

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town Council Chambers

January 22, 2013

RECORD OF VOTES AND MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Following a blessing given by Reverend Dean O. Warburton of the First Congregational Church of Wallingford, the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were as follows: Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John Letourneau, Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald E. Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James M. Bowes were also at the meeting.

2. Correspondence - *None*

3. Consent Agenda

3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$3,927.36 (#463 - #487)
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector

3b. Acceptance of Grant and Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$7,945
to SCOW-HRD-58 Fund 231- Revenue and to SCOW-HRD-58 Fund 231
- Expenditures – Program Planning

3c. Consider and Approve the Re-Appointment of Nicholas Lombardi as
Commissioner to the Wallingford Housing Authority for a five-year
term of November 1, 2012 to October 31, 2017 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi

3d. Consider and Approve the Re-Appointment Armand Menard as an Alternate
to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three-year term of January 8, 2013
to January 8, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi

3e. Consider and approve the Re-Appointment of Carl D. Bonamico to the Board of Assessment
Appeals for a three year term of January 8, 2013 to January 8, 2016 – Chairman Robert F.
Parisi

3f. Consider and approve the Re-Appointment of Ray Rys as an alternate to the Zoning
Board of Appeals for a three year term of January 8, 2013 to January 8, 2016
– Chairman Robert F. Parisi

3g. Approve minutes of Special Joint Workshop Meeting with Planning and Zoning
and the Town Council of January 7, 2013

3h. Approve minutes of Regular Town Council meeting of January 8, 2013

3i. Approve minutes of Special Meeting with Public Utilities Commission of January 14, 2013

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a. – 3i.
MADE BY CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: ALL AYE (9); UNANIMOUS
MOTION PASSED.**

The Town Clerk swore in Nicholas Lombardi as Commissioner to the Wallingford Housing Authority, Carl D. Bonamico to the Board of Assessment Appeals, Ray Rys as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Menard was not present.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda – None

**MOTION WAS MADE TO CONSIDER AND MOVE UP ITEM #8.
MADE BY CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: ALL AYE (9); UNANIMOUS
MOTION PASSED.**

8. Discussion and Action to utilize the qualifications-based procedure for selection of a consultant for power procurement services transition, policy development and oversight – Director, Public Utilities

MOTION WAS MADE TO TAKE ACTION TO UTILIZIE THE QUALIFICATION QUALIFICATIONS-BASED PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF A CONSULTANT FOR POWER PROCUREMENT SERVICES TRANSITION, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND OVERSIGHT AS PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

**MADE BY CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI**

In Attendance: George Adair, Director of Public Utilities

Mr. Adair said that his memo sets forth the reasons for this requesting this approval at this time in lieu of a simple notification. He discussed the functions of the consultant stating that the would be to finalize the draft policy of different ways of procuring power, which was drawn up for the PUC in the last year; secondly an oversight function which would remain in place no matter what the final choice of the PUC. He also noted that support services would be provided during the transition period. Because they are on a critical path, Mr. Adair commented that it is appropriate to go out for the solicitation now rather than further into the future.

The Council had no questions.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, suggested that Mr. Adair remain at the meeting to address the possibility of questions in another item. Regarding the source of power from a generator, it would be the town who would address this question, not the Utilities.

There were no other comments from the public.

VOTE: INDIVIDUALLY CALLED OUT BEGINNING WITH MR. LETOURNEAU, LAFFIN, FISHBEIN, CERVONI, RASCATI, SULLIVAN, ZANDRI, PARISI –AYE (8) ECONOMOPOULOS -NAY

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION WAS MADE TO CONSIDER AND MOVE UP ITEM #6, AND THEN TO TAKE UP ITEM #7.

MADE BY CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: EIGHT AYE; ONE NAY (ECONOMOPOULOS)

MOTION PASSED.

6. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending workers' compensation matter of Garrison v. Town of Wallingford – Personnel

MOTION WAS MADE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §1-200 (6)(B) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES REGARDING STRATEGY AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PENDING WORKERS' COMPENSATION MATTER OF GARRISON V. TOWN OF WALLINGFORD.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: EIGHT AYE; ONE NAY (ECONOMOPOULOS)

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: ALL AYE (9); UNANIMOUS

MOTION PASSED.

TIME OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:43 P.M. to 6:58 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT EXECUTIVE SESSION: NINE COUNCILORS (9); PERSONNEL DIRECTOR TERENCE SULLIVAN, ASSISTANT PERSONNEL DIRECTOR JAMES HUTT, RISK MANAGER KURT TREIBER, TOWN ATTORNEY GERALD E. FARRELL, SR., ATTORNEY COLLETTE GRIFFIN

7. Motion to Consider and Approve a Settlement of the pending workers' compensation matter of Garrison v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in Executive Session - Personnel

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE PENDING WORKERS' COMPENSATION MATTER OF GARRISON V. TOWN OF WALLINGFORD AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: ALL AYE (9); UNANIMOUS
MOTION PASSED.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

Jennifer Short, 21 Pleasant Street, addressed the Town Council with a prepared statement with regard to her (and others) inquiry into “an apparent drug epidemic in Wallingford.” (*Appendix I*). The statement included what they have learned; what they have accomplished (formed a start-up group – *Coalition for a Better Wallingford*); naming of issues and obstacles; a plea for doing more; and the need for leaders and what they hope to do in the future with the assistance of the Town Council.

The many citizens who populated the auditorium joined into a conversation and talked about this critical issue of drugs in our community with Councilors, the Mayor, the Director of Youth and Social Services, Craig Turner, teachers and family members of those who have lost a young person due to drugs. It was acknowledged that to have a full conversation in which Councilors can engage freely that there needs to be a specific item on the agenda that could be requested by Craig Turner. The Council expressed the need to know and what the Council can do. Others who spoke were John Budd, 7 West St., Christine Cyr and Wallingford teacher, Christine Anaimo of Cheshire.

It was noted that the attorney for Item 12 had arrived.

CHAIRMAN PARISI DECLARED A FIVE-MINUTE RECESS, WHICH LASTED FROM 7:40 P.M. TO 7:45 P.M.

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE UP ITEM 12, THE AGENDA ADDENDUM.

MADE BY CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: EIGHT (8) AYE; ONE NAY (ECONOMOPOULOS)
MOTION PASSED.

ADDENDUM

- 12.** Consider and Approve tentative UPSEU Local 424-17 Managers Unit Tentative Agreement from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015 – Personnel

MOTION OF APPROVE TENTATIVE UPSEU LOCAL 424-17 MANAGERS UNIT TENTATIVE AGREEMENT FROM JANUARY 1, 2013 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI

In attendance: Terence Sullivan, Personnel Director

Mr. Sullivan responded to questions from the Council:

- Town pays a premium for management employees who have a term life insurance policy of a set amount of \$65,000, and this contract increases that to \$70,000
- With regard to the one-year wage reopener and the rationale involved
- Retirement sick leave reduces paid out sick days to 50 days for new hires

Wallingford Town Hall, 45 South Main Street

- Wage increase of 1.75% increase for which \$35, 000 from the General Fund will be needed for the rest of this fiscal year.
- Elimination of longevity pay for new hires was discussed
- Direct deposit was discussed and not resolved
- Contract covers supervisors and department heads in every department, Town-wide, but not the Board of Education
- Pension contract and other possibilities for new hires
- Members in this Union about 75 - 56 union and 20 non-bargaining
- Re-openers and shorter contract rationale

ROLL CALL VOTE:

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CERVONI: YES | ECONOMOPOULOS: NO | FISHBEIN: NO |
| LAFFIN: YES | LETOURNEAU: YES | RASCATI: YES |
| SULLIVAN: YES | ZANDRI: YES | CHAIRMAN PARISI: YES |

7-AYE; 2-NAY

THE MOTION PASSED.

- 9. A.** Conduct a Public Hearing to Repeal Chapter 75 – “Bicycles” of the Code of the Town of Wallingford

Public Hearing opened at 8:10 P.M. by the Chairman. There were no comments from the public.

Councilor Fishbein remarked that it makes sense to repeal this ordinance.

Public Hearing closed at 8:11 P.M.

- B.** Discussion and Action on repealing of Chapter 75 – “Bicycles” of the Code of the Town of Wallingford

-Vincent Cervoni and Craig Fishbein, Co-Chairmen, Ordinance Committee

MOTION WAS MADE TO REPEAL CHAPTER 75-BICYCLES OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CERVONI: YES | ECONOMOPOULOS: YES | FISHBEIN: YES |
| LAFFIN: YES | LETOURNEAU: YES | RASCATI: YES |
| SULLIVAN: YES | ZANDRI: YES | CHAIRMAN PARISI: YES |

9AYEUNANIMOUS

THE MOTION PASSED.

- 10.** Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of generators/alternative power systems for the two high schools in Wallingford with respect to emergency power use for the schools and/or for use during weather related emergencies as needed – Councilor Jason Zandri

Councilor Cervoni read the item.

MOTION WAS MADE TO FORM AN EMERGENCY AND ALTERNATIVE POWER REVIEW COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AREAS AND FACILITIES OF THE TOWN THAT SHOULD BE PLACED INTO CONSIDERATION FOR EMERGENCY AND ALTERNATIVE POWER CONDUCTIVITY AND SERVICE AS WELL AS TO RESEARCH AND REVIEW ALL CURRENT AND UPCOMING OR PLANNED GRANT PROGRAMS THAT WE MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR.
MADE BY: ZANDRI
SECONDED BY: ECONOMOPOULOS

Councilor Zandri reviewed past storms, locations of emergency shelters and how things have worked in the past. He said he looked from the perspective of long term outages and that impact upon the town. He discussed generators and the expansion of his original scope due to new information. He talked about a micro-grid grant. He explained the micro-grid. He reviewed the micro-grid with respect to other Connecticut towns.

Mayor Dickinson stated this grant has already been discussed with the emergency Operation Center last fall. He indicated that it is highly unlikely that this town would be without power for an extended amount of time given that we through our own Electric Division can generate our own power, unlike most Connecticut towns. He spent time explaining the micro-grid. He declared that over the past year and one half an analysis has been performed on the various ways of dealing with energizing the schools. The Council is aware that the town has black start capability with the PPL Plant. He said they have been looking at energizing one of the schools and the school system is analyzing what the costs may be to achieve that. He reported that several years ago that cost was \$500K for one school.

Councilor Letourneau made comments. Councilor Laffin said had no more questions and that the issue is being addressed by the town so he would defer to Councilor Economopoulos who had other comments but Councilor Economopoulos deferred back to Councilor Laffin.

MOTION WAS MADE TO CALL THE QUESTION.
MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CERVONI: YES | ECONOMOPOULOS: NO | FISHBEIN: YES |
| LAFFIN: YES | LETOURNEAU: YES | RASCATI: YES |
| SULLIVAN: NO | ZANDRI: NO | CHAIRMAN PARISI: YES |

6 AYE; 3 NAY

THE MOTION PASSED.

THE MOTION WAS READ BACK BY THE TOWN CLERK AS FOLLOWS.

MOTION WAS MADE TO FORM AN EMERGENCY AND ALTERNATIVE POWER REVIEW COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AREAS AND FACILITIES OF THE TOWN THAT SHOULD BE PLACED INTO CONSIDERATION FOR EMERGENCY AND ALTERNATIVE POWER CONDUCTIVITY AND SERVICE AS WELL AS TO RESEARCH AND REVIEW ALL CURRENT AND UPCOMING OR PLANNED GRANT PROGRAMS THAT WE MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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|------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| CERVONI: | NO | ECONOMOPOULOS: | YES | FISHBEIN: | NO |
| LAFFIN: | NO | LETOURNEAU: | NO | RASCATI: | NO |
| SULLIVAN: | YES | ZANDRI: | YES | CHAIRMAN PARISI: | NO |

6 NAY; 3 AYE

THE MOTION FAILED.

- 11.** 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.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: AYE (9)
MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi

Date

Town Clerk Barbara Thompson

Date