

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

Special Town Council Meeting

APRIL 10, 2013

Town Council Chambers
PUBLIC HEARING

on the
FY 2013 - 2014 BUDGET

RECORD OF VOTES AND MINUTES

The FY 2013-2014 Budget Public Hearing Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:32 P.M. There was a Moment of Silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilors in attendance were as follows: Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Thomas Laffin, John Letourneau, Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, and Jason Zandri. Councilor John Sullivan had an excused absence and was not at the meeting. Councilor Craig Fishbein did not respond present to the Roll Call but was observed to be in the audience for a portion of the meeting. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and James M. Bowes, Comptroller, were also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

Police Department

In Attendance:

Douglas Dortenzio, Police Chief

William Wright, Deputy Chief

Beth Dichello, Executive Secretary

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, asked about department surplus and if the department's open positions would be filled.

Ray Rys, 96 Pierson, asked about the departments fleet of vehicles.

Board of Education

In Attendance:

Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Winters, Business Manager

Roxanne McKay, Chairperson, Board of Education

Dana Camp, 19 Lee Avenue, inquired about the district's insurance waiver policies

Ray Rhys inquired about the building location exchange between The Board of Education and the Alternative Education Program.

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, asked questions and made comments with regard to security at the schools.

Robert Gross asked financial questions with regard to the insurance waiver and how much it casts the school system.

There was discussion of enrollment, enrollment trends and school consolidation.

Social Services Contributions

Chairman Parisi read the list of social services that receive assistance from the town.

Mr. Gross asked about the Emergency Shelter.

Board of Ethics

Robert Gross asked if the Board receives training in the subject of Ethics.

Capital Appropriations Reserve

Capital and Non-Recurring

Capital and Non-Recurring Fund

Contingency Account

Mr. Gross spoke with Mr. Bowes with regard to Capital Appropriations Reserve, Capital and Non-Recurring, Capital and Non-Recurring Fund and the Contingency Account, specifically about CRRRA Funds; Police Department hardware and software; Public Works vehicles; streetscape.

Dana Camp asked about FEMA funds and how the funds flow into the town.

Debt Services

Mr. Bowes and Mr. Gross discussed debt service; the town's overage; the triple A rating; and the refunding of bonds.

Employee Insurance and Other Benefits

Personnel, Pensions, & Risk Management

Pension Fund

In Attendance:

Terence Sullivan, Personnel Director

James Hutt, Assistant Personnel Director

Kurt Treiber, Risk Manager

Dana Camp asked if the TPA contract had been put out to bid recently.

Bob Gross asked if the Personnel Director is offering 401k, or something like it, at this time to new hires.

Government TV

In Attendance:

Don Roe, Program Planning

Scott Hanley, General Manager, Government TV

Robert Gross, asked about DVDs and video posting of Town Council meetings on the internet as it relates to the cost of each.

Mayor

Robert Gross made comments with respect to the Mayor's salary.

Planning & Zoning

In Attendance: Kacie Costello, Town Planner

Mr. Gross asked about the Incentive Housing Zone.

Program Planning

In Attendance: Don Roe, Program Planning

Mr. Gross asked about CRRA Funds and Dana Camp asked about the town's grant processes. He also suggested the town's consideration in hiring a professional grant writer at times for Federal grant applications.

Public Utilities –Electric, Water & Sewer Divisions

In Attendance:

*George Adair, Director, Public Utilities,
Robert Beaumont, Commission Chairman
David Gessert, Commission Member
Richard Hendershot, General Manager
Thomas Sullivan, Business Manager*

Dana Camp wanted to know where the funds of the Enterprise Fund go and if the division has future plans.

Mr. Gross commented that it would be nice to see the Commission meet in the Robert Early Auditorium and be televised like the Town Council. Mr. Gross also had comments with regard to the budget book in that it was only distributed 24 hours before the Public Hearing, which is unfair to the public.

The following departments were excused as the Public had no questions for them.

Ambulance/EMS Transport Fund

Animal Control

Board of Assessment Appeals

Board of Selectmen

Building Department

Cafeteria

Civil Preparedness

Conservation Commission

Economic Development Commission

Engineering Department

Fire Department

Fire Marshal

Health Department

Inland Wetlands

Insurance-Property & Casualty

Law Department

Library

Mayor

Parks and Recreation

Probate Court

Public Utilities Commission

Public Utilities –Water & Sewer Divisions

Wallingford Town Hall, 45 South Main Street

*Public Works Department
Registrars of Voters
Six-Year Capital
Town Council
Town Clerk
Veterans Service Center
Youth & Social Services Bureau
Zoning Board of Appeals*

MOTION TO APPROVE ADJOURNMENT

MADE BY: Parisi
SECONDED BY: Letourneau
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION PASSED

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary
Meeting digitally recorded

Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

Date

Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date