TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

HELD REMOTELY at GoToMeeting.com

TUESDAY APRIL 14, 2020 6:30 P.M. RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 was called to order at 6:31 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Craig C. Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein, Christopher K. Shortell, Christina Tatta, Vincent F. Testa, Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr., Corporation Counsel Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes were also present (BY TELECONFERENCE).

Moment of Silence

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Cervoni thanked everyone involved in setting up this meeting.

- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Consent Agenda
 - 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$67,448.56 (#815-879) Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
 - 3b. Consider and approve Bid Waiver request for New England Steamway to provide a one year supply of P-100 masks at a cost of \$37,098 Fire Department
 - 3c. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$37,098 from Contingency-General Purpose, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire-Operating Exps, Acct. #10020150-58735 Fire Dept.
 - 3d. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$8,500 Fire Dept.

\$3,000 From: Purchased Srv. – CMED Acct. #10020150-56744 \$3,000 From: Purchased Srv. – Physicals Acct. #10020150-56734 \$2,000 From: Office Expenses & Supplies Acct. #10020150-56100 \$ 500 From: Purchased Srv. – Custodial Acct. #10020150-56736

\$8,500 To: Telephone Acet. #10020150-53000

3e. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$6,000 – Human Resources

\$6,000 From: Contingency-Gen. Purposes Acct. #10019000-58820

\$3,000 To:

Personal Computer

Acct. #TBD

\$3,000 To:

Scantron Scoring Machine

Acct. #TBD

3f. Acceptance of Donation from Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Annunziata and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$100 to Revenue Donations - Police, Acct. #2502002-47152 and to Expense Donations-Police, Acct # 25020050-58830-10135 — Police Dept.

- 3g. Consider and approve acceptance of funds and Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$200 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 Y&SS
- 3h. Consider and approve acceptance of program fees for STEM and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,368 to Revenue,

 Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 Y&SS
- 3i. Consider and approve Workforce Alliance Summer Youth Employment Program funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$14,705 to Revenue, Acct. #2274002-47010 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22702020-51000 Y&SS
- 3j. Consider and approve Bid Waiver for Farmland Lease property, Field 5B, located off Cooke Road for lease to John Kranyak, adjacent property Conservation Commission
- 3k. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 24, 2020.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3k.

MADE BY:

LAFFIN

SECONDED BY:

FISHBEIN

VOTE:

ALL AYE

MOTION:

PASSED

- 4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda None
- 5. Update from Health Director Stephen Civitelli regarding COVID-19 Morgenstein/Shortell

Mr. Civitelli gave his condolences to anyone who has lost someone. He stated that there have been 4 fatalities and 88 confirmed cases of COVID.

Mr. Civitelli stated that he had a conversation with Hartford Healthcare about getting our first responders tested. He indicated they can be tested between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. daily. He stated that he is constantly checking in with the nursing homes. Also, he has met with Utilities and Public Works on how to keep safe, how to quarantine and has been working with local

businesses as well about the quarantine of employees. He mentioned they have been out to the grocery stores and that Youth and Social Services have been very helpful in that they took eight homeless and brought them to the Red Roof Inn.

Mr. Civitelli went on to state the National Guard will be at Kondracki Lane, Quinnipiac Valley Nursing Home tomorrow to set up 34 new beds for Acute Care for COVID patients before they are released. He noted we are actively trying to mitigate in the community still and we find this helpful.

Councilor Shortell appreciates the update and has no questions.

Councilor Morgenstein wants to know if the Health Department is still doing contact tracing. Mr. Civitelli answered yes and stated it's a good thing.

Councilor Morgenstein asked if the staff will be going back and forth from the nursing home to the COVID patients. Mr. Civitelli stated he needs to go there tomorrow and he has the same concerns.

Councilor Morgenstein stated she heard that the Town Hall building has had much improvement with social distancing, some work times staggered in the Utilities Department only and plexiglass has been put up. She asked if there is a possibility to do a swipe time card. She mentioned some departments are doing self-cleaning and there is a company to do a fog of the building but only if there is a positive case.

Mr. Civitelli said we are looking to do a temperature check at town buildings but we need staff to do it. He then stated that the Parks and Recreation Department are keeping parks open.

Councilor Morgenstein feels that temperature taking is totally appropriate and asked if we can do this. She then inquired about deep cleaning and noted that stores are doing it. She also wants to know where we are at with supplies. She stated there should be no carpooling and indicated some employees take the bus.

Mr. Civitelli said we had the furnace people come out to do fresh filters to OSHA standards, we had six offices rearranged today and we distributed more masks that will last for the next five weeks. As far as temperature taking, we did put two requests in and we are not giving up on that. He stated it has been a challenge to take all of the quarantine issues in the building.

Councilor Morgenstein asked if an employee is told they have to have their temperature taken, can they deny it? Attorney Small explained if we deem it necessary to enter the building, it will be a disciplinary issue.

Mayor Dickinson stated we are aware of the time clock issue and we can look at it.

Councilor Tatta asked for clarification why the seven people were moved at the homeless shelter. Mr. Civitelli stated they did not know if they would be positive and wanted to isolate them.

Councilor Tatta is concerned about the National Guard coming into the nursing home.

4

Mr. Civitelli stated we were not solicited; this was done between Government and Public Health. He noted that he contacted the Governor's office saying we want some input on how this rolls out.

Councilor Fishbein stated he was distressed about this Quinnipiac Valley issue. He then asked about PPE and if anyone needs help. He asked if the town provides to a private company, are we reimbursed. Mr. Civitelli answered yes.

Adelheid Koepfer, 23 Whiffle Tree Road, thanked Mr. Civitelli and all the town employees.

6. Discussion and possible action on tax and utility payments programs in accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7S – Mayor

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE THE ADOPTION OF A TAX AND UTILITY DEFERMENT PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNOR LAMONT'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS 7S AND 7W, PERMITTING A THREE (3) MONTH INTEREST FREE GRACE PERIOD ON TAX AND UTILITY PAYMENTS WHICH ARE DUE AND PAYABLE FROM APRIL 1ST THROUGH JULY 1ST, FOR ALL WALLINGFORD TAXPAYERS AND UTILITY CUSTOMERS WITHOUT QUALIFICATION EXCEPT LANDLORDS AS PROVIDED IN SAID EXECUTIVE ORDERS. LANDLORDS ARE REQUIRED TO APPLY AND QUALIFY FOR THIS PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

MADE BY: LAFFIN SECONDED BY: TATTA

Attorney Small provided the Council with information on the program as outlined in her memo. She explained there is no application process for this and the recommendation from Mr. Bowes is to go with the deferment program.

Mr. Bowes remarked that Attorney Small has done tremendous work on this. He went on to say he believes we are all in receipt of his memo of April 9th. He feels this will help people at this difficult time.

Councilor Fishbein expressed his displeasure of different interpretations coming from the office of OPM at the State. He is in favor but feels it will be very difficult to have landlords carry through.

Councilor Fishbein asked if a document is going to be put together to explain this to residents. Attorney Small stated we are talking about the best way to do that.

SHORTELL: YES ROLL CALL VOTE: TATTA: YES FISHBEIN: YES LAFFIN: YES TESTA: YES ZANDRI: MARRONE: YES YES **CERVONI: YES MORGENSTEIN: YES**

9-AYE

MOTION: PASSED

Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with 7. respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property - Mayor - Withdrawn

Chairman Cervoni adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss Council Staff Meeting digitally recorded

AT 4:00 AND RECEIVED BY

Town CLERK