

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY
April 26, 2022
6:30 P.M.**

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 was called to order at 6:33 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Autumn Allinson, Samuel Carmody, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christina Tatta, Vincent Testa, Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Corporation Counsel Janis Small and Comptroller Tim Sena were also present.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$429.96 (#1010-#1019)
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector

- 3b. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$40,000 – Public Works
 - \$40,000 From: from Utilities Acct. #10030000-53010
 - \$35,000 To: Maint. of Bldgs. & Grounds Acct. #10030000-54315
 - \$ 5,000 To: Maint. of Vehicles Acct. #10030000-54320

- 3c. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$599 from Office Expense & Supplies, Acct. #10020150-56100 to New Capital Account, Acct. #TBD – Fire Dept.

- 3d. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,000 from Maintenance of Equipment, Acct. #10020150-54325 to Maintenance of Building, Acct. #10020150-54315 – Fire Dept.

- 3e. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$12,800 from Appropriation from Cash to Operating Labor and Expenses-In-House Laboratory Supplies Including Water Quality, Acct. # Acct. #43100642-05212 – Water Div.

- 3f. Acceptance of CT Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services for Opioid Safety (ADOPS) grant and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$16,000 from DMHAS, Acct. #2244002-45100 to ADOPS Grant, Acct. #22440050-58830-10220 – Health Dept.

- 3g. Consider and approve Resolution authorizing Vanessa Bautista, Acting Health Director to enter into and amend contractual instruments with the Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services of the State of CT – Health Dept.

- 3h. Acceptance of donations for STEM Academy and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$8,519 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3i. Acceptance of donation for the Holiday for Giving program and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$20 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3j. Acceptance of donation to assist youth participation in recreation programs and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$40 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3k. Consider and approve the following permanent easements to the State of Connecticut DOT for State Project #170-3490 to replace all traffic control signal equipment at the following four locations: - Public Works
- Quinnipiac Street at North/South Cherry Streets
 - Route 150 (Hall Avenue) at North Cherry Street
 - Quinnipiac Street at North/South Cherry Streets
 - Route 150 (Hall Avenue) at North Cherry Street
- 3l. Consider and approve Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the State of Connecticut's acquisition of easements on Town property in connection with State Project 170-3490, Serial No. 6 and State Project 170-3490, Serial No. 8 and Authorizing the Mayor to execute agreements – Public works
- 3m. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 22, 2022 and Special Town Council Minutes of Public Hearing FY 2022-2023 Budget.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3m.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

VOTE: ALL AYE

MOTION: PASSED

4. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda - None**

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Angie Conte, North Airline Road, spoke about her disappointment from the last meeting regarding funding of the library. She is upset with the lack of response from Town Council regarding racist and degrading comments made towards the LBGTQ community. She stated she would like to see the Council do better. Chairman Cervoni responded at times comments do not warrant a response.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, asked the Mayor why the line for COVANTA is zeroed out.

6 (a). Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$173,375 – Public Works

\$115,948	From: Simpson Court (Rear) Pkg. Lot	Acct. #30102021-57000-20222
57,427	From: CNR	Fund #301

\$173,375	To: Wallace Ave. Lots	Acct. #30102021-57000-20221
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(b) Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$86,721 from CNR, Fund #301 to Brothers Parking Lot, Acct. #30102021-57000-20220

*In Attendance: Robert Baltramaitis, Director, Public Works
Alison Kapushinski, Town Engineer*

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE A TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$173,375, \$115,948 FROM SIMPSON COURT REAR PARKING LOT ACCOUNT, \$57,427 FROM CNR ACCTOUNT WITH \$173,375 TO WALLACE AVENUE PARKING LOTS.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: MARRONE**

Mr. Baltramaitis addressed to Town Council his request to transfer for full funding of project.

Councilor Fishbein inquired about lighting. Mr. Baltramaitis said both parking lots will have internal lighting. Councilor Fishbein then asked how much more for additional lighting. Mr. Baltramaitis replied \$25,000.

Councilor Marrone indicated he would not be in support of additional lighting for another \$25,000.

Mr. Baltramaitis stated he would love to see lot done by Wallingford 350.

Councilor Zandri asked if we could do one project at a time and Mr. Baltramaitis stated both projects at the same time.

Councilor Zandri asked Mr. Baltramaitis if he is seeing the same vehicles parked for long periods of time in the lots. Mr. Baltramaitis answered yes. Councilor Zandri wants to be sensitive to both sides of that. He said he wouldn't be opposed to additional monies for more lighting but he does not want to hold up project.

Debby Gross, Long Hill Road, is happy to see this project move forward. She asked if it would hold up the project to get additional lighting. Mr. Baltramaitis stated it's very possible to add the two lights to the project without holding it up providing administrative approval from Planning & Zoning. She then asked if this includes planting and Mr. Baltramaitis answered yes.

Mr. Gross questioned doing Brothers lot now and suggested putting it in the grant with the train station and make the state pay half for it.

Councilor Carmody inquired as to why additional decorative lighting for Wallace Avenue isn't already included.

Councilor Zandri questioned transfer amounts.

Councilor Fishbein asked Mr. Sena if he knows how much money is in Cap and Non that is unencumbered. Mr. Sena answered through March \$1.3 million.

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION ON THE TABLE TO APPROPRIATE \$25,000
FROM CAP AND NON FOR THE PURPOSES OF DECORATIVE LIGHTING.**

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

Councilor Testa doesn't understand where this came from. He feels we should have brought up a motion to design the lot.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES	TATTA: NO
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: NO	

6 - AYE
3 - NAY
MOTION: PASSED

VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: NO
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: YES	

8 - AYE
1 - NAY
MOTION: PASSED

**MOTION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE A TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$86,721 FROM CNR FUND TO THE BROTHERS PARKING LOT ACCOUNTS.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: MARRONE**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES

TATTA: YES

CARMODY: YES

TESTA: ABSENT

FISHBEIN: YES

ZANDRI: YES

LAFFIN: YES

CERVONI: YES

MARRONE: YES

8 - AYE

1 - ABSENT

MOTION: PASSED

The Mayor stated he wants to be clear there is a discussion about appropriating an additional \$25,000 but it is not appropriated.

Mr. Sena stated the \$1.3 million just got reduced by \$144,000.00

9. Discussion and possible action regarding internet connective equipment for Town Council Chambers – Councilor Fishbein

Chairman Cervoni stated this was approved in this year's budget.

Councilor Fishbein asked for a list of what we are going to get and indicated he found them cheaper on Amazon. He stated the email indicated we didn't have a router and he wants to know what's been going on since July.

Mr. Baltramaitis stated he has not been involved with the ordering.

Councilor Laffin is concerned as well.

There was conversation with Mr. Mr. Baltramaitis and Councilors.

**MOTION ON WAIVE RULE V TO CONSIDER AND ACT UPON 3 EAST
DAYTON HILL ROAD CONTRACT CONTINGENCIES.**

Councilor Marrone inquired about backup.

Chairman Cervoni stated it's the property at the opening of Tyler Mill.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

VOTE: ALL AYE

MOTION: PASSED

Chairman Cervoni stated the agenda is amended.

Attorney Small stated we approved the purchase of this property and executed the contract that the Council approved. She talked about contingencies in the agreement which is time sensitive. She went on to say two issues need to be considered one being restrictions on the property and the other being the environmental assessment and dumping.

Chairman Cervoni asked if we know how much it will cost to move the debris. Attorney Small said she can ask for more time to do analysis or wait for the position of the seller as to removing the waste. Chairman Cervoni suggests we get the seller to agree to an extension to have them move that debris.

Councilor Zandri asked even if we decided to not make this purchase because of that reason, what recourse would we have to get them to clean that up. He would like to work with the property owner to take care of it.

The Mayor said in order to get an Order we would need evidence and support and noted a pound of debris doesn't necessary make it an environmental hazard.

Councilor Tatta feels they should take a step back and rethink this expenditure. She questions what they are getting themselves into.

Councilor Fishbein suggests getting an extension of 60 days, they get property cleaned up and we can have our person go in there and get a level 2 and as long as it's clean we can close the transaction, other than that, he agrees we cannot be buying their problem.

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE THAT LAW DEPARTMENT GO TO SELLERS TO AND ASK FOR A 60 DAY EXTENSION SO THEY CAN CLEAN UP THE PROPERTY, THAT WE GET OUR OWN LEVEL 2 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT FOR THE PROPERTY AND ASSUMING THAT IT'S CLEAN WE CLOSE THE TRANSACTION UPON THAT HAPPENING.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: LAFFIN**

ADD TO MOTION IF THEY SAY NO WE DO NOT CLOSE THIS TRANSACTION.

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: LAFFIN**

CHAIRMAN CERVONI MADE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO ALLOW LAW DEPARTMENT TO WRITE TO HOMEOWNERS IN THAT ASSOCIATION TO ASK ABOUT LIFTING THE RESTRICTION ON RESIDENTIAL USE.

**COUNCILOR FISHBEIN ACCEPT FRIENDLY AMENDMENT.
COUNCILOR LAFFIN SECONDS.**

Councilor Testa asked if this motion obligates a phase 2 environmental analysis. Chairman said no.

VOTE ON MOTION 60 DAY EXTENSION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES	TATTA: NO
CARMODY: NO	TESTA: NO
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: NO
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: NO	

4 - AYE
5 - NAY
MOTION: FAILED

There was further discussion with councilors and Attorney Small.

MOTION WAS MADE TO TERMINATE CONTRACT

MADE BY: ALLINSON
SECONDED BY: MARRONE

COUNCILOR FISHBEIN SUGGESTS AN AMENDMENT TO MOTION TO PUT ON NEXT COUNCIL AGENDA EXECUTIVE SESSION TO ADDRESS POSSIBLY GOING BACK WITH NEW TERMS.

COUNCILOR ALLINSON DOES NOT ACCEPT AMENDMENT.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: YES	

8 - AYE
1 - NAY
MOTION: PASSED

7. Discussion and possible action regarding finalizing ARPA applications – Councilor Laffin

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE APPLICATIONS FROM THE CONSULTANT AND ACCEPT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE LAW DEPARTMENT FOR THE ARPA PROGRAM.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: TESTA

MOTION WAS MADE TO TABLE ITEM 7.

MADE BY CARMODY:
SECONDED BY: MARRONE

Councilor Carmody feels the Council needs more time considering the packet was distributed to Council yesterday.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: NO	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: NO	CERVONI: NO
MARRONE: YES	
6 - AYE	
3 - NAY	
MOTION: PASSED	

8. Discussion and action on taking the standard allowance regarding the ARPA funds in the amount of \$10,000,000 – Chair

In Attendance: Jack Reagan, UHY Advisors

Chairman Cervoni asked if we take the standard allowance, can we still do the variety of uses of ARPA funds that were discussed at the last meeting and Mr. Reagan answered yes.

Councilor Zandri wants to confirm if we vote on this that we have not caused a situation with the original vote from the prior meeting. Mr. Reagan stated he can confirm that.

MOTION TO MOVE TO TAKE THE STANDARD ALLOWANCE REGARDING THE ARPA FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000,000.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON

Councilor Testa feels it's very helpful that some things have been cleared up for us.

Mr. Gross asked if the town figured out the loss revenue calculation. Mr. Reagan stated by taking the standard exemption the town does not have to do any loss revenue calculation.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

ALLINSON: YES	TATTA: YES
CARMODY: YES	TESTA: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	ZANDRI: YES
LAFFIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
MARRONE: ABSENT	
8 - AYE	
1 - ABSENT	
MOTION: PASSED	

There was discussion with Mr. Reagan and Councilors.

10. Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(D) of the CGS with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property – Mayor

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:10 P.M
PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-200(6)(D) OF THE CGS WITH RESPECT TO THE
PURCHASE, SALE AND/OR LEASING OF PROPERTY.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON**

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:30 P.M.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: ALLINSON**

Time of Executive Session 9:10 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Attendance at Executive Session:

ALLINSON	MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.
CARMODY	CORPORATION COUNSEL JANIS SMALL
FISHBEIN	
LAFFIN	
TATTA	
TESTA	
ZANDRI	
CERVONI	

**MOTION TO ADJOURN
MADE BY: ALLINSON
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION PASSED**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

29 June 2022

Date



Deborah McKiernan, Town Clerk

July 12, 2022

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 5-3-22
AT 4:00 P.M. AND RECEIVED BY
Deborah McKiernan TOWN CLERK