

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
Robert F. Parisi Council Chambers  
**May 26, 2026**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
**RECORD OF VOTES AND MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Autumn Allinson, Samuel Carmody, Thomas Laffin, Jesse Reynolds, Bryan Rivard, Melanie Rossacci, Craig Fishbein, Christina Tatta and Chairman Vincent F. Testa Jr. Mayor Vincent Cervoni, Comptroller Tim Sena, Town Attorney Geoffrey Einhorn and Town Clerk Kristen Panzo were also present.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Consent Agenda
  - 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$529.83 (#1082-1088) – Tax Dept.
  - 3b. Acceptance of donation from the Coalition for a Better Wallingford to cover the overtime hours accrued by The Community Impact Unit and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,000 to Revenue-Misc., Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
  - 3c. Acceptance of donation from the Wallingford Elks and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$480 to Revenue Donations-Police, Acct. #2502002-47152 and to Expense Donations-Police, Acct. #25020050-58830-10127 – Police Dept.
  - 3d. Acceptance of Overtime Reimbursement of Federal Taskforce Funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,711 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
  - 3e. Acceptance of donation from the Estate of Clifford Minyard and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,529 – Fire Dept.
 

\$1,010.31	To: Revenue Account-Donations	Acct. #2502002-47152
\$ 518.25		
\$1010.31	To: Expense Account-Fire Dept.	
\$ 518.25	Program Expenditures	Acct. #25020150-58830-10241
  - 3f. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$230,000 – Fire Dept.
 

\$60,000	From: Fire-Exp.-Regular Wages	Acct. #10020150-51000
\$80,000	From: Fire-Exp-Other Pay	Acct. #10020150-51900
\$90,000	From: Contingency-Accrued Exp.	Acct. #10019000-58821

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|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$130,000 | To: Fire-Exp-Overtime          | Acct. #10020150-51400 |
| \$ 18,000 | To: Fire-Exp-Wage Differential | Acct. #10020150-51450 |
| \$ 82,000 | To: Fire-Exp-Replacement Pay   | Acct. #10020150-51500 |
- 3g. Acceptance of donation for youth recreation program enrollment costs and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,750 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Youth and Social Services
- 3h. Acceptance of donation to the America250 Committee and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$10,000 to Rev-Donations, Acct. #2505002-47152 and to Exp-America250, Acct. #25040150-58830-10245 - Mayor
- 3i. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$78,000 from Contingency-Accrued Exp., Acct. #10019000-58821 to Exp-Reg Salaries & Wages: Various, Acct. #Various-(See Attached) – Comptroller
- 3j. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of 50,000 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10030000-51000 to Utilities, Acct. #10030000-53010 – Public Works
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount \$2,000 from Distribution-Operations Underground Line Exp., Acct. #584 to Distribution-Maintenance Street Light & Signal Systems, Acct. #596 – Electric Div
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,500 from Distribution-Operations Underground Line Exp., Acct. #584 to Distribution-Maintenance Line Transformers, Acct. #595 – Electric Div.
- 3m. Consider and approve FY 2025-2026 budget amendment and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$28,450 from Cash, Acct. #N/A to Outside Services Employed, Acct, #43100923 – Water Div.
- 3n. Consider and approve FY 2025-2026 budget amendment and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$26,250 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #N/A to Miscellaneous Expenses, Acct. #46100923 – Sewer Div.
- 3o. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$10,000 from Distribution-Operations Underground Line Exp., Acct. #584 to Distribution-Operations Street Light & Signal System, Acct. #585 – Electric Div.
- 3p. Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting, April 28, 2026 and Regular Town Council Meeting, May 12, 2026.
- 3q. Consider and approve appointment of Sean Fitzsimmons as Constable for a term of two (2) years set to expire January 1, 2028 – Chairman Testa

- 3r. Consider and approve appointment of Gary Baker as Constable for a term of two (2) years set to expire January 1, 2028 – Chairman Testa

**MOTION WAS MADE TO approve Consent items 3a-3r.  
MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS  
ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR**

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

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

There was no Public Question & Answer Period.

6. 6:30 p.m. To conduct a Public Hearing to Consider and Act on the 2026 Neighborhood Assistance Program – Program Planning

Mayor Cervoni said that agencies are allowed to solicit donations from businesses that are qualified in town that entitle those businesses to get tax credit for the contributions to those nonprofits. Typically, you can see projects that are eligible, pursuant to the program.

Councilor Fishbein discussed the list that is given to the council each year and wanted to know if there is anything different on the list from last year. Mayor Cervoni said that the list is different each year. There was a discussion about the time period of this whole project. Mayor Cervoni said the Public Hearing is scheduled for June 9, 2026, and that this item should be brought back to the council for the next meeting on June 9, 2026. Janis Small explained that the council can continue the Public Hearing at the next meeting so, they do not have to close it.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO continue the Public Hearing to the next meeting.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN  
THERE WAS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE  
IN FAVOR**

7. Discussion and possible action on over-riding the Mayor's May 18, 2026 veto of the 2026-2027 Town Council-approved budget – Chairman Testa

**MOTION WAS MADE TO over-ride the mayor's May 18, 2026, veto of the 2026-2027  
Town Council approved budget.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**

Chair Testa explained what the procedure would be for this agenda item.

There was a brief discussion about the safety in town and how fully funding the Fire Department and the Building Department would be very beneficial for the town. There was a discussion about using our own reserve money to pay for the new positions. There was a discussion about positions in the town hall and how they do not get filled every year. There was a discussion about how the mayor's veto of the Town Council budget would save money in the reserve fund. There was a discussion as to why some Town Council members would be supporting the mayor's veto of the budget. There was a brief discussion about the charter and if the mayor had the authority to veto and change line item numbers. There was a discussion about how the BOE will now be fully funded with the budget that the Town Council approved. There was a discussion at length about the need to fully fund the Fire Department and what could possibly happen if they are not fully staffed at each of their four shifts.

**ROLL CALL:**

**ALLINSON: AYE**

**CARMODY: AYE**

**FISHBEIN: NAY**

**LAFFIN: NAY**

**REYNOLDS: AYE**

**RIVARD: AYE**

**ROSSACCI: AYE**

**TATTA: AYE**

**TESTA: AYE**

**7- AYE**

**2-NAY**

**0-ASBENT**

**MOTION: PASSED**

8. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(d) and §1-225(f) for a discussion regarding the possible purchase of real property – Mayor

This item was withdrawn.

9. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-225(f) and §1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the following tax appeal matters:

- a) *FHA Silver Pond Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford;*
- b) *Antonio Scotto, et al v. Town of Wallingford; and*
- c) *Antonio and Megan Scotto v. Town of Wallingford*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 1-225(f) and 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the following tax appeal matters, FHA Silver Pond Limited partnership v Town of Wallingford, Antonio Scotto, et al v. Town of Wallingford and Antonio and Megan Scotto v. Town of Wallingford at 7:52pm.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS  
THERE WS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR.**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO come out of Executive Session and go back into Regular Session at 8:06pm.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS  
THERE WAS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR.**

10. Motion to consider and approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *FHA Silver Pond Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session;

**MOTION WAS MADE TO approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of FHA Silver Pond Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in executive Session.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS  
THERE WAS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR.**

11. Motion to consider and approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *Antonio Scotto, et al v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session; and

**MOTION WAS MADE TO approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of Antonio Scotto, et al v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in executive Session.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS  
THERE WAS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR.**

12. Motion to consider and approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of *Antonio and Megan Scotto v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed Executive Session – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO approve settlement in the pending tax appeal matter of Antonio and Megan Scotto v Town of Wallingford as discussed in Executive Session.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY  
SECONDED BY: REYNOLDS**

**THERE WAS A VOICE VOTE AND ALL MEMBERS THAT WERE PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR.**

13. Discussion and possible action regarding Simpson Court outdoor dining – Councilor Rossacci and Councilor Carmody

**MOTION WAS MADE TO permit up to 8 parking spaces in Simpson Court to be closed off for outdoor dining between June 1 and September 30. Those parking spaces should be rented at a fee of \$150 per space per month and the businesses who utilize this space shall pay the Department of Public Works for work hours involved in the installation and removal of the concrete barriers.**

**MADE BY: CARMODY**

**SECONDED BY: ROSSACCI**

There was a brief discussion about having some other form of outdoor dining in town besides sidewalk dining that is there now. There was a discussion about how the additional outdoor dining would be good for the town and bring business to the restaurants and stores on the upper side of town. There was a discussion of using 8 parking spaces in the Simpson Court area for this outdoor dining and having the restaurants on Simpson Court pay for the cement blocks to be moved each time. There was a discussion about how the restaurants on Center Street and that surrounding area would not be able to benefit from outdoor dining because of their location. There was a discussion by some of the members of the public who are not in favor of the outdoor dining and how they think it is unfair to restaurants who cannot benefit from this. There was a discussion on how only certain restaurants would make more money from the outdoor dining because of the parking spots. There was a discussion about how those 8 parking spots would now not be used by customers of the businesses that are not located on Simpson Court. There was a brief discussion about how the public loves the outdoor dining that was done in the past and how it just brings everyone together in such a positive way.

**ROLL CALL:**

**ALLINSON: NAY**

**CARMODY: AYE**

**FISHBEIN: NAY**

**LAFFIN: NAY**

**REYNOLDS: AYE**

**RIVARD: NAY**

**ROSSACCI: AYE**

**TATTA: NAY**

**TESTA: AYE**

**4- AYE**

**5-NAY**

**0-ASBENT**

**MOTION: FAILED**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Panzo  
Town Clerk

Meeting digitally recorded

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Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Chairman

Date

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Kristen Panzo, Town Clerk

Date

