

3X.

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Town Council Chambers
January 30, 2018
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Special Town Council Workshop on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 was called to order at 6:07 P.M. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christopher K. Shortell and Gina Morgenstein. Councilor LeTourneau arrived at 6:10. Councilors Jason Zandri and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. were absent.

Moment of Silence

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion and Possible Action - Interview and appoint applicants to the Public Celebrations Committee – Chairman Cervoni

a. Marla Buono

Education Background: Student at Quinnipiac University, Career Fairs Director, Works at Mercy High School currently.

Councilor Laffin asked her why she wants to do this.

Ms. Buono stated she lives in Wallingford, likes the town and community and wants to be involved.

Councilor Fishbein asked Ms. Buono if she had a fundraising background.

Ms. Buono stated she does not have any actual background.

b. Larry Russo

Chairman Cervoni asked Mr. Russo if he participated in some of the events and Mr. Russo answered yes.

Chairman Cervoni asked Mr. Russo what his experience is with events.

Mr. Russo stated that he has his own business and that he used to be with AT&T as a Project Manager. He then stated he was the former president of Wallingford Little League, involved with cub scouts and Holy Trinity School.

Councilor Fishbein asked Mr. Russo if he did the candy bar fundraisers with little league fundraising.

Mr. Russo answered yes, frozen pizzas and Christmas trees and stated as President you oversee all of these committees.

Councilor Morgenstein asked Mr. Russo if he had any new ideas with coming back to the Celebrations Committee. Mr. Russo answered yes.

c. Erin Maghery

Chairman Cervoni abstained from this candidate's vote and turns the questioning over to Councilor Laffin.

Councilor Laffin asked Ms. Maghery why she wants to be on the Public Celebrations Committee.

Ms. Maghery stated she grew up here and wants to be more involved. In college she ran fundraising events to raise money for dorms. She went on to say that she works for the Hartford and ran the fun committee.

d. Norma Saverino – Withdrew her name

e. Colin Benard

Chairman Cervoni mentioned that he has seen Mr. Benard at many Public Celebration events around town.

Mr. Benard stated that he ran a Navy Sea Cadet course for Public Celebrations and set up and broke down most events. Chairman Cervoni asked if that was volunteer and Mr. Benard stated yes. He then asked Mr. Benard if he fundraises. Mr. Benard said they raise \$30,000 a year and that he is involved with Holy Trinity Church.

f. Patrick Reynolds

Chairman Cervoni read bio – He is a lifelong resident, father of three and grandfather. He also works with young people.

g. Lynn Woods

Chairman Cervoni asked Ms. Woods about her experience and background.

Ms. Woods stated she had 40 years of education. She worked at Greenwich Guidance Special Education. She wants to provide special needs kids an enriching experience in our community events.

Councilor Morgenstein asked Ms. Woods if she relocated here or commuted. She then commented that she is intrigued about her idea of bringing different people to our events.

h. Barbara Routhier

Chairman Cervoni asked Ms. Routhier about her experience.

Ms. Routhier states she worked at Yale University as a systems analyst for many years – programming staff. She was also involved in girl scouts, travel soccer and parental fundraising.

MOTION WAS MADE TO NOMINATE AS A SLATE EVERYONE PHYSICALLY PRESENT:

Marla Buono
Larry Russo
Erin Maghery
Colin Benard
Lynn Woods
Barbara Routhier

MADE BY: SHORTELL
SECONDED BY: LAFFIN
ALL AYE
MOTION PASSED

4. Discussion and Possible action regarding changes to the Town Council Rules – Chairman Cervoni

MOTION WAS MADE STATING ANY CHANGE MADE TO THE RULES BE BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY AND NOT BY 5 VOTES.

MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL

There was heated discussion and Councilor Marrone withdrew his Motion and Councilor Shortell withdrew his second.

III. **MOTION WAS MADE TO CHANGE A BLESSING MAY BE OFFERED BY A MEMBER OF LOCAL CLERGY TO A MOMENT OF SILENCE.**

MADE BY: MORGENSTEIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL

Councilor Marrone stated a tolerant society is a reflection of acceptance of everyone's faith.

Councilor Laffin stated he would echo Councilor Marrone's comments.

Councilor Morgenstein stated she spent many years not standing in the audience. Jewish faith and Muslim faith people will attend meetings but are uncomfortable with the prayer.

Councilor Fishbein stated no one he knows is afraid to come because of a prayer, it is part of our culture, part of our background and we are diverse.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: NO	SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: NO	TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: NO	ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: NO	CERVONI: NO

MOTION FAILS

MOTION WAS MADE TO BRING THE PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD MAXIMUM BACK TO 15 MINUTES WITH DESCRETION TO EXTEND GIVEN TO THE CHAIR.

MADE BY: LETOURNEAU
SECONDED BY: CERVONI – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES

Councilor Fishbein states he is opposed to this.

Councilor Shortell agrees with Councilor Fishbein that 20 minutes is okay. Chairman Cervoni is very generous with allowing people time.

Councilor Marrone agrees with Councilor Fishbein. Democracy is dying; anything to get people paying attention is good.

Councilor Laffin stated he has been watching the time for four years now and he is okay with the 20 minutes.

ALL AYE – 1
NAY – 6
MOTION FAILS

IV. **MOTION TO CHANGE THE PUBLIC COMMENT TO NOT EXCEED 20 MINUTES.**

MADE BY: SHORTELL
SECONDED BY: LAFFIN

Councilor Fishbein doesn't see the need to change.

Councilor Marrone doesn't see the need to change.

Councilor Morgenstein stated the voting and non-voting item time change came about the last time the rules were changed.

Councilor LeTourneau states that the three minute rule allows more people to speak, and asked why we don't go back to the three minute rule.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: NO
FISHBEIN: NO	SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: YES	ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: NO	CERVONI: YES

MOTION PASSES

VI. MOTION THAT ALL COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL NO LATER THAN 12:30 ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

**MADE BY: SHORTELL
SECONDED BY FISHBEIN**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: YES	ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: YES	CERVONI: YES

MOTION PASSES

MOTION TO ADD AFTER AT THE INTENDED MEETING: WITH REGARD TO AN ACTION ITEM IF ALL BACK-UP MATERIAL IS NOT PRESENTED WITH THE AGENDA IT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY MARRONE**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: NO
FISHBEIN: YES	SHORTELL: NO
LAFFIN: NO	TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: YES	ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: YES	CERVONI: NO

MOTION FAILS

MOTION TO ADD AT THE END OF PARAGRAPH 2: THERE WILL BE NO CATCH ALL EXECUTIVE SESSION LISTED WITHOUT AN ACTUAL ACTION ITEM.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

ROLL CALL VOTE: **MORGENSTEIN: YES**
FISHBEIN: YES **SHORTELL: YES**
LAFFIN: NO **TESTA: ABSENT**
LETOURNEAU: YES **ZANDRI: ABSENT**
MARRONE: YES **CERVONI: NO**
MOTION PASSES

- X. MOTION MADE TO ADD THE FOLLOWING TO ITEM 10: AT THE FIRST MEETING OF EVERY MONTH, A STANDING AGENDA ITEM TO DISCUSS THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT SHALL BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA.**

MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL

ROLL CALL VOTE: **MORGENSTEIN: YES**
FISHBEIN: YES **SHORTELL: YES**
LAFFIN: YES **TESTA: ABSENT**
LETOURNEAU: YES **ZANDRI: ABSENT**
MARRONE: YES **CERVONI: NO**
MOTION PASSES

- XIV. C. MOTION TO CHANGE DEADLINE TO NOTIFY THE TOWN COUNCIL STAFF BY MONDAY MORNING AT 9:30 A.M. TO REMOVE AN ITEM FROM CONSENT.**

MADE BY: SHORTELL
SECONDED BY: MARRONE

ROLL CALL VOTE: **MORGENSTEIN: YES**
FISHBEIN: YES **SHORTELL: YES**
LAFFIN: YES **TESTA: ABSENT**
LETOURNEAU: YES **ZANDRI: ABSENT**
MARRONE: YES **CERVONI: YES**
MOTION PASSES

- XIV B. MOTION MADE TO ELIMINATE PARAGRAPH B ENTIRELY AND CHANGE PARAGRAPH C TO: A COUNCILOR MAY REMOVE AN ITEM FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA BY 9:30 A.M. ON MONDAY MORNING BY NOTIFYING THE TOWN COUNCIL STAFF.**

MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: MARRONE

Councilor Shortell agrees with this.

Councilor Laffin thinks it's good to keep Paragraph B in for the historical consistency.

ROLL CALL VOTE:		MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: YES		SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: NO		TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: YES		ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: YES		CERVONI: NO

MOTION PASSES

MOTION IS MADE THAT DURING THE BUDGET WORKSHOPS THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ASK QUESTIONS.

MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL

Councilor Laffin believes we need to have meetings where we can just hammer out our business without other people talking. We were elected, we were entrusted to make the decisions, otherwise, we should change our form of government and make it a town meeting.

Councilor LeTourneau said over the years there have been a lot of different things tried at budget time and I think what we're doing now works.

Councilor Marrone says that the budget meetings are not always streamlined.

Councilor Morgenstein thinks the public is very valuable.

ROLL CALL VOTE:		MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: YES		SHORTELL: NO
LAFFIN: NO		TESTA: ABSENT
LETOURNEAU: NO		ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: YES		CERVONI: NO

MOTION FAILS

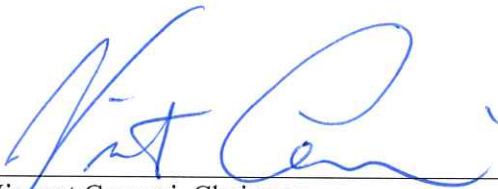
There was brief discussion whether there should be something put into the rules regarding the PUC having to submit reports in writing on a monthly basis.

MOTION TO ADJOURN
MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: MARRONE
MOTION: PASSED

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

13 FEB. 2018

Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

2-16-18

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 2-2-18
AT 12:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK