

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY
AUGUST 16, 2022
6:30 P.M.
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 was called to order at 6:35 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Samuel Carmody, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christina Tatta, Vincent Testa, Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Councilor Allinson was absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr., and Deputy Comptroller, Brian Naples was also present.

Presentation of jackets to Sheehan High School Girls Track and Field Team winning the State Open and the CIAC Class M State Championship.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$3,304.63 (#11 - #21)
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and approve request from WCI to use Parade Grounds for Celebrate Wallingford October 1, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and October 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - WCI
- 3c. Consider and approve request to use Parade Grounds for Game Nights (for all ages) Fridays August 19, 26 and September 2, 9, 16, 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – WCI
- 3d. Consider and approve Request from First Congregational Church for use of Parade Grounds on September 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for Catch the Spirit Event – Chairman Cervoni
- 3e. Acceptance of Donations received by the Wallingford Public Schools FY 2021-2022 totaling \$63,420 - BOE
- 3f. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds raised for the Annual Project Graduation into the FY 2022-2023 Council on Substance Abuse budget for Project Graduation in the amount of \$6,085 to Revenue, Acct. #2324002-49000 and to Expenditures, Acct. #23240150-58252 – Y&SS
- 3g. Acceptance of Donation for Holiday for Giving and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$350 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

- 3h. Acceptance of Donation from the Wallingford Foundation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,500 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3i. Acceptance of Donation for Wallingford STEM Academy and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$261 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3j. Acceptance of USPCA AKC REUNITE Grant and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$7,500 from Revenue-Grant, Acct. #250-tbd to Expenditure-Police Canine, Acct. #250-tbd – Police Dept.
- 3k. Acceptance of Federal Taskforce expenses and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$8,998 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3l. Acceptance of Redflex funds for court motor vehicle fines and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$559 from Court Motor Vehicle Fines, Acct. #1002001-45124 to Police Operating Expense, Acct. #10020050-58735 – Police Dept.
- 3m. Acceptance of Federal/State Highway Safety Grant “2022 Click it or Ticket” Enforcement Campaign and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$5,025 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3n. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,500 from Fire Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020150-58735 to Continuing Training & Education, Acct. #10020150-55700 – Fire Dept.
- 3o. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,000 from Office Expenses, Acct. #10010150-56100 to Regular Salaries, Acct. #10010150-51000 - Mayor
- 3p. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$16,900 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Other Pay, Acct. #10010550-51900 – Comptroller
- 3q. Acceptance of Donation of Park Bench valued at \$1,200 from Wallingford Community Women Inc. in memory of member and long-time resident Amy Blakeslee to be placed at Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Park – Parks and Recreation
- 3r. Acceptance of Donation from Pavilion of Hope and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$500 from Revenue, Acct. #2505002-47152 to Pavilion of Hope, Acct. #25050050-58830-10174 – Parks and Recreation
- 3s. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$920,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #N/A to Line Transformers, Acct. #368 – Electric Div.

- 3t. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$337,870 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #N/A to (See Attached List) – Electric Div.
- 3u. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$248,823 (See Attached List) – Water Division
- 3v. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$159,203 (See Attached List) – Sewer Div.
- 3w. Acceptance of funds from State of Connecticut Dept. of Public Health for imbursement of services related to infectious disease case management and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,556 – Health Dept.
- 3x. Consider and approve Intermunicipal Agreement between the City of Meriden, the Town of Wallingford, Nancy M. Norke, and Brian and Brenda Monroe for Sanitary Sewer and Water Connection at 75 and 77 Midland Drive, Wallingford - Water and Sewer Div.
- 3y. Consider and approve a land swap between 99 North Turnpike Road and 103 North Turnpike Road – Law Dept.
- 3z. Consider and approve Appointment of Karen Harris to serve as full member of the ZBA effective immediately for a term to expire January 8, 2026 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3aa. Consider and approve Appointment of Robert Parisi to serve as an Alternate member of the ZBA effective immediately and expiring January 8, 2025 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3bb. Approve Town Council Minutes of July 12, 2022.

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

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

COUNCILOR CERVONI ABSTAINED FROM ITEM 3y.

- 4. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: *None***
- 5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Fran LaFrance Proscino, 14 Jackson Avenue, questioned consent agenda items 3s. and 3t. and asked why so large. Response was provided that transformer costs have increased dramatically.

Darrell Stancuna, 18 Olde Village Circle, mentioned he contacted Councilors Fishbein and Zandri regarding changing by-laws and homeowner rights. Chairman Cervoni explained Council has jurisdiction over town ordinances, not homeowner associations.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, asked Mayor if he has looked into CT Partnership 2.0 for health insurance for town employees. Mayor stated town goes out to bid every five years with assistance from consultant.

6. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,537 from General Operating, Acct. #10020150-58735 to Purchased Services-Ambulance Billing, Acct #10020150-56778 – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Chief Joseph Czentnar
Deputy Chief Samuel Wilson*

MOTION WAS MADE to Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,537.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: CARMODY**

There was discussion between Chief, Deputy Chief and Councilors.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
ALLINSON: ABSENT TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: YES
8 -AYE
1-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED

7. Bid Waiver request to enter into an Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing via the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) to obtain best pricing for purchase of new Pumper – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Chief Joseph Czentnar
Deputy Chief Samuel Wilson*

MOTION WAS MADE TO REQUEST BID WAIVER to enter into an Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing via the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) to obtain best pricing for purchase of new Pumper.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: CARMODY**

There was discussion with Councilors, Chief and Deputy Chief.

Councilor Tatta indicated she would like to use ARPA funds for this.

Councilor Fishbein questions why a bid waiver is appropriate.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	YES	TESTA:	YES
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	YES
LAFFIN:	YES	CERVONI:	YES
MARRONE:	YES		
8-AYE			
1-ABSENT			
MOTION:	PASSED		

8. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$37,457 from Surplus-CRRA to Pumper Truck, Acct. #2002023-57000-10065 – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Chief Joseph Czentnar
Deputy Chief Samuel Wilson*

There was discussion regarding shortfall.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$37,457 from Surplus-CRRA to Pumper Truck, Acct. #2002023-57000-10065.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: CARMODY**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO AMEND TO UTILIZE ARRA FUNDS VERSUS
CRRA SURPLUS.**

**MADE BY: TATTA
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	NO	TESTA:	NO
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	YES
LAFFIN:	NO	CERVONI:	NO
MARRONE:	YES		
4-AYE			
4-NAY			
1-ABSENT			
MOTION:	FAILED		

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	YES	TESTA:	YES
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	YES
LAFFIN:	YES	CERVONI:	YES
MARRONE:	YES		

8-AYE
1-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED

9. Discussion and Possible action on creating an RFP and funding study of the Fire Department – Councilor Marrone

*In Attendance: Chief Joseph Czentnar
Deputy Chief Samuel Wilson*

Councilor Marrone indicated he is looking for more data on Fire Department operation – plan for future and bring in a professional that understands fire business. He stated he appreciates time spent explaining things to him.

MOTION WAS MADE to create an RFP and funding study of the Fire Department.

**MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

Councilor Testa feels they should not get involved in operational side of department. He remarked new Chief, new Administration and good morale. He worries about the message it sends and stated he is not in favor of this.

Chief discusses services provided, past budgets and cost of services.

Councilor Tatta stated she is not sure how she feels about this and does not want to come across as not having trust in the department.

Joe Mirra, 21 Pequot Road, stated volunteers are hard to come by and noted we have a team of professionals.

Tim Wall, 864 North Farms Road, stated since 1950 people were saying volunteers are going away, since then we're still here and noted the two gentlemen sitting at the table (Chief and Deputy Chief) started as volunteers.

Councilor Laffin stated volunteer is a separate issue and he would like an explanation of the problem with ambulance coming offline.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: ABSENT	TATTA: NO
CARMODY: NO	TESTA: NO
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: NO
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: YES	

3-AYE

5-NAY

1-ABSENT

MOTION: FAILED

10. Public Hearing, pursuant to CGS Section 7-163e, regarding the sale of a portion of 43 Wallace Avenue (2605± sq. ft.) (between 25 Wallace Avenue and 65 North Main Street); and

Attorney Farrell presented information regarding the sale of 43 Wallace Avenue.

11. Approval of an agreement to sell a portion of 43 Wallace Avenue (2605 ± sq. ft.) to Wallace Realty, Inc. – Law Dept.

Councilor Fishbein stated he is glad we talked about this and glad we are able to solve this issue – everybody benefits.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE AGREEMENT TO SELL A PORTION OF 43 WALLACE AVENUE (2605 ± sq. ft.) to WALLACE REALTY, INC.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	YES	TESTA:	YES
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	YES
LAFFIN:	YES	CERVONI:	YES
MARRONE:	YES		

8-AYE

1-ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

12. Discussion and possible action on the opinion of Attorney Richard Roberts on ARPA spending approval – Chairman Cervoni

Chairman Cervoni discusses Attorney Roberts opinion on ARPA spending.

13. Discussion and possible action to approve ARPA Grant Review Committee Charge; Grant Application Process; Business Application; Nonprofit Application; Business and Nonprofit Grant Evaluation Form; Nonprofit Program Proposal Evaluation Form – Councilor Laffin

MOTION WAS MADE to approve ARPA Grant Review Committee Charge; Grant Application Process; Business Application; Nonprofit Application; Business and Nonprofit Grant Evaluation Form; Nonprofit Program Proposal Evaluation Form.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

MOTION WAS MADE TO TABLE ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED AFTER AGENDA ITEM 14.

**MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED**

14. Discussion and possible action regarding ARPA Public Projects – Councilor Marrone

In Attendance: Ms. Collins (Consultant)

Ms. Collins remarked we have to make sure all three legs are looked at equally. She went on to state you need to be prepared for needs to be greater than anticipated and determine usage of money in the most beneficial way for the town. Ms. Collins stressed the need to take an equitable approach.

Councilor Carmody asked if all applications should be rated at the same time. Ms. Collins replied not necessarily at the same time but following the same rules and by group (business, non-profit and municipal separately).

Ms. Collins noted you need to think outside the box for projects and programs to benefit the community. She went on to state she and Mr. Regan can provide guidance to small businesses and non-profits to assist with application completion and project planning to get better scoring.

Ms. Collins stated that the ARPA Grant Review Committee will need to have meetings and training on the evaluation process and scoring metrics. She stressed evaluation needs to focus on community needs.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, asked how long until applications go out and timeline from submission to decision. Ms. Collins answered 30-90 days, although 30-60 days is preferred for the whole process. She explained first step, portal is created, 2nd step, application submitted, and 3rd step, review and scoring to be completed after 30 days. Next is the official action with an agreement and appropriation of funds.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE ARPA PUBLIC PROJECT PROGRAM.

**MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: TATTA**

MOTION TO AMEND TO MOVE TO STRIKE #3 (SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PUBLIC SAFETY) OF THE PUBLIC PROJECT PROGRAM.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: TATTA**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: ABSENT	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: NO	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: NO	

**5-AYE
3-NAY
1-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED**

MOTION TO AMEND FIRST PARAGRAPH STRIKING OUT “ BY THE ARPA COMMITTEE BASED ON”

**MADE BY: TESTA
SECONDED BY: LAFFIN**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: ABSENT	TATTA: NO
CARMODY: NO	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: NO	ZANDRI: NO
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: NO	

3-AYE

5-NAY

1-ABSENT

MOTION: FAILED

VOTE ON MOTION TO APPROVE APRPA PUBLIC PROJECT PROGRAM.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: ABSENT	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: NO	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: YES	

6-AYE

2-NAY

1-ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

- (13) Discussion and possible action to approve ARPA Grant Review Committee Charge; Grant Application Process; Business Application; Nonprofit Application; Business and Nonprofit Grant Evaluation Form; Nonprofit Program Proposal Evaluation Form

The current verbiage for the Wallingford ARPA Grant Review Committee states that all votes made by the Committee shall require 7 affirmative votes to take action. Mutual agreement was made to strike the word affirmative.

Councilor Fishbein questioned how one determines the viability of a business or a non-profit. He also feels tax returns should be included.

There was discussion to add 2021 for gross income reporting on business application (Page 3) and non-profit IRS form 990.

Councilor Tatta requested to remove the asterisk on Page 3 of business application, second question (“Is your business currently in Good Standing”).

Councilor Tatta questioned the application evaluation forms and the rubric of scoring. Ms. Collins suggests scaling for each evaluation criteria.

Councilor Tatta questioned timeline for municipal applications. Councilor Laffin stated each group would be done relative to each other and indicated it's a 60 day period then reviewed and scored together.

Councilor Fishbein suggested adding disclosure for both applications asking if there are pending lawsuits against applicant. Chairman Cervoni asked what level of investigation the Committee is going to do. Councilor Fishbein stated this is not intended to make it harder. Councilor Testa does not think this is a good idea and said he can envision that leading to lawsuits. Councilor Fishbein stated we don't ask about crimes, just making sure no one is suing the town.

Ms. Collins stated every business has to get a unique identification number and the federal government asks for documentation to get the number.

VOTE ON MOTION to approve ARPA Grant Review Committee Charge; Grant Application Process; Business Application; Nonprofit Application; Business and Nonprofit Grant Evaluation Form; Nonprofit Program Proposal Evaluation Form.

MOTION WAS MADE TO AMEND PROCESS: ARPA COMMITTEE WILL NOT REVIEW ANY APPLICATOINS UNTIL ALL APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED IN ENTIRETY AND ALL APPLICATION PERIODS ARE CLOSED.

**MADE BY: TATTA
SECONDED BY: MARRONE**

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	YES	TESTA:	YES
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	YES
LAFFIN:	YES	CERVONI:	NO
MARRONE:	YES		

**7-AYE
1-NAY
1-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED**

MOTION TO AMEND APPLICATION TO ADD DISCLOSURE ON PENDING LAWSUITS.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
MADE BY: CARMODY**

ALLINSON:	ABSENT	TATTA:	YES
CARMODY:	NO	TESTA:	NO
FISHBEIN:	YES	ZANDRI:	NO
LAFFIN:	NO	CERVONI:	NO

MARRONE: YES
3-AYE
5-NAY
1-ABSENT
MOTION: FAILED

MOTION TO AMEND APPLICATIONS TO BE NOTARIZED.

MADE BY FISHBEIN
THERE WAS NO SECOND.

MOTION TO APPROVE ARPA APPLICATION WITH MINOR CHANGES

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI

ALLINSON: ABSENT	TATTA: NO
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: YES	
7-AYE	
1-NAY	
1-ABSENT	
MOTION: PASSED	

MOTION TO ADJOURN
MADE BY: ZANDRI
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION PASSED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

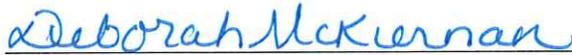
Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

20 SEPT. 2022

Date



Deborah McKiernan, Town Clerk

9/20/2022

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 8-22-22
AT 4:00 P.M. AND RECEIVED BY
Deborah McKiernan TOWN CLERK