

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD REMOTELY
at GoToMeeting.com**

**THURSDAY
MAY 21, 2020
6:30 P.M.
FY 2020-2021 BUDGET**

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Special Town Council Meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Craig C. Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein, Christopher K. Shortell, Christina Tatta, Vincent F. Testa, Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., and Comptroller James Bowes were also present **(BY TELECONFERENCE)**.

HEALTH

In Attendance: Stephen Civitelli, Director, Health

Mr. Civitelli reported the budget had no increases.

Councilor Tatta asked if there were any extra costs due to COVID. Mr. Civitelli said we took off our part-time sanitarian which was \$4,000. He went on to say distribution of a mass vaccine once a vaccine is available will need to be looked at.

Councilor Shortell inquired about the \$105,000 unspent last year. Mr. Civitelli explained it was when Ms. Hazelwood retired and also some vacant positions that led to that unspent money.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

*In Attendance: Erin O'Hare, Environmental and Natural Resources Planner
Mary Heffernon, Chairman, Conservation Commission*

Ms. O'Hare stated the budget has remained the same as last year and has stayed the same over the last few years.

Councilor Fishbein asked Ms. O'Hare if the open space trails fall within her purview. Ms. O'Hare answered yes. He then asked how people find information on those trails. Ms. Heffernon responded that some information is on the Parks and Recreation website and she noted trail maps can be found at Erin's office, Parks and Recreation and the Library.

Councilor Fishbein asked if it would make sense for the Conservation Commission to have their own web page on our site. Ms. Heffernon responded the Mayor does not like maps online.

Councilor Fishbein asked if there are any new trails being blazed. Ms. Heffernon said no, we blaze the existing trails all the time. Councilor Fishbein then remarked “kudos to you” and stated Tyler Mill looks beautiful.

Ms. O’Hare mentioned they received a \$260,000 grant for Fresh Meadows on Cheshire Road for three ADA compliant/universal access trails. She went on to say with COVID people are using these trails. Ms. O’Hare stated the Engineering Department is putting together a new trails map.

Councilor Tatta said since January you look like you are below budget. She asked do you have 1% to give back and stated it would be \$87.00. Ms. Heffernon said she would not want to give it up. It hasn’t grown in years. She went on to say they are planting trees and they spend their budget mostly in the spring time.

INLAND/WETLANDS

In Attendance: Erin O’Hare, Environmental and Natural Resources Planner

Ms. O’Hare reported the same budget as last year and a minor increase in salary.

There were no questions.

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

*In Attendance: Chet Miller, Registrar
Robert Avery, Registrar*

Mr. Miller explained they try to budget for exactly what they expect to spend but COVID has turned into chaos and it will cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the Primary.

Councilor Fishbein asked Mr. Miller when he submits his budget if he submits it for three elections. Mr. Miller responded no and stated we usually always budget for a Primary and a General Election. Mr. Miller went on to say we did not anticipate a local primary this year but now we have the Presidential Primary.

Councilor Fishbein asked if there is talk of limiting polling places. Mr. Miller answered yes.

Councilor Morgenstein inquired about polling places and Board of Education fees. She asked if we pay our own places. Mr. Miller stated we pay overtime to the custodians for the schools. Ms. Morgenstein then remarked you still have a phone line expense and Mr. Miller said that is for Election Day at the polls.

PLANNING & ZONING

No one attended from this department. The questions will be emailed.

Councilor Tatta asked if there is anywhere they saved during the pandemic and if finding 1% to give back would be a possibility.

ZBA

No one attended from this department. The question will be emailed.

Councilor Tatta asked if there is anywhere they saved during the pandemic and if finding 1% to give back would be a possibility.

BUILDING

In Attendance: Justin Rossetti, Building Official & Housing Code Administrator

Mr. Rossetti reported having the same budget for the last four years. He reviewed his different line items and explained each item in detail.

There were no questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

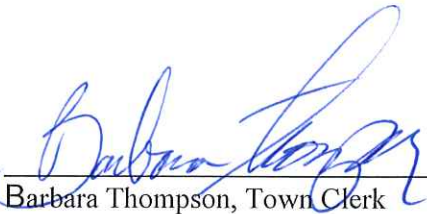
Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman



Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk



Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 5-26-2020
AT 11:00 AND RECEIVED BY
 TOWN CLERK