

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

**February 25, 2014**

**RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:34P.M. There was a Moment of Silence and then, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Councilors in attendance were as follows: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Thomas Laffin, John Letourneau, Christine Mansfield, Larry Russo, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Councilors Robert F. Parisi and John Sullivan had excused absences from the meeting. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Corporation Counsel Janis Small, Sr. and James Bowes, Comptroller were also present at the meeting.

**3.** Consent Agenda

- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$2,997.24 (#527-#533)  
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
  
- 3b.** Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$80 from Registration Fees for *Youth and Social Services Special Fund-STEM ACADEMY* to Donations  
Acct # 2264002-47152 and to Expenditures Acct # 22640150-58830  
– Youth and Social Services
  
- 3c.** Consider and Approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division, Citizen Corps Funding Program in the Amount of \$1,020 and designate Eloise Hazelwood, Director of Health and Wallingford MTC Coordinator as the Administrator of the Program – Health Director
  
- 3d.** Acceptance of and Appropriation of Funds from Ct Department of Emergency Services for VMRC in the Amount of \$1,020 to Citizen Corps Funding Program  
Acct # TBD by Finance Dept. and to Citizen Corps Funding Program Acct # TBD by Finance Dept. – Health Director
  
- 3e.** Acceptance from Kidde Corporation of twenty-five (25) smoke detectors with ten-year (10) life batteries valued at \$1,474 – Fire Marshal
  
- 3f.** Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$6,826 to Open Space Management Fund Revenue Acct # 2151001-44060 and to Open Space Management Fund Expenses Acct # 21511100-58830-10009- Environmental Planner
  
- 3g.** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$50,000 to Public Works- Overtime Acct # 10030000-51400 from General Purpose Contingency Acct # 10019000-58520 – Public Works Director
  
- 3h.** Consider and Approve revisions to Job Description for *Working Crew Leader* in the Public Works Dept. - Personnel

- 3i. Consider and Approve a Resolution endorsing a proposal submitted by SCRCOG for a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant for the Continued Development of Regional GIS Data Services – Mayor

*Removed*

- 3j. Consider and Approve Town Council Authorization to Execute LCRA between the CTMEEC and the WED – Public Utilities
- 3k. Consider and Approve Town Council Authorization to Execute the Asset Demarcation Agreement between CL & P and the WED – Public Utilities
- 3l. Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting of February 4, 2014
- 3m. Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of February 11, 2014

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a. - 3h. and 3j. to 3m.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU**  
**VOTE: (7) AYE; (2) ABSENT**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

#### **4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

- 3i. Consider and Approve a Resolution endorsing a proposal submitted by SCRCOG for a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant for the Continued Development of Regional GIS Data Services – Mayor

**MOTION WAS MADE TO Approve a Resolution endorsing a proposal submitted by SCRCOG for a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant for the Continued Development of Regional GIS Data Services**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: MANSFIELD**

Councilor Fishbein opened with a reminder that the last time the GIS Data Services was before the Council that it was defeated. He inquired about the intent if the town engages in this and wanted to know if the public would have access.

The Mayor responded. Some of the technicalities of the GIS Date Service were explained. The public would be able to access information that the town would be sharing with SCRCOG, who will be setting up a GIS platform of all of the towns who participate in this region. This allows for more seamless planning and review of information between communities where roads and other features intersect. This service defines property boundaries, planning and zoning information, streets, utilities, and other information. With full capability clicking on a parcel will yield information such as the zone that it's in, the address, etc. The GIS System allows a common platform between utilities, assessor and engineering for planning and design. Police and Fire Services utilize these programs as well. This platform will use the 2013 aerial information as opposed to the 2001 fly-over currently in use. The GIS license is \$1,500. SCRCOG pays for the \$200,000 set-up cost through a grant. Not all information will be available, such as utility infrastructures, to the public. There

would be no separate website for Wallingford but that a link from the town's website would be possible. For departments that need it, access could be through the internet. This program is totally funded by grants for five years and after that it's a decision to keep it. There is no information of what that cost might be after the initial five years.

There was a short discussion with regard to assessor's records and that his concern is that of privacy. The town should not be sharing this information.

Councilor Mansfield supports the town's association the SCRCOG GIS Data services system as it has survey use and in looking at boundaries. She noted that any changes to census data of a federal level which could relate to grant applications within our district. She noted that it pulls together a cohesive foundation with little to no risk over the next five years.

In attendance at the meeting: Police Chief Douglas Dortenzio; Acting Fire Chief Richard Heidgerd, Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Alsup, Town Planner Kacie Costello and Assistant Town Engineer Rob Baltramaitus all gave testimony supporting the GIS Data Services system proving its use in their distinctive areas of operation.

Chief Dortenzio said that they dispatch not only police department calls but also fire department and EMS calls. He said they currently use a map provided by and updated every quarter by the state that does not encompass private roads. Many of the town's developments are private roads so that on the state 911 map it shows up as a blank space which becomes problematic. He said that bringing this information from various updated maps into one platform makes layers available to the users, whether it be police or planning or engineering. This becomes important with emergency calls made from cellphones which can be plotted on the digital map in the 911 center.

Acting Fire Chief Richard Heidgerd referred to the ability to locate fire hydrants, typography for location of hazardous material incidents. It is used for pre-planning to look at structures, especially at night in seeing proximity of structures near a problem structure that they are responding to. This helps in emergency management from the EOC. There are a lot of applications from the office setting that gives access to this data that is helpful in the response mode.

Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Alsup spoke about a hazardous material going into a catch basin and where does that go and where does that stream go. The way it is now, people have to actually go into the woods to figure it out but with this GIS technology, it's a few clicks on the iPad it can be seen where to target the response. The data allows then to make quick, effective decisions.

Assistant Town Engineer Rob Baltramaitus said that they use their current system daily which is based on aerial photography that is now 13 years old. This is a great opportunity to get this updated. There has been lots of development in that time. He said that also now there would be 2013 seamless, high resolution aerial photography which would be invaluable. He said that it is better than google and that it is spatially correct. He said they are already paying for maintenance. As example, the assessor maps database are maintained currently by an outside consultant at the cost of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. He said with a \$1,500 license for GIS that they could start to do this in house themselves. He fully supports the GIS System.

Town Planner Kacie Costello indicated that there are major benefits to the GIS system, especially from a Planning and Zoning viewpoint. She now uploads monthly the assessor's information from a disk. This information is not entirely accurate. The GIS Data system would change that as Planning and Zoning responds to property questions in being able to accurately, efficiently and easily respond to the public about property is invaluable. From a planning standpoint with GIS they could look at trends, would have the ability to create different maps, would have the ability to create different layers that have different kinds of information on them in order to plan. They could look at a full built out for the town. She said this is a great benefit to the town.

Several Councilors acknowledged a better understanding of the benefits to the town from the testimony of different users of the system and the details and examples that were given. Councilor Fishbein would like to see the town have the full benefit of GIS.

Public comment was offered by Ken Daly, North Main Street, who works with wetlands for the state DOT and in that he manages 114 waste sites using GIS, which, he said, he has used for the past twenty years. He said he could not do his job without it. He gave an example that pollution can be tracked in an historical layering of maps.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**FISHBEIN: YES**

**MANSFIELD: YES**

**SULLIVAN: ABSENT**

**LAFFIN: YES**

**PARISI: ABSENT**

**TESTA: YES**

**LETOURNEAU: YES**

**RUSSO: YES**

**CHAIRMAN CERVONI: YES**

**7-AYE; 2-ABSENT**

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, commented on the management of the Dog Pound Trust Fund and whether a cost benefit analysis for having one high school v. two high schools has been performed.

Larry Morgenstein wanted to know why such a short notice period when announcing press releases.

**6. Discussion and Possible Action with respect to Tax Incentive Program for Winston Hospitality, Inc. – Chairman Vincent Cervoni**

*Withdrawn*

**7. 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**

**8. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-225 (f) and §1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation matter of *American Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford* – Law Department**

**MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO:**

7. §1-200(6) (D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property and
8. §1-225 (f) and §1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation matter of *American Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford*

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE: (7) AYE; (2) ABSENT (PARISI & SULLIVAN)**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE: (7) AYE; (2) ABSENT (PARISI & SULLIVAN)**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**TIME OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:**

**Item 8. 7:35 P.M. to 7:50 P.M.**  
**Item 7. 7:50 P.M. to 8:16 P.M.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTENDANCE for both Items 7. & 8.**  
**Seven (7) Councilors; Councilors Parisi & Sullivan were absent; Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Corporation Counsel Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes**

9. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the matter of *American Industries, Inc, v. Town of Wallingford* matter as discussed in Executive Session– Law Department

**MOTION WAS MADE TO AUTHORIZE THE CORPORATION COUNSEL TO COMPROMISE THE CLAIM IN THE MATTER OF *American Industries, Inc, v. Town of Wallingford* AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE: (7) AYE; (2) ABSENT (PARISI & SULLIVAN)**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN**  
**SECONDED BY: LAFFIN**  
**VOTE: 7-AYE; 2-ABSENT**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:18 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes  
Secretary to the Town Council  
Meeting digitally recorded

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Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

Date

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Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date