

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 14, 2023  
6:30 P.M.  
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 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 Autumn Allinson, Thomas Laffin, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christina Tatta, Vincent Testa, Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Councilors Samuel Carmody and Craig Fishbein were absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Tim Sena, Comptroller and Corporation Counsel, Janis Small was also present.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$14,762.59 (#528-581)  
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and approve the use of the Town Council Chambers from May 23, 2023 through Monday, June 5, 2023 by the Wallingford Community Theatre - Mayor
- 3c. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,800 from Misc. Expense, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Office Expense and Supplies, Acct. #10010550-56100-Building Dept.
- 3d. Acceptance of Operation Fuel funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$775 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3e. Acceptance of Workforce Alliance funds for Summer Youth Employment Program and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$22,701 to Revenue, Acct. #2274002-47010 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22702023-51000 – Y&SS
- 3f. Acceptance of Donation for client assistance and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$500 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3g. Acceptance of Donations for Holiday for Giving Program and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,843 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3h. Acceptance of Federal/State Highway Safety grant 2022/2023 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Program and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$8,000 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 - Police Dept.

- 3i. Acceptance of grant funds for Federal/State Highway Safety grant 2023 Click It or Ticket Enforcement Campaign and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,212 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3j. Acceptance of Federal Taskforce reimbursement funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,467 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 - Police Dept.
- 3k. Acceptance of Federal Taskforce reimbursement funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,748 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3l. Acceptance of Federal Taskforce reimbursement funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,252 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3m. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$10,000 from Poles, Towers, and Fixtures, Acct. #364 to Leased Property on Customers' Premises, Acct. #372 – Electric Div.
- 3n. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$10,000 from Maintenance of Overhead Lines, Acct. #593 to Customer Installations Expense, Acct. #587 – Electric Div.
- 3o. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$25,000 from Poles, Towers, and Fixtures, Acct. #364 to Street Lighting and Signal System, Acct. #373 – Electric Div.
- 3p. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$4,500: - Electric Div.
- |         |                                |            |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------|
| \$4,500 | From: Stores Equipment         | Acct. #393 |
| \$4,500 | From: Power Operated Equipment | Acct. #396 |
| \$9,000 | To: Communications Equipment   | Acct. #397 |
- 3q. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$220,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #N/A to Line Transformers, Acct. #368 – Electric Div.
- 3r. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount \$12,000 – Human Resources
- |          |                               |                       |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$10,000 | From: Fire –Hypertension      | Acct. #10012100-52956 |
| \$ 2,000 | From: Longevity               | Acct. #10012100-51700 |
| \$12,000 | To: Office Expense & Supplies | Acct. #10012000-56100 |
- 3s. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount \$47,250 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10030000-51000 to Four Wheel Drive Pick-up Truck, Acct. #TBD – Public Works

- 3t. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$23,100 – Public Works
- |          |                                 |                             |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| \$ 9,600 | From: Pavement Roller           | Acct. #10030000-57000-01157 |
| \$13,500 | From: Loader Plow               | Acct. #10030000-57000-01156 |
| \$23,100 | To: Dual Wheel Util. Body Truck | Acct. #10030000-57000-01160 |
- 3u. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$665 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Capital Acct. (IWWC), Acct. #10011000 – Wetlands
- 3v. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,185 from General Purpose Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to General office Supplies, Acct. #10011000-56100 – Wetlands
- 3w. Consider and Approve reappointment of Jeff Kohan to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a five year term effective immediately and expiring January 8, 2028 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3x. Consider and approve reappointment of Bruce Conroy on the ZBA for a five year term effective immediately and expiring January 8, 2028 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3y. Approve Town Council Minutes of January 24, 2023.

**MOTION WAS MADE to approve Consent Agenda Items 3a.- 3y.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED BY: ZANDRI  
VOTE: ALL AYE  
MOTION: PASSED**

4. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**
5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Darrell Stancuna stated Wallingford is a very wealthy town and feels money should go to youth programs and a homeless shelter.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, inquired on the bottle recycling money.

6. Consider and approve a Bid Waiver in the amount of \$69,308 to Big Toys for purchase of playscape and to P&P Installation to install playscape at Doolittle Park (Cost is covered by insurance and a \$20,000 donation from Choate Rosemary Hall) – Parks and Recreation

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Bid Waiver in the amount of \$69,308 to Big Toys for purchase of playscape and to P&P Installation to install playscape at Doolittle Park (Cost is covered by insurance and a \$20,000 donation from Choate Rosemary Hall).**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED BY ALLINSON**

Chairman Cervoni inquired about when the installation of playscape will take place. Mr. Michaels responded 8-10 weeks depending on P.O. Chairman Cervoni thanked representatives from Choate/Rosemary Hall.

Councilor Tatta asked why insurance did not cover entire cost. Mayor stated there may be money left over because Choate donated money for park. He explained the insurance paid covered full amount minus deductible and Choate indicated they wanted to make donation to park.

There was discussion about individuals arrested and Choate taking action proactively.

Councilor Testa thanked Choate for their generosity. He stated he is confused because insurance is willing to pay and suggested using the \$20,000 for something else.

Councilor Laffin thanked Choate and also thanked Kenny Michaels.

Mayor stated there are no tax payers funds used for this.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON: YES</b>	<b>TATTA: YES</b>
<b>CARMODY: ABSENT</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: ABSENT</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	
<b>7 -AYE</b>	
<b>2-ABSENT</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

7. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$69,308 – Parks & Recreation

\$49,308	To: Revenue-Town Recovery Insurance	Acct. #1009052-46240
\$20,000	To: Revenue-Miscellaneous	Acct. #1009052-47040
\$69,308	To: Capital-Doolittle Playscape	Acct. #10050050-57000-TBD

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$69,308.**

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

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON: YES</b>	<b>TATTA: NO</b>
<b>CARMODY: ABSENT</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: ABSENT</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>

**MARRONE: YES**  
**6 -AYE**  
**1-NAY**  
**2-ABSENT**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

8. Discussion and possible action regarding renewal of auditing firm CliftonLarsonAllen LLP contract for one year at the current price of \$108,200, terms and conditions – Comptroller

**MOTION WAS MADE TO renew Auditing Firm CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP contract for one year at the current price of \$108,200, terms and conditions.**

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

Mr. Sena stated this is a three year bid which expires June 30, 2022 and noted this is a good price. He went on to state with inflation, price would be higher. Councilor Tatta asked if they would honor the price and Mr. Sena replied we would have to re-bid.

Mr. Gross asked when the last time was that we went out to bid and Chairman Cervoni replied three years ago.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**  
**ALLINSON: YES**                      **TATTA: NO**  
**CARMODY: ABSENT**              **TESTA: YES**  
**FISHBEIN: ABSENT**              **ZANDRI: YES**  
**LAFFIN: YES**                      **CERVONI: YES**  
**MARRONE: YES**  
**6 -AYE**  
**1-NAY**  
**2-ABSENT**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

9. Discussion and possible action regarding ARPA Nonprofits Assistance Proposal Evaluation – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE ARPA Nonprofits Assistance Proposal Evaluation.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

Chairman Cervoni asked Attorney Small if this is to approve what is in the packet and Attorney Small answered yes.

Attorney Small mentioned this is one aspect of the evaluation that's not before the Committee and we developed. She stated we changed business form per Councilor Zandri.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>ALLINSON:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>TATTA:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>CARMODY:</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>TESTA:</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN:</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>ZANDRI:</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>CERVONI:</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>MARRONE:</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**6 -AYE**

**1-NAY**

**2-ABSENT**

**MOTION: PASSED**

10. Discussion and possible action on a plan for the Appropriation of ARPA funds in municipal projects and/or capital expenditures – Councilor Testa

Councilor Testa read a prepared statement and stated let's truly do this together, Council and Administration. He suggested we start now and have a special meeting.

Councilor Zandri adds to Council Testa's sentiment and feels we should be working on it collectively.

Councilor Marrone stated he likes the idea of a special meeting.

11. Discussion and possible action regarding sale of state property – Mayor

The Mayor spoke about the property, 535 Center Street, which is across from Vinny's Deli. He indicated no use for that property.

Chairman Cervoni stated there is no useful purpose to acquire property.

Council Zandri asked what happens if the state needs it in the future and Mayor replied that an easement would cover any access issues.

Councilor Allinson asked how much the state paid for this property and Mayor stated he is not sure.

12. Executive Session pursuant to CGS Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the following pending tax appeal matters: -  
Law Dept.

*(a) Faran Siddiqy v. Town of Wallingford;*

*(b) 173 Church Street, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*

*(c) 38 Warehouse Point Road, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*

*(d) Yalesville Properties, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*

*(e) 68 North Plains Wallingford, LLC v. Town of Wallingford; and*

*(f) J. Gavin Properties, LLC v. Town of Wallingford*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:36 P.M.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**

**SECONDED BY: ALLINSON**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to CGS Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the following pending tax appeal matters:**

- (a) Faran Siddiqy v. Town of Wallingford;*
- (b) 173 Church Street, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*
- (c) 38 Warehouse Point Road, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*
- (d) Yalesville Properties, LLC v. Town of Wallingford;*
- (e) 68 North Plains Wallingford, LLC v. Town of Wallingford; and*
- (f) J. Gavin Properties, LLC v. Town of Wallingford*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:52 P.M.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**

**SECONDED BY: ZANDRI**

**VOTE: ALL AYE**

**MOTION: PASSED**

**Time of Executive Session: 7:36 p.m. to 7:52 p.m.**

**Attendance at Executive Session:**

ALLINSON  
LAFFIN  
MARRONE  
TATTA  
TESTA  
ZANDRI  
CERVONI

MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.  
CORPORATION COUNSEL, JANIS SMALL

13. Motion to consider and authorize settlement in the pending tax appeal matters as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO authorize settlement in the pending tax appeal matters as discussed in Executive Session.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**

**SECONDED BY: ALLINSON**

**VOTE: ALL AYE**

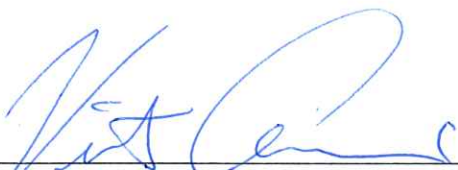
**MOTION: PASSED**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff

Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

3/13/2023

Date



Deborah McKiernan, Town Clerk

3/13/2023

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 2-17-23  
AT 1:30 p.m. AND RECEIVED BY  
Deborah McKiernan TOWN CLERK