

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 1-29-2024 3W,
AT 4:00 pm AND RECEIVED BY
Kristen Panzo TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Robert F. Parisi Council Chambers
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024
6:30 P.M.
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 was called to order at 6:30pm. There Was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Autumn Allinson, Sameul Carmody, Craig Fishbein, Tom Laffin, Christophet Regan, Jesse Reynolds, Christina Tatta, Vincent F. Testa Jr., and Chairman Joseph A. Marrone III. Also in attendance were Mayor Vincent Cervoni, Attorney Town Council Janis Small, Timothey Sena Comptroller and Kristen Panzo Town Clerk.

Moment of Silence

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Consent Agenda
 - 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$13,308.95 (#550-#606)
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
 - 3b. Consider and approve Merit Review (3) – Human Resources
 - 3c. Consider and approve Wallingford Center for the Arts/Wallingford Community Theater use of the Town Council Chambers from March 28-April 7, 2024 - Mayor
 - 3d. Acceptance of Donation from C. Frecska and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$100 to Revenue Donations – Police, Acct #2502002-47152 and to Expense Donations – Police, Acct. #25020050-58830-10135 – Police Dept.
 - 3e. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$63 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
 - 3f. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce Funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$4,197 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.

- 3g. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce Funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$937 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3h. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce Funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,140 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3i. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce Funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount \$3,074 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3j. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$170,000 from Regular Wages & Salaries, Acct. #10020150-51000 to Replacement Pay, Acct. #10020150-51500 – Fire Dept.
- 3k. Acceptance of Fire Watch funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$399 from Miscellaneous Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 to Replacement pay, Acct. #10020150-51500 – Fire Dept.
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,450 from Negotiations, Acct. #10010150-56712 to Capital, Acct. #10010150-57000-TBD – Mayor
- 3m. Acceptance of Donation from the Wallingford Rotary Club Foundation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$500 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3n. Acceptance of Donations for client assistance and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$140 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3o. Acceptance of Donations for client assistance and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$500 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3p. Acceptance of funds from Operation Fuel and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$375 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3q. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,250 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10050050-51000 to PS-Port-O-Lets, Acct. #10050050-56782 – Recreation Dept.

- 3r. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$550 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10050050-51000 to Capital-Volleyball Stands, Acct. #10050050-57000-01234 – Recreation Dept.
- 3s. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$594 from Office Expenses & Supplies, Acct. #10010200-56100 to Capital-Computers, Acct. #10010200-57000-TBD – Program Planning
- 3t. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,000 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10030000-51000 to Purchased Services, Waste & Compost, Acct. #10030000-56754 - Public Works
- 3u. FY 23-24 Budget Appropriation in the amount of \$125,000 – PUC
- 3v. Approve Town Council Minutes of December 12, 2023, Special Town Council Minutes of January 8th, 2024 and Special Town Council Minutes of January 11, 2024.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve Consent Items 3a-3b,3d-3i,3k-3u and 3v as amended.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

4. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:** 3j was removed from the Consent Item.

Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$170,000 from Regular Wages & Salaries, Acct. #10020150-51000 to Replacement Pay, Acct. #10020150-51500 – Fire Dept.

Fire Chief Joseph Czentnar and Deputy Fire Chief Samuel Wilson III were present to discuss the transfer amount of \$170,000 from regular wages & salaries to replacement pay.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item 3j.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: TESTA

ROLL CALL

ALLINSON: AYE

CARMODY: AYE

FISHBEIN: AYE

LAFFIN: AYE

REGAN: AYE

REYNOLDS: AYE

TATTA: AYE

TESTA: AYE

MARRONE: AYE

MOTION: PASSED

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

Members of the public voiced their opinions on certain Town of Wallingford topics which included having a Citizen Review Board, Town parks being closed around town and having a foot trail for the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail.

6. Recognition of our Police Department in light of the December 18, 2023 study naming Wallingford the 4th safest small city or town in America – Councilor Tatta

Tatta discussed the study she found recognizing our Police Department naming Wallingford the 4th safest small city or town in America.

7. Consider and approve Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection for a CT Urban Grant in the amount of \$690,000 for Phase 3B for the construction of the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail located at a parcel of land on and adjacent to 380 Main Street and that Mayor Cervoni is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town and to perform all acts which he deems necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of said documents – Mayor

Alison Kapushinski, Town Engineer explained in detail what the CT Urban Grant is for and why the town was applying for it. A few people from the public spoke out about how this grant money would improve the Quinnipiac Linear Trail.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #7.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

ROLL CALL

ALLINSON: AYE

CARMODY: AYE

FISHBEIN: AYE

LAFFIN: AYE

REGAN: AYE

REYNOLDS: AYE

TATTA: AYE

TESTA: AYE

MARRONE: AYE

MOTION: PASSED

8. Consider and approve Job Description for Director of IT – Human Resources

Jim Hutt, Human Resources Director explained in detail the job description of the IT Director and why the Town of Wallingford needs this position created.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #8.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

ROLL CALL

ALLINSON: AYE

CARMODY: AYE

FISHBEIN: NAY

LAFFIN: AYE

REGAN: AYE

REYNOLDS: AYE

TATTA: AYE

TESTA: AYE

MARRONE: AYE

MOTION: PASSED

9. (a) Consider and approve Bid Waiver - Technology Assessment and Technology Plan Services.

Tim Sena, Comptroller explained that a company called CLA would be performing the Technology Assessment. They are the company that the Town of Wallingford uses for their audit so the town has a good standing relationship with them.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #7.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

ROLL CALL

ALLINSON: AYE

CARMODY: AYE

FISHBEIN: NAY

LAFFIN: AYE

REGAN: AYE

REYNOLDS: AYE

TATTA: AYE

TESTA: AYE

MARRONE; AYE

MOTION: PASSED

- (b) Consider and approve ARPA funding for Bid Waiver for Technology Assessment and Technology Plan Services.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #9b.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

ROLL CALL

ALLINSON: AYE

CARMODY: AYE

FISHBEIN: AYE

LAFFIN: AYE

REGAN: AYE

REYNOLDS: AYE

TATTA: AYE

TESTA: AYE

MARRONE; AYE

MOTION: PASSED

10. Discussion and possible action regarding ordinary and usual town services being provided to property owners on Hidden Brook Lane – Councilor Fishbein

Councilor Fishbein explained in detail what was going on with the properties on Hidden Brook Lane. People from the public who live there explained their frustration with the contractor and what he has and has not been doing.

11. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the following pending tax appeal matters: / Law Dept.

(a) *14 Research Parkway LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*

(b) *VLG Wallingford Partners v. Town of Wallingford; and*

(c) *Constitution Real Estate LLC v. Town of Wallingford.*

MOTION WAS MADE to go into Executive Session at 9:15.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

MOTION WAS MADE to go come out Executive Session and continue the regular meeting at 9:30.

MADE BY: FISHBEIN

SECONDED BY: TATTA

MOTION: PASSED

12. Motion to consider and authorize settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *14 Research Parkway LLC v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #12.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

13. Motion to consider and authorize settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *VLG Wallingford Partners v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept.

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #13.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

14. Motion to consider and authorize settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *Constitution Real Estate LLC v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept.

MOTION WAS MADE to go approve item #14.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

15. Review Council Rules – Chairman Marrone

Chairman Marrone and the Council discussed the Council Rules and procedures in detail.

16. Executive Session to pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225 (f) and Section 1-200 (6) (B) to discuss the pending matter of *Town of Wallingford v. Butler* -Law Dept.

MOTION WAS MADE to go into Executive Session at 9:15.

MADE BY: TATTA

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

MOTION: PASSED

MOTION WAS MADE to go come out Executive Session and continue the regular

meeting at 9:30.
MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: TATTA
MOTION: PASSED

17. Discussion and possible action with the respect to the pending matter of Town of Wallingford v. Butler as discussed in Executive Session- Law Dept

MOTION WAS MADE to approve item #17.
MADE BY: TATTA
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
MOTION: PASSED

The meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

MOTION WAS MADE to adjourn the meeting.
MADE BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION: PASSED

Respectfullu Submitted,

Kristen Panzo
Town Clerk

Meeting Digitally recorded

Joseph A. Marrone III, Chairman

Date

Kristen Panzo, Town Clerk

Date