

PUBLIC CELEBRATION ^{SPECIAL} COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

ROOM 205 TOWN HALL

Attendees: Sean Keogh Roz Gallagher Larry Russo Liz Landow Mikill Germond Megan Foggitt Barbara Kapi

Treasurer's report: Larry reported no change in the budget to date. He is looking for outstanding invoices from Lyman Orchard and Image 360 for the Seasons banner.

Halloween: Mary Ann Eckles is on board with members of the Wallingford Community Theater preparing to don costumes to entertain the children on the parade route, as well as taking pictures in the parade ground area in front of the Town Hall. Tee-it Up needs to change the dates on the Halloween banner, on both sides. Johnny Roz has given us a quote of \$3100 to provide a sound system, as well as a DJ. Movies will be projected on a screen in front of the church. Flame effects will light up Gallagher Travel. Fog machines, night of the dead, lights on the parade route, with additional smaller sound systems adding to the atmosphere. A ten foot skeleton will live up the night, as well as additional characters that Mr. Roz will provide. \$560.59 is the cost of the Seasons banner for a 4x16 foot expanse. Made by 360 Image here in Wallingford.

Cider and doughnuts will be made by Lyman Orchards for the same price as last year. We have increased the quantity as we ran short last year, bring the expenditure to \$1546.

Wallingford Police Dept. has given its okay to close South Main Street at 3 p.m. Our fire department has been contacted, agreeing to our needs. Larry has contacted the Fire Marshall for both events. Public Works, under Steve Palermo, has to be notified

The photo booth concern will return, per Liz's report, but they have asked to be located on a flat surface. Roz and Liz will scout the best area.

McDonald's will be contacted for cider cups, lids, hot cups, and napkins, through Nancy Miller. Two cotton candy set ups have been ordered from A to Z rental, with extra cones added to the order. Larry still hasn't heard from Holiday Cinema about our popcorn needs. He feels 10 bags will be needed. Park & Rec plans on filling 1,000 goody bags for distribution. Walmart has offered to donate \$150 worth of candy to add to our great event. Whitney will deal with White Way Laundry for mats to cover exposed electrical cords. She also will tackle flyer duties. Roz will handle the volunteer sign up sheets. Geremia's Farm will donate pumpkins, to be picked up on Wed. the 22nd. Beaumont's will once again provide corn stalks. Votive lights for the pumpkins, 60 or so, are needed. Kim Larkin will not be under the tent doing craft projects, but has graciously agreed to set the tent up for her substitute, as well as providing supplies. Some type of cobwebs are needed to decorate the side of the Post Office, leading to the main event. If YSS volunteers are lined up, names must be submitted to Roz. Colin Benard will set up tents for the night. Larry needs 21 tables and 3 tents. We own some tables, but are looking into the purchase of 15 more.

An important change to the timing of the Oct. 24th event. It was decided to start the evening at 6:30 rather than 6:00.

Season's Celebration: Our candy order with Thompson's Candy has not be placed to date. We will keep the quantity the same as last year. Hot chocolate will be increased to 60 gallons. Krafty Kakes has been contacted. The ice carver and the roasted chestnut concern have been lined up. Mayor Dickinson will be asked to be one of our Toy Soldiers again. Our Frosty and Rudolph costumes are looking quite sad, so be on the lookout for replacements at some point. The students who helped decorate gingerbread cookies last year will use sugar cookies instead. Popsicle sticks from Michaels are need instead of spoons. Mary Ann Eckles once again will provide costumes characters to enter the kids. Roz will contact the Wlfd. Academy of Dance. The riding railroad is on board.

The following supplies are needed: Glow Sticks, Extra napkins, paper towels, latex gloves, disinfectant wipes.

Our next meeting is on Oct. 14th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Kapi, secretary