

Emergency Town Council Meeting

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December 4, 1985

5:30 p.m.

An emergency meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held in Council Chambers, called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Chairman Gessert.

Answering present to the roll called by Town Clerk Rascati were Council members Diana, Gessert, Holmes, Killen, Papale and Polanski. Absent were Council members Bergamini, Krupp and Rys.

Chairman Gessert then notes that he would like to apologize since he knew about the furnace not working properly at the Yalesville Fire Department over the weekend. He felt they could struggle along with the propane heaters. However, he found out yesterday that they had more of a hardship than he thought. They have to send someone there every two hours to turn the heat on go home and keep coming back every two hours.

Mr. Polanski then moved a transfer \$2,330 from A/C 203R-165 to A/C 203Y-510; seconded by Mrs. Papale.

Chief McElfish then comments that last Friday he was informed that the furnace was not working at the Yalesville Fire House. They have a service agreement with Geremia and they came by and checked the unit out and found that the combustion chamber had burned into the air movement chamber. It was putting out carbon monoxide and they recommended since it was a hazard for safety and health that they not run it and they did shut it down. At that time he thought the repair would be about \$1,300. He went back and found out and said \$2,600. He got hold of the Mayor at this point and since Friday was not cold they decided to try and wait it out. They had been offered a garage by Geremia but the Chief did not want to do that for liability reasons. He wanted to keep the station open. One of the volunteers did have a space heater and they did have some quartz heaters temporarily. John came back on Saturday and the weather got worse and Chief McElfish had seen Chairman Gessert at the football game on Saturday and told him if he happened to see the Mayor would he let him know. On Monday, with John's help, they rented a space heater. The problem with that is that every 2-3 hours they have to run it and bring the temperature up and then shut it down. If you run it all the time the temperature gets too hot, it runs out of propane and everything else. The utility account covers that. However, it is a very inconvenient type thing. The engine has a motor heater and they were not concerned about that. It was the building itself that they were concerned about. It is an older building and does not have the proper insulation. They talked to the Mayor and he asked him to get prices. They went to purchasing at 9:00 a.m. Monday morning and he told them to go out and get vendors to get prices. They came back with four prices. They then took into consideration that if they did expand in the future what they might need at that time.

There were four bids. The first from George Mack was the unit that they also recommended, 250,000 BTU's and they could have it from 7-10 days. This is \$2,300 the lowest bid. DeBaise was 275,000 BTU's. The present unit they have is 225,000 BTU's. They are getting a better and more efficient unit. The old one is 26 years old. Again, this bid was for delivery in 7-10 days but their price was \$4,000. Geremia Oil Co. was a 250,000 BTU Unit and that was if they had one in the distributor in South Windsor they could have had it in right away. They don't have one so that would be 5-7 days also. Their bid was \$2,600. Kair was the other bidder. They seemed to think they needed a 450,000 BTU Unit which was a huge unit and their price was \$7,500. The bottom line is that Mack is the low bidder for \$2,330. This includes removal of existing unit, new duct connections, piping, electrical, etc.

Mr. Killen then asks what time frame they are looking at for the one they will be going with.

Chief McElfish says 7-10 days. If approved they had talked with Tim Rivers today and they can walk the PO through and have it ordered tomorrow afternoon.

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Mr. Killen then asks what they are doing in the interim.

Chief Dahill first thanks the Council for being here tonight. He considers this an emergency and he is thankful they are all there. What they have done is rented a 150,000 BTU heater. They are not rated and not suppose to be used in occupied areas. The fire house now is separated into 2 sections, the engine room and the living quarters. What they have been doing is while people are there they put the heater in the engine room and try to get it up to about 85° and then they move everyone out and heat the living section and try and get that up and then they go home. They won't leave it running when nobody is there. Also they have a problem with the electrical in the Fire House with it being 26 years old in running the quartz heaters. What happens is they turn the heater on and they lose the television. Right now with the weather being cold, if it is continual, they could have a problem with the water pipes. They have had someone living close by going over at 3:00 a.m. to check and make sure everything is OK. This is why they have asked for the meeting tonight. The furnace has to be replaced. Again he thanks them for their taking their time and meeting with them.

Mr. Killen then asks if the one they will be putting in is large enough for now and the foreseeable future.

Chief McElfish says that is what they were told. If they have an expansion this should also cover the expansion. There will not be any additional expenses except duct work.

Chairman Gessert then asks if there is any alternative they can come up with in the meantime.

Chief Dahill says that he hasn't come up with any.

He then says that they did have someone bring the space heater in but first of all the BTU's were much less than they are using now. In addition it was one of their members who was in business and they felt if they went and rented it, the rental agency does assume some liability. They didn't want to be liable for using one of their mens property. Right now they are saying 7-10 days. When he spoke to Mack he said 2-3 days for ordering and a day to install. Depending on how weekends fall they could have this in by Tuesday. He was afraid if they waited until December 10th, it would be around the 16th or 17th and the longer they go, the colder it gets.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Mr. Holmes then moved to waive the bidding and award the contract to George Mack & Sons; seconded by Mr. Diana.

VOTE: Unanimous ayes; motion duly carried.

Chief McElfish then thanks the Council.

A motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Lisa M. Bousquet
Council Secretary

Approved:

David A. Gessert
David A. Gessert, Council Chairman

1-14-86
Date

Rosemary A. Rascazi
Rosemary A. Rascazi, Town Clerk

1-15-86
Date