which showed \$211,265 a couple of years ago; \$510,800 for 1985-86 and the \$675,000 now. Mrs. Collins said that this figure is her best guesstimate, based on what she has heard from the industry. Mrs. Collins pointed out that Parker Farms School insurance is \$33,000, for an empty building, and these are decisions that must come back to the Town Council or a good Risk Manager will make a decision--do we self insure up to \$50,000? This year, our experience has been great--we are spending \$500,000 and our claims have probably been \$20,000 so where is the logic? How much self insurance do you carry--you have a good year and you have a bad year. Mr. Gessert felt that with buildings, these types of decisions have to be made, as opposed to automobile liability, and he was under the impression that the consultant being paid will come back with some recommendations. Mrs. Collins has a meeting on April 25, 1986 when she will be presented with specifications--the only thing is that you must face the fact that there is one insurer out there and that is The Hartford and we must go with The Hartford regardless of what else is done this year. The Hartford has been very receptive and has been setting up a code system. Mrs. Collins feels that the town is lucky to be insured and hopes that the estimates given for 1987 are high.

Mr. Killen asked what the figures on the document presented represent and Mrs. Collins indicated what was paid in 1985, what was paid in 1986 and in 1987, the automobile about 23%. Mrs. Collins total is \$648,682 but she put in \$675,000 and you have to realize the bottom line, prior year audit, federal liability--this year we had to pay \$6,223 on the prior year to Aetna, based on payroll and payroll never goes down. That figure is not in here and Mrs. Collins hopes for more than \$1,000,000 umbrella and a cushion has been provided in this figure. There are areas where we can economize with bigger deductibles, removing insurance on pump stations. Mr. Gessert felt that if insurance can be obtained below these rates, there may be some funds available for a Risk Manager. Mrs. Collins suggested that we may go into higher deductibles since the current \$20,000 will not get very far. Mrs. Collins thinks there are things the Council should consider--do you want to insure Parker Farms School? Mr. Killen asked what is being covered with the \$33,000 and Mrs. Collins indicated it is fire damage to the facility.

Mrs. Collins felt that as soon as the Building Committee becomes active for the Parker Farms School facility and an architect is selected and a building hired, that insurance will go off. If you don't want to insure it until that and consider it a fait accompli. . .

Mr. Killen asked what was going to be done with line 826 - Education Insurance and Mrs. Collins recommended sticking with it another year. Mr. Killen asked what will be gain during this

year and Mrs. Collins felt that you gain the security of knowing the insurance is in place and you will know it will be paid. Mrs. Collins pointed out that the town also pays other things for the Board--22% for pensions. Mr. Myers pointed out that all the details are provided on page 133. Mr. Killen is aware of that but questions why they are here in the first place because of bookkeeping procedures. Mr. Holmes felt that the Council should sit down with the administration and discuss this matter with them if the Council really wants to get this out of the town budget and into their budget. Mrs. Collins pointed out that when this was suggested last year, the Board did receive quotes which Mrs. Collins did not feel was in the best interest of the Town since the town still owns the buildings. Mr. Rys things that the motion was made last year and it did pass -- and he brought it up a couple of nights later and it was restored to the Town's budget because the Council Liaison Committee had not discussed this matter with the Board of Education. Mr. Gessert felt that this matter should be discussed with the Board of Education when their budget is presented. 215

Mr. Rys moved to cut line 840 - Hypertension - Police by \$5,000, seconded by Mr. Gouveia.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mrs. Bergamini who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Collins mentioned that she included \$130,000 for Workers' Compensation--probably based on the expenditures so far this year, she feels she will have to come back for more money even though it looks like not very much has been spent so far because expenses are over \$100,000 right now and one man is in Yale New Haven, another in Meriden-Wallingford and these entail a weekly comp bill and medical expenses.

Mr. Holmes asked if line 825 were reduced to \$665,000, would it have a detrimental effect and Mrs. Collins indicated that the Council's guess is as good as hers. Mr. Polanski asked if the total of \$1,235,000 were left intact, could the amount be moved to various accounts and Mrs. Collins indicated that the Town Insurance is one item--if the umbrella is more and the general liability is less, that can be interchanged, but not between Workmens' Compensation and others. Mr. Gessert pointed out that the Council can make a transfer from one account to another during the fiscal year.

Mr. Holmes moved to cut line 825 - Town Insurance - Page 123, by \$5,000, seconded by Mr. Killen.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Bergamini, Papale and Polanski who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Papale moved acceptance of page 123, lines 825, 826, 827, 835, 836, 840 and 841, as amended, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

ASSESSOR - Page 41

Mr. Killen pointed out that of the \$17,775 appropriated for 1985-86, only \$5,705 was expended at 1/31/86 and Mr. Gessert said that \$8,000 for Data Processing should be added to that since the Assessor just received his bill last month for that particular item.

Mr. Gessert referred to line 901 Professional Services - Personal Property Audit - which is a new account and asked Mr. Barta to tell the Council about that account. Mr. Barta indicated that he intends to hire an accounting firm involved in auditing personal property assessments which is a self-assessment and he does not have the staff, manpower or the knowledge or expertise to physically audit a plant such as American Cyanamid, etc. Approximately 50 towns of the 169

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in Connecticut have conducted these audits and it was found that people have actually underestimated what is on hand. Mrs. Bergamini asked if this \$30,000 expenditure would be a one time charge or if it would be an ongoing process and Mr. Barta plans to have it on an ongoing basis but the \$30,000 figure would approximately audit 150 of the existing 1,800 personal property accounts. Little difference is made on the size of the accounts because they are basically picked at random, with a little bit of knowledge. Mr. Polanski asked about the outcome of such an audit and Mr. Barta explained that some people actually do report what they do have on hand and in some cases, overreported by declaring motor vehicles under personal property and this would involve a reduction. All in all, according to Mr. Barta, of the 40 towns which have audited so far by this one particular firm, there was about \$2,000,000 added. Mr. Gessert asked if the town would at least break even on the \$30,000 expenditure and Mr. Barta felt that about \$900,000 would have to be picked up in assessed value to break even and Mr. Barta's contention is that you will add anywhere from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

Mr. Killen asked at what point the assessment is picked up-- if you show they have \$500,000 of personal property and your man determines they have \$1,000,000--do you make them prove at what point this has been acquired. Mr. Barta stated it would be effective when the audit is complete and he would adjust, by correction, their assessed record in the next bill that comes out which, more than likely, will be next July 1.

Mr. Barta stated that they can take him to court if they are not satisfied or they can appeal to the Board of Tax Review. Mr. Killen asked if you can go back 5 or 10 years if it is obvious that the material has been there and Mr. Barta stated that by law, you cannot go back. For the current legislation, there is a bill which is out of Committee, which will allow you to go back three years on personal property audits but that will be rolled into effect starting on October 1, 1986 for the first time so you can grab it for one year and in 1987, you can go back two years and 1988, you can go back 3 years and then it will stay that way. Mr. Gessert asked if it revaluation only involved property, land and buildings and Mr. Barta said it was personal property, too, but it is a physical listing of every desk and chair but it doesn't reflect its true value. Mr. Barta explained, as a matter of fact, with this on a continuing basis, by the time we get to 1991, you probably won't even need to audit personal property. Mr. Barta intends to do this on the mass quantity and get as many as he can for the dollars he can appropriate and then maybe continue with 50 accounts per year. Once the word gets out that renditions will be audited, people will not lie because of penalties that must be paid of 10%.

Mr. Holmes asked when the 150 audits would be completed and Mr. Barta felt they more than likely would be completed by March, 1987 and they would go on the 1986 Grand List.

Mr. Myers asked if Mr. Barta would like to discuss the nature of services and some of the organizations who provide it since Mr. Myers felt that this might entail a bid waiver since there is only one organization right now providing the service. Mr. Barta explained that there is an accountant named Barbara Holstein who has worked in approximately 50 towns and in his estimation, she would be the person for Wallingford, and he would more than likely request her services. Mr. Killen felt that the fact that Mr. Barta wants doesn't mean she's the only one who does it. Mr. Barta agreed but commented that she has conducted virtually 99% of any of the audits that have gone out in municipalities in the state. Mr. Gessert felt that the Council would ask for proposals from the companies out there, what their experience is and what jobs they have done-RFP's to obtain proposals and results and checked with communities and go on recommendations.

Mrs. Papale moved acceptance of page 41, Assessor, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried. 217

Page 153, Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, Assessor - 143

Mr. Barta explained that the new Senior Clerk replaced the Chief Clerk.

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of Assessor - 143 - Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, page 153, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 134 - Assessor - 143 Capital Requests

Mrs. Papale moved acceptance of Assessor - 143 - Capital Requests on page 134, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Bergamini felt that it was very expensive to have all different makes of typewriters in town with many different service contracts.

Page 43 - PURCHASING

Mr. Rys moved acceptance of page 43, Purchasing, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of Personnel - 159 - Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations on page 154, seconded by Mr. Polanski.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 134 - Capital Requests - Purchasing - 145

Mr. Holmes questioned this item and Mr. Dunleavy explained that the Xerox comes as a basic and components are added. Last year, the Council allowed one machine to be brought to that level and this year, Mr. Dunleavy would like to bring the mate to this level, just for delegation of work within the office. Mr. Holmes asked if this is as far as Mr. Dunleavy can go with this machine and Mr. Dunleavy stated it is as far as he will go. He attempted to get data processing in his department for 9 years and gave up on that. Mr. Dunleavy explained that his intent with data processing originally was to actually automate himself out of a position. Mr. Gessert finds it hard to believe Mr. Dunleavy can be replaced by a computer!

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of Capital Requests - Purchasing - 145 on page 134, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Polanski asked what was spent on gasoline and oil on the contract signed a couple of years ago. Mr. Dunleavy felt that Mr. Myers could assemble the figure for the departmental accounts since all Purchasing does is put the bid out and each department orders their own.

Mr. Dunleavy felt that the Council would be very pleased to know that the total expenditure for the move of the Purchasing Department downstairs is about \$1,400 for the carpeting, along with new paint which has brightened the area and all the ceiling fixtures were cleaned and it is very, very light there now. By Fire Marshal regulations, the corridor is not usable space and must be kept open and gives the feeling of greater space. Mr. Dunleavy is very pleased with the new offices.

Mrs. Papale moved acceptance of page 44 - Central Services, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini. 218

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 154 - Central Services - 146 Personnel Detail & Salary

Mr. Holmes asked if either of these positions were currently under review by Mr. Seadale and Mr. Dunleavy said that the Clerk Typist I position was grieved and the final determination was received yesterday and the grievance was denied. The final closing statement in the grievance statement was returned to Mr. Dunleavy by the Personnel Director and if he sees it correctly, he will delve into a reevaluation of those two positions and that is basically what was understood last year at this time.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of Central Services - 146 - Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, page 154, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 134 - Central Services - 146 - Capital Requests

Mrs. Bergamini asked about the electronic mail scale and Mr. Dunleavy explained that the current scale which has been here for the 15 years he has been is calibrated by the serviceman by placing 9 pennies in the center of the platform and if that weight is first class postage, then the scale is said to be accurate. Last year, two competitors scales were used for about 2 weeks and it is felt that the postage factor can be reduced by about 10% of accuracy on documents that must be weighed and the investment is felt to be worthwhile solely on that basis. As time progresses, Mr. Dunleavy, felt that with the number of certified mail pieces, P & Z, among others who have to use it, if you miss there by a fraction of an ounce, you are talking about a sizable figure. If you multiply it out over a year, it is felt that this is a justifiable amount. Of the two models compared, this was the best and the prices are within \$100 or so. Mr. Killen asked what would happen to the present scale and Mr. Dunleavy felt it should go to the Landfill.

Mrs. Bergamini moved acceptance of Central Services - 146 - Capital Requests on page 134, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Dunleavy commented that as long as he has been coming to the Council, open orders have been used to allow departments to pick up necessary items, such as Public Works using a hardware store without having to return to Town Farms Road. We have operated this way for the past 15 years but with inflation factors, some of the \$500 to \$600 open orders are now well in excess of \$2,000. Last year, the auditor asked Tom Myers in writing why this occurs and we explained why these things are necessary and they all involve for the most part local situations. Mr. Dunleavy provided a written explanation for the auditor and presented the Council with a copy which lists several which would require a bid waiver until such time as the town gets to a Charter Revision situation where it can be addressed currently. Mr. Dunleavy thinks that most using departments cannot function unless they have the ability to use this type of open order purchase for local situations. Another instance on the list is dry cleaning of police uniforms, required by union rules. For the past 10 years, this has gone out to public bid and still only one response is solicited from the same bidder. We go to the expense knowing full well only one will bid on it. Mr. Dunleavy explained that he would be required to approach the Council every year for a bid waiver on that type of thing but if there were a Charter Revision, he would address it at that time in verbiage which would help.

Mr. Dunleavy explained that some of the open purchase orders are out of town and refer to some of the larger trucks and they are discretionary items and it really is the only place they can be obtained. 219

Mrs. Bergamini asked how these items are controlled and Mr. Dunleavy explained that in the case of dry cleaning police uniforms, a slip must be returned to the Chief for every item cleaned which has the officer's name and badge number on it, along with his signature. Mr. Gessert asked if it would be less expensive to give patrolmen a certain sum for dry cleaning expenses and Mr. Dunleavy thinks that in any town military situation, the neatness presence is probably almost as important as the uniform itself. A deteriorating appearance would reflect directly on the town itself, Mr. Dunleavy feels. Perhaps this matter should be addressed with the Police Department and not with Mr. Dunleavy.

Mr. Gessert asked if we are in the process of bidding oil prices and asked if there was any way we could capitalize on the lower prices presently and refill the tanks if the market presents an opportunity. Mr. Dunleavy expressed his feeling about a month ago and he felt that at least #4 fuel should be brought up to peak but he cannot respond to how that is done financially. Mr. Dunleavy felt that there could be a reversal if the Middle East issue should flare up rapidly since domestic production has dropped off considerably at a very rapid rate.

Mr. Dunleavy indicated that there are 42 bids currently but the dollars cannot be expended until July 1, 1986. Mr. Gessert felt that we are talking about some substantial dollars on this item and asked if we wanted to make a move within 10 days to 2 weeks to capitalize on the present low oil price, how would this be handled? Mr. Myers requested a little while to consider this. Mr. Polanski asked when the current oil contract expires and was told it is only good for a year. Mr. Dunleavy stated that we did exceptionally well with fuel this particular year and said that to his knowledge, the security factor has been corrected.

Mr. Dunleavy returned to the document he presented to the Council and requested a waiver of bid on the items on the sheet. Mr. Killen felt that this could not be done at a budget workshop. Mr. Myers pointed out that many bid waivers are handled when the budget is adopted. Mr. Killen asked how items such as auto parts are checked on and how do we know the parts are not used personally--he realizes he is casting aspersions but we have audits for the very same reason. Mr. Myers explained that it has been his perception and the internal controls exercised in the Accounting Department that for every invoice received from a vendor, there is a packing slip. When a man from Public Works gets 8 spark plugs, he receives a slip with a preprinted number in the right hand corner. These invoices are sent to the Public Works Department and matched up with the receiving slip, signed by an employee and sent for payment. Mr. Killen feels that these things lead to temptation and Mr. Dunleavy agrees and has had mutual concerns along that line and the alternative is to create an inventory and by creating an in-house inventory, you start to compound and there is no tax advantage to having in-house material. Because of the great deal of vehicle changes, we could end up with inventory on the shelves which would be worthless. We are working with 3 local suppliers and must rely on the department head that no purchases are done on an unauthorized basis. The commonology of spark plugs or gas or oil is a very simple thing. If indeed someone is hell bent to rip the town off for \$5 worth of filters in a month, there is nobody in God's name who will prevent it. We must rely on the fact that department heads have been doing an excellent job all these years keeping those things in line. Crosschecks have been done and occasionally a vendor will present something without a correct order number and invariably, the local suppliers, to their credit, will call the Purchasing Department to find out if that person is authorized to buy that piece of equipment. Mr. Dunleavy feels that a fine rapport has been established with the local suppliers. Mr. Killen has no prob-

lems with the familiar names but he is also familiar with human nature. Mr. Dunleavy thinks that they bend over backwards but stated that it will occur.

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Mr. Gessert asked that Mr. Dunleavy return to the Council regarding the fuel situation and asked him to discuss this with the Mayor and Mr. Myers and see if there is any way to capitalize on the current situation to the benefit of the town. Mr. Dunleavy felt they could get #4 fuel but that suppliers would be reluctant now to give a year on gas and #2 fuel oil. Mr. Gessert felt that he would rather spend this year's money and decrease the allocation for next year if the price is low enough.

Mr. Myers commented that most of the buildings have converted to gas and the big user of #4 fuel oil is the Board of Education and the Electric Division who use 7,000 gallons a day for a test. Mrs. Bergamini asked if the bidding process can be started earlier but Mr. Dunleavy pointed out that delivery cannot be made until the new fiscal year in July. Mr. Killen pointed out that it must be voted upon by the Council and Mr. Dunleavy felt that he wants a price to see if it behooves you to authorize buying it--it can be bid at any time but it doesn't mean that it's funded. Mr. Gessert felt Mr. Dunleavy can come back with a recommendation or proposal and then a course of action can be determined.

WELFARE, page 77

Mr. Gessert felt the Council has a good idea of the General Necessities from the last meeting and the fact that it is 90% reimbursed by the State, as are most of Welfare's major accounts.

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of page 77, Welfare, seconded by Mrs. Papale.

Mr. Holmes questioned line 705 Board of Children and Mr. Francesconi said this is only there if it is needed because there are times when children are placed somewhere and the town is responsible for a short period of time for their support until the State picks them up.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Page 170, Welfare - 306, Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations

Mr. Killen asked about the second full time employee and Frank Francesconi said he has requested it because of the backlog of paperwork. 90% of the money spent is returned and the audit is predicated on the department's books being right up to snuff and it is difficult to keep up with the paperwork. This year, Welfare had 225 new applications. Mrs. Bergamini asked about another part-timer rather than a full time person and Frank indicated that the problem with that is the responsibility of who is supposed to do what. The auditors have come up with a new audit for the State now called extrapolation where approximately one-third of the cases are audited and if any mistakes are found, that figure is multiplied by three, assuming that amount would be found in the other cases also. Everything really has to be up to snuff and they have had some great audits and Mr. Francesconi would really hate to lose after all these years. There is a confidentiality factor and responsibility factor involved and he would prefer a full time person.

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of Welfare - 306 Personnel Detail & Salary calculations on page 170, seconded by Mrs. Papale.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Holmes who was not present for the vote and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

LIBRARY, Page 45

Mrs. Bergamini commented that a reference librarian has been requested for several years and wanted to know if that was included in this budget and Ms. Scherer said it was and there are two large increases in this budget, for a reference librarian

and video equipment. Mr. Holmes asked if the video equipment was for upgrading or expansion and Scott Hanley said for the most part, it was replacement. Mr. Holmes said there was some discussion a while ago about losing a community access channel if it was not used and Mr. Hanley said it was the third channel that was in question, the channel the school system utilizes for the Rave Service. The school system channel, Channel C, now kid-casts more programming than last year. Mr. Hanley indicated that it's not a matter of utilizing the channel at this point in time--the town does have a lease agreement with Rollins and that involves the microwave hub site on top of Sheehan and in that lease agreement, it calls for the company to supply the town with three channels. 221

Mr. Peter Parisi indicated that he met with the Library Board of Managers and he believes that the municipal access television channel should have its own line item in the budget, under the Library, to show what their expenditures are and there is no doubt in Mr. Parisi's mind that this equipment requested is necessary to maintain the public access television channel since some of the cameras are really bad. Mr. Polanski pointed out that the equipment would be a capital outlay and cannot see how this could go under Library contribution and he feels that a separate line item for access television capital improvement is necessary to make a differentiation since this is not all library expense. Mr. Myers suggested adding another line for Contribution - Municipal Access Television and split out the cost. Ms. Scherer said that the document she presented split out this cost. Mr. Polanski felt that with a separate line item, it would show what municipal access television is costing the Town of Wallingford, even though it is housed in the Library and is under Library control. Mr. Killen agrees and feels that to do it some other way can get very, very tricky. Mrs. Bergamini felt that it would be on the same page with the Library. Ms. Scherer asked if a separate account would be necessary to account for the salary paid and Mr. Myers felt that this is what the Council wished and he wouldn't set up a separate checking account but would show separate lines such as Line 601-Contribution-Municipal Access Television.

Mr. Killen compared this to the \$235,000 insurance cost for the Board of Education and Mr. Myers pointed out that the real difference here is that the Library has cash and the Board of Ed has no cash and the Comptroller's Office can distinguish their costs and reflect them in a financial statement presentation.

Ms. Scherer stated that now, transfers are made within the budget for maintenance of equipment, etc. and now, if a separate line is established, would it be necessary to come back to the Council to transfer funds. Mr. Gessert said it would be necessary to present a transfer to the Council from A/C 600 to A/C 601. Mr. Killen indicated that some autonomy will be lost.

Mr. Gessert questioned unemployment going from \$3,293 to \$3,675 and wondered if this was paid out or unemployment compensation required. Ms. Scherer said it was the amount required by the statement of payroll. Mr. Gessert said that the pension payment seemed like a significant increase and Ms. Scherer said that this year is underfunded and transfers from other accounts will be necessary, strictly based on what the actuaries tell them. There is a request into them asking why since this had gone down for several years. Mr. Gessert asked why there was a 20% increase in medical benefits and Mr. Gouveia asked if it had anything to do with dental and Ms. Roessler stated it was, in addition to the new person. Mr. Gessert only saw 15 employees and Ms. Roessler stated that the list did not include the additional librarian. Mr. Gessert mentioned fuel and utilities and remembered that they were told that because of the solar panels, the building would use them when the sun was out and burn fuel on cloudy days--are the solar panels an ornament or do they actually work? Ms. Scherer said they are on all the time but there is no measure--the first source of heat is electric lights, the second solar and then either oil or gas goes on. Not much oil is used. Ms. Roessler said that last year, 2,684 gallons of oil were used in 35,000 square feet.

Mr. Gouveia noticed that 61% of maintenance and repair funds were used in three quarters of the year and an 18.5% increase

is being requested--any reason? Ms. Roessler said that they took occupancy of the building in May and the contracts are due in May so they are always short until May and then it's awesome and they may run short this year. Mr. Gouveia noticed that \$1 per gallon is budgeted for oil and felt it may be somewhat reduced. He also felt that perhaps the maintenance account could be reduced a little. Mr. Gessert pointed out that the Mayor has reduced their request by \$6,500. Ms. Scherer felt that further reductions are not possible due to the bills coming up in May. 222

Mr. Holmes wants everyone to be aware of the fact that the Council is providing a 17% increase over last year which he feels is hefty, very hefty. Mr. Polanski wanted it clear that it is a contribution the town is making to the Library. Mrs. Bergamini asked about the cost of operating the Yalesville Library and Ms. Scherer indicated it was not much since it was only open 3 days a week and from 10 until 2 on Saturday.

Mrs. Papale asked how many employees will be getting the dental insurance. Ms. Scherer did not know since it's individual and will provide full coverage for the employee and not the family. Mrs. Papale pointed out that many departments have asked for dental and they have been denied. Ms. Scherer felt that most town employees have full family dental now. Part time employees don't get any benefits--no vacation, no sick time, etc. and they really are the backbone of the operation.

Ms. Papale noted that the programs for children fill very quickly and Ms. Scherer felt one could be held every morning if the funds were available.

Mr. Polanski referred to the full time staff 1985-86, 1986-87, one director and assistant director and there is no assistant director--is that \$24,000 for the assistant director plugged in to the salaries. Ms. Scherer indicated it was not and they asked only for the positions that are actually filled. Ms. Scherer and Ms. Roessler share the job of director. Mr. Killen asked if security was being cut back since the allocation was not used. Ms. Roessler said the security service was only used from September until June but also, security service has not shown up a number of times and Christmas fell on a Wednesday and the Library was closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. During this time of the year, there is trouble managing crowds of people, mostly the younger people, typical of an open public building.

Mr. Polanski moved to separate the municipal access television account #601 to a separate line in the Library budget in the amount of \$54,048, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Polanski moved to delete line 600 Contribution by \$54,048, for a new total of \$730,855, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Gessert extended congratulations on being New Haven area's best!

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of page 45, Library, as amended, seconded by Mrs. Papale.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mrs. Bergamini who was not present for the vote and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of page 47, Board of Ethics, seconded by Mr. Polanski.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mrs. Bergamini who was not present for the vote and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Killen moved acceptance of page 49, Personnel Pension & Appeals Board, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mrs. Bergamini who was not present for the vote and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

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HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS - Mrs. Papale commented that for the past 2 years, the AWARD group has been given \$2,000 from the town for Christmas to dress up the town. One year banners were purchased for the trees and last year they bought artificial wreaths and this year something else is planned. They do take care of their own lights.

Mr. Killen would like a breakdown and Mr. Myers will provide this at the next meeting. Mr. Killen doesn't know if the new people are aware of what funds are required or are just budgeting based on prior figures.

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of page 35, Holidays & Celebrations, seconded by Mr. Polanski.

Mr. Killen wonders how many Council Members are going to the parade and Mr. Gessert said Mr. Killen, Mr. Gouveia and he knew the Mayor was going.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of page 38, Board of Tax Review, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Messrs. Killen and Rys who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mrs. Papale moved acceptance of Board of Tax Review - 139 - p. 151 Personnel Detail & Salary Calculations, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes with the exception of Messrs. Killen and Rys who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Gessert noted for the record that if the personal property auditor comes in, the Board of Tax Review may get busy next year.

Mrs. Papale asked if Mrs. Collins was leaving because she has reached an age and time in her life. . . Mr. Myers felt that she is leaving because of frustration--the insurance nationwide just mushroomed out of shape and Mr. Myers doesn't want to lose her. Mr. Gessert felt that perhaps changes could be made and someone could be hired on a part-time basis to handle the insurance specs and recommendations. Mr. Myers felt that many jobs were inherited under the title of Safety Director. Mr. Myers feels that Mrs. Collins is a very good emissary for the Town of Wallingford. Mr. Killen reminded everyone that years ago, the Treasurer's position was part-time and in order to make it full time, duties were added and then many things got dumped in that office.

AUDIT CONTRACT, page 37

Mr. Holmes moved acceptance of Audit Contract, page 37, seconded by Mrs. Bergamini.

Mrs. Papale asked if the auditors automatically received a yearly raise. Mr. Gessert apologized to Mr. Killen who had requested a meeting with the auditors and he does plan to have the meeting when budget workshops are over. Mr. Killen does not particularly like the way this price keeps going up. Mr. Myers indicated that the fee is based on hours worked and as the town keeps growing, more hours are spent on the audit.

Mr. Myers felt that you would see an increase every year regardless of what firm audits. Mr. Killen's problem with that is the analogy that new businesses will bring taxes down and they keep going up and computers which will reduce help and we have more employees. Mr. Killen feels that Mr. Myers office does 90% of the auditors work and the auditors just look it over. Mr. Myers feels they are very thorough and offer good suggestions and they are very knowledgeable in municipal accounting. With the last firm, Mr. Myers had the misfortune of having 4 different managers the last year they had the job. Mr. Gessert asked how much of the \$32,900 is billed back to other departments and Mr. Myers said that \$16,000 is billed back to the PUC. Further, Mr. Myers stated that as a point of interest, Levitsky & Berney charge \$33,000 for one of our neighboring towns, because they do not have the financial department as Wallingford. Mr. Killen asked if the Board of Ed was separate and Mr. Myers said it was included and the Board of Ed is billed for the EEO-1 report, Annual Report of School Finances, and the Food Service is billed separately, another price on top of this.

VOTE: (Audit Contract) Unanimous ayes with the exception of Mr. Killen who voted no and Mr. Diana who was on vacation; motion duly carried.

Mr. Myers feels that everyone is happy with the information they receive from his office but if they need anything further, feel free to request it.

Mr. Gessert received a request from people to either start the Board of Education budget scheduled for May 5 late or change the date since they have their Scholars' Banquet at Lyman Hall. Mrs. Bergamini reminded the Council that the Girls' Basketball Banquet is on May 8. It was decided the Board of Education and Cafeteria Budgets would be scheduled for May 7, 1986.

A motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and carried and the first budget workshop adjourned at 10:49 p.m.

Meeting recorded by:
Lisa M. Bousquet, Council Secretary

Meeting transcribed by:
Delores B. Fetta