

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers**

MARCH 24, 2015

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:33 P.M. The Opening Prayer was given by Pastor Will Marotti of the New Life Church of Wallingford. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni and Councilors Craig Fishbein, Tom Laffin, John Letourneau, Christine Mansfield, Robert F. Parisi, Larry Russo, John Sullivan, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Town Attorney G. E Farrell, Sr. were also at the meeting.

Chairman Cervoni announced that Item 8. has been withdrawn.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$1,899.23 (#709-723)
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
- 3b.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$10,800 to Copier and Accessories \$9,500 Acct TBD and to Computer Accessories \$1,300 Acct TBD from P & Z Wages & Salaries \$10,800 Acct # 10010700-51000 – Town Planner
- 3c.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$1,700 from Unemployment Insurance Acct # 10012100-52970 and to Personal Computers & Accessories \$1,000 Acct TBD and to Printer \$700 Acct TBD - Personnel
- 3d.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$944 to Veterinary Acct # 10020100-56742 from Misc. Revenue Acct # 1009052-47040 – Animal Control Officer
- 3e.** Acceptance of National Education Foundation-Student Achievement Grant for *Youth & Social STEM Academy Special Fund* and Appropriation in the Amount of \$4,500 to Donations Acct # 2264002-47152 and to Expenditures Acct # 22640150-58830 – Youth and Social Services
- 3f.** Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$70 STEM Academy Special Fund Registration to Donations Acct # 2264002-47152 and to Expenditures Acct # 22640150-58830 – Youth and Social Services
- 3g.** Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$140 STEM Academy Special Fund Registration fees to Donations Acct # 2264002-47152 and to Expenditures Acct # 22640150-58830 – Youth and Social Services
- 3h.** Acceptance of a Donation in the Amount of \$2,500 from Super Stop & Shop to Professional Services-Entertainment Acct # 10050050-56746 and to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct # 1009052-47040 – Parks and Recreation

- 3i. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Mr. Edwin Makepeace to the *Personnel and Pension Appeals Board* to fill a vacancy, effective immediately and expiring December 31, 2016 - Mayor
- 3j. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Mr. Patrick Birney to the Public Utilities Commission for a three-year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2018 - Mayor
- 3k. Consider and Approve Council Resolution endorsing a Fair Housing Policy for the Town of Wallingford - Mayor
- 3l. Consider and approve a Resolution endorsing the SCRCOG proposal for funds from the State of Connecticut Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPI Program), which includes Regional Planimetric Data Development, Regional Open Space inventory and Regional Community System Feasibility Study proposals - Mayor
- 3m. Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting of March 10, 2015.
- 3n. Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of March 10, 2015.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a. to 3n.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND: LETOURNEAU
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
THE MOTION PASSED.

The Town Clerk swore in Mr. Edward Makepeace to the *Personnel and Pension Appeals Board* and Mr. Patrick Birney to the *Public Utilities Commission*.

- 4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda- *NONE*

5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Robert Beaumont, Chairman of the PUC, welcomed Mr. Birney to the PUC.

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, spoke about an accident on Cook Hill Road caused by a bad portion of the road. He offered a suggestion of a way to repair it.

Robert Gross, Long Hill Road, asked about ownership of the Pierce Power Plant land and who benefits from the agreement with CMEEC. In regard to the budget, he asked the Council to review the lease with CMEEC.

Larry Morgenstein, no address given, commented on the process of the appointment of Jean Pierre Bolat to the Board of Education.

Gina Morgenstein, no address given, asked about the Council's Rules of Procedure.

Ken Daly, 594 North Elm Street, spoke about accountability for entities that receive funds from the town. He suggested a memorandum of understanding between those entities and the town, which would improve communication.

6. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-225(f) and §1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending CHRO matter of Walsh v. Town of Wallingford – Personnel

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO to Connecticut General Statutes §1-225(f) and §1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending CHRO matter of Walsh v. Town of Wallingford

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND: FISHBEIN
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
THE MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND: FISHBEIN
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
THE MOTION PASSED.**

**ATTENDANCE AT EXECUTIVE SESSION: (9) TOWN COUNCILORS,
MAYOR DICKINSON, PERSONNEL DIRECTOR JAMES HUTT, ATTORNEY
MIKE ROSE AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES GEORGE ADAIR.**

TIME OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:06 PM- 7:25 PM

7. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the matter of Walsh v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in Executive Session - Personnel

**MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT IN THE MATTER OF WALSH V.
TOWN OF WALLINGFORD AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND: PARISI
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
THE MOTION PASSED.**

8. *Conduct a Public Hearing for March 24, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in connection with an Ordinance entitled:*

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$325,000 TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 75 TYLER MILL ROAD AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$325,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

WITHDRAWN

Chairman Cervoni explained that this item will come back before the Council at a later date. He offered that melting snow revealed some issues with the property that need to be addressed first.

9. Discussion and Possible Action authorizing the Mayor to sign Interconnection Station Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford Department of Public Utilities Water Division and the South Central Regional Water Authority – Public Utilities

MOTION TO APPROVE authorizing the Mayor to sign Interconnection Station Agreement Between the Town of Wallingford Department of Public Utilities Water Division and the South Central Regional Water Authority.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECOND: PARISI

Councilor Mansfield announced that she is recusing herself from this question as South Central Regional Water Authority is a client of hers.

In attendance: George Adair, Director, Public Utilities

Mr. Adair stated that the PUC is seeking authorization for the Mayor to execute a contract with South Central Water Authority. This twenty-year Agreement with some evergreen renewal clauses covers all of the terms and conditions related to the construction, maintenance and operation of this facility on Pond Hill. It also includes provisions whereby either party could sell to its counterparty up to one million gallons a day of water. The entire document is based on emergency only use of this facility, and that it is not intended, and does not contain language, to address long-term use over extended periods for regular water supply. This is the second Agreement related to this project. There was prior action to approve purchase of the land, and the Regional Water Authority has now paid its share of that cost. We now need this second Agreement in place to cover all of these terms and conditions.

Councilor LeTourneau announced his opposition again to the location of this pumping station. He spoke about how things seem to change. He spoke of the cost-sharing in the second Agreement. He asked whose emergency is it? Wallingford or South Central? Mr. Adair said yes to both and said that is why there is cost-sharing. Mr. LeTourneau stated that he still thinks this will become a full-time pumping station.

Councilor Fishbein stated that he has some of the same concerns. There was discussion that if South Central Water Authority makes a request for water, they turn it on. It requires no 'approval' for that to happen. Metering is read by both parties. Who defines 'emergency' and where is that in the agreement? The term is not spelled out in the document.

Stated in the beginning (Page 1 of 7) of the Agreement on Line Nine (9) is the phrase "as needed on an emergency basis..." and on Line Eleven (11) the phrase "interconnection as needed...". Why is "emergency" not in Line 11? A suggestion was made by Town Attorney Farrell, and accepted by Councilor Laffin as a friendly amendment, that "on an emergency basis" could be added to the Agreement at Line 11.

MOTION

But after further discussion **Councilor Laffin made a motion to table the issue. Councilor LeTourneau seconded.**

Councilor Fishbein raised a Point of Order to name another time when this question will be taken up again. Chairman Cervoni stated that he is a little less concerned since the PUC will come back before the Council. He called for the vote.

**VOTE TO TABLE: 8-AYE; 1-RECUSE (MANSFIELD)
THE MOTION PASSED.**

10. Discussion and possible action regarding reducing the number of members of the Ordinance Committee and/or reducing the number of members of the Ordinance Committee necessary to constitute a quorum - Councilor Craig C. Fishbein

Councilor Fishbein stated that during this term, he has acted as Chairman of the Ordinance Committee and has had a difficult time in having a quorum for meetings. Currently the Rule is that because the Council is a body of the whole Council that the quorum is five Councilors and that has been difficult to attain. He said that we do have business to conduct and department heads are relying on the Ordinance Committee.

MOTION TO REDUCE THE QUORUM NECESSARY TO HOLD AN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING FROM FIVE TO THREE COUNCILORS.

MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECOND: LAFFIN
VOTE: 9-AYE
THE MOTION PASSED.

RECESS

Chairman Cervoni called for a short recess at 8:07 P.M. He reconvened the meeting at 8:17 P.M.

Councilor Testa left the meeting at 8:07 P.M.

11. Discussion with regard to the *Connecticut School Health Survey, 2013 Results for Wallingford* - Chairman Vincent Cervoni and Councilor John Sullivan

*In attendance: Councilor John Sullivan
Craig Turner, Director, Youth and Social Services Department
Celeste Jorge, MPH, Epidemiologist, Connecticut Department of Health*

Councilor Sullivan at the presentation table stated that he appreciates Chairman Cervoni sponsoring this item with him. He said that this survey came to his attention through a colleague on the Board of Education. He remarked that the survey hit him hard. He commented that it reflected to him that we have a parenting issue at home. Bringing this forward at a Council meeting allows talking to all of our parents who have children in Wallingford school system. He said that this is no reflection on the school system itself but that it was done through the cooperation of the school system.

Mr. Turner and Ms. Jorge narrated the slides. *(The slides are part of the record of the meeting.)*

The slides and presentation addressed the statistics gathered from the survey comprised of two components: Youth Behavior Component and Youth Tobacco Component. The Youth Behavior Component of the Connecticut School Health Survey was administered with parental permission at both Wallingford High Schools in the Autumn of 2013. The survey was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is known as the Youth Risk Behavior Survey and was refined by both the state and local-level representatives.

Ms. Jorge spent the better part of an hour reviewing the statistical details of the survey categories which included the following:

- General Health
- Motor Vehicle Safety
- Injury and Violence
- Alcohol Use
- Substance Use and Abuse
- Sexual Behaviors
- Obesity, Overweight and Weight Control
- Protective Factors
- Family Connectedness
- School Connectedness
- Academic Factors
- Other Risky Behaviors (gambling)

She also spoke about least risky behaviors involve students with good grades whose parents know where their children are when their children are not at home, and secondly, parents and children who eat their meals together.

Mr. Turner said often deficit behavior shows up in Grades 10, 11 and 12 but that it really begins in Grades 6, 7 and 8 for those students. He said that structure needs to be set early.

The panel was thanked for the presentation and for their time.

12. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200(6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property – Mayor

WITHDRAWN

**MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR PARISI AND
SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FISHBEIN.
VOTE: 7-AYE; 2-ABSENT (PARISI AND RUSSO)
MOTION PASSED.**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes
Secretary to the Town Council
From notes taken by the Town Clerk

Meeting digitally recorded.

Chairman Vincent Cervoni

Date

Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson

Date