

Town Clerk

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 BUDGET MEETINGS

MONDAY, May 1, 2006

6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The following is a list of motions made and acted upon by the Wallingford Town Council at a Special Budget Workshop Meeting held on Monday, May 1, 2006, in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi Called the Meeting to Order at 6:40 P.M. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Clerk Barbara Thompson were Councilors Michael Brodinsky, Vincenzo M. Di Natale, Lois Doherty, Gerald E. Farrell, Jr., Stephen W. Knight, Iris F. Papale, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Comptroller James M. Bowes were also present.

There was a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Departments were called in the following order:

ENGINEERING

John Thompson, Town Engineer

Mr. Knight asked about curbing repairs and said he sees that \$34,000 is encumbered and another \$50,000 is going into it.

Mr. Thompson said that spring construction is beginning with the construction on Geneva and other west and east side locations as well as the center of town. He said that they re-bid the job for a contractor after being without one and that all of the requested appropriations will be used. He said that Engineering does the concrete curbing and that it is separate from the sidewalk program. Mr. Knight asked about the sidewalk program. Mr. Thompson said that they are finishing up on Washington and then North Cherry Street, next finishing up in the Quinipiac -Ward Street area, next to outlying areas. He referred to a map and a schedule that residents can consult. He said that there is another contractor doing concrete work, ADA ramp improvement work in 100 locations in town

that were not previously done. Mr. Knight asked about an engineering consultant. Mr. Thompson said that every year they typically engage specialty consultants, like a structural engineer for expertise or a licensed land surveyor or a wetlands flagging consultant.

Chairman Parisi asked about the ADA contractor. Mr. Thompson said that the ADA contractor and the sidewalk contractor are the same but that there are two separate contracts and programs.

Mr. Brodinsky asked about the ADA contract, and if it was a fixed price contract. Mr. Thompson said that it is based on a number of locations, paid on a per square foot basis, and that the work is assigned on an ongoing basis in a certain geographic area. Mr. Thompson said that they are about 50% complete on the ADA handicap ramp program to date. He said that they have also done ADA work at the Police Station and for Parks and Recreation at one of the pools. They talked about the guardrail backlog that this work will be ongoing through 2007 and about trench repairs. Mr. Brodinsky asked about aerial photography.

No action was taken.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Lisa Seyler, Animal Control Officer, introduced herself to the Council. Mr. Testa talked about the Meriden Humane Society.

No action was taken.

Social Service Contributions \$4,000 (Pg. 45) Line 6772 – Mayor Dickinson said that the title has gotten distorted and should be Counseling at the Daycare. It is support for VNA to provide a counselor at daycare.

CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING - Pg. 84-85 – John Thompson, Engineering

No questions

Mayor Dickinson said that depending on how certain projects come in the \$1,300,000 will change.

PUBLIC WORKS - Pg. 53

Henry McCully, Public Works Director
Edward Niland, Assistant Public Works Director

Regarding Lines 9155, 9105 and 9142 and 9905

Mr. Knight referred to sub-division paving costs and how balances are applied to overages. Mr. McCully explained some of the details. Mayor Dickinson talked about Line 9155 that in the current year, it has no money. Mr. Knight asked about 9905 small drainage projects, 9130 trailer for moving equipment and 9189 large loader, which is replacing a 12-year old unit. Mr. Brodinsky asked about 9189, and Mr. McCully said the old equipment is traded in. Chairman Parisi asked about the ballfields.

No action was taken.

MAYOR Pg. 15 FINANCE

Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr.

Comptroller James M. Bowes

Mr. Bowes announced that one line item in Revenues and its relation to revaluation and its effect on CRRA. He referred to Pilots Line 1062 and due to revaluation and the mill rate, he said that there is a \$200,000 latitude in this line.

Mr. Brodinsky referred to a \$33 million distribution in a municipal sharing plan passed by the senate this day, and that Wallingford will receive another \$211,000 and asked if those funds were in addition to those on page 9 and 10. Mr. Bowes said that it is not reflected there. From the newspaper article he was reading, Mr. Brodinsky talked about \$35 million set aside for Special Education aid. Mr. Bowes said that would be about \$272,000 more to be allocated to the Board of Education for next fiscal year. It was said that the Board of Education did not know that these funds were forthcoming. Mr. Brodinsky talked about Ashlar Village Line 1061, Ulbrich Heights, Line 1111 page 10, farmland rental and open space and Ambulance 6410 and Recovery from Workers Compensation Insurance 6410. Ms. Doherty asked about 9910, Financial Information Services, and the balance of \$100,000 and with Mr. Bowes and the Mayor regarding the need for a new system sooner than was expected. Mr. Knight talked about appropriations with Mr. Bowes and about 9926 – mapping services. Mr. Brodinsky asked about Government access television, data processing payment to the Electric Division 9006, retirement 8500, interest on bonds 8510; new debt financing 8582. Mr. Knight commented on rising electric rates and that there may be a change in how that revenue will be used.

No action was taken.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Page 40; Line Item 1000

There was some discussion regarding the Sealer of Weights and measurements, and that there were no journals, logs, or records and where the Sealer of Weights and Measurements visited and that there was no response. Mr. Knight asked is there is a statutory requirement to have a Sealer of Weights and Measurements. Mayor Dickinson said that if there is a population of 70,000 to 75,000, then one is required. Wallingford does not have to have a Sealer of Weights and Measurements.

Mr. Brodinsky moved to delete \$1,000 from the budget, line 1000, page 42, but not eliminate the position of Sealer of Weights and Measures. Ms. Papale seconded.

Seven (7) Councilors voted Aye. Mr. Farrell and Mr. DiNatale abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Page 42, Line Item 1000

Mr. Knight read a memo addressed to the Mayor from the Comptroller, regarding an omission from the budget on page 42, Line Item # 001-3010-101-1000, the stipend of \$8,500 for the Town of Wallingford Physician Advisor, which was inadvertently excluded from the Health Department 2006-2007 budget request. And then he made a motion to increase the Salaries and Wages section of the budget for the Health Department by \$8,500 from \$303,116 to \$311,616. Ms. Doherty seconded.

All Councilors (9) voted Aye, and the motion passed.

REMOVE FROM TABLE

Mr. Brodinsky made a motion to remove from the table the motion made by Mr. Testa at the Special Town Council Budget Workshop Meeting on April 25, 2006 regarding the Board of Education. Ms. Doherty seconded.

All Councilors (9) voted Aye, and the motion passed.

WITHDRAW MOTION

Mr. Testa withdrew from consideration the motion he made on April 25, 2006 to add \$735,000 to the Board of Education budget in light of the actions taken May 1, 2006 by the State of Connecticut legislature. Ms. Papale removed her second.

Mr. Brodinsky made comments regarding the budget saying that constituents report that the budget is too large. There are pressures on the citizens. He asked to bring the budget down 1% to 2% and asked the Mayor and the Administration to take another look to bring down the mill rate.

Mr. Knight said that we come pretty close every year. He spoke to the future, especially in debt service.

Mr. DiNatale echoed Mr. Brodinsky's comments and said that people are finding it difficult.

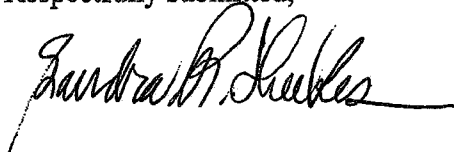
Chairman Parisi said that he has no problem asking the Mayor to take another look, saying that he is thorough. He said reality is the library, fields and schools and that action has been taken on them. He complimented how the Council has been during budget deliberations.

Mr. Brodinsky made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Rascati seconded.

All Councilors (9) voted Aye and the motion passed.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

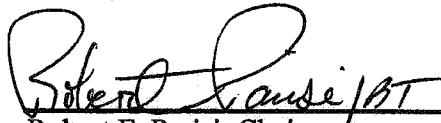
Respectfully submitted,



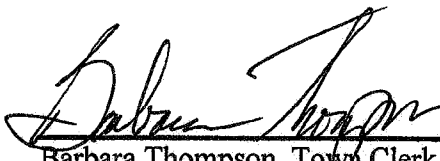
Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 11-1-06
AT 4:45 PM AND RECORDED BY
Sandra R. Weekes TOWN CLERK

Meeting recorded by Sandra Weekes


Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

11/14/06
Date


Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

11/14/06
Date