

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 14, 1994

6:30 P.M. - ROOM #315

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Joint Executive Session of the Town Council and Public Utilities Commission Pursuant to Section 1-19b(7) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to the Contents of Engineering or Feasibility Estimates and Evaluations Made for or by an Agency Relative to Prospective Public Safety Contracts
 - Discussion of Ongoing Negotiations for Future Power Supply Contract Arrangements
3. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$25,000 to Revenue: Contribution from General Taxation and to Expenditures: Self-Finance Quinnipiac Corridor Design Fee - Engineering
4. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$25,000 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Capital and Non-Recurring Contribution from General Taxation Acct. #001-8100-800-8040 - Engineering

SPECIAL JOINT TOWN COUNCIL/ PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING

NOVEMBER 14, 1994

6:30 P.M. - ROOM #315

A special joint meeting of the Wallingford Town Council and the Public Utilities Commission was held on Monday, November 14, 1994 in Room #315 of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairman Thomas D. Solinsky at 6:37 P.M. All Councilors answered present to the Roll called by Town Council Secretary Kathryn F. Milano with the exception of Councilor Gouveia who was detained at a meeting at work and Councilor Zandri who refrained from attending due to a possible conflict of interest in the matter. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. arrived at 6:40 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Alexander Kovacs, Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission, called the meeting of the P.U.C. to Order at 6:38 P.M. noting that Commissioners Gessert and Papale were in attendance. Also present was Raymond F. Smith, Director of Public Utilities; William Cominos, General Manager of the Electric Division; P.U.C. Attorney Gerald Farrell and Attorney Robert O'Neil of the firm Miller, Balis & O'Neil.

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Move Agenda Items #3&4 Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent, Killen, no; all others, aye. Motion duly carried.

ITEM #3 Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$25,000 to Revenue: Contribution from General Taxation and to Expenditures: Self-Finance Quinnipiac Corridor Design Fee - Engineering

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Solinsky asked the Mayor to explain the budget amendments/transfer to all present.

Mayor Dickinson explained that \$25,000 is being moved from the Contingency Acct. to the Capital and Non-Recurring Contribution from General Taxation Account which now reflects a \$0 balance. The sequence of accounting steps is as follows: \$25,000 comes from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. and goes to Contribution to General Taxation to Capital & Non-Recurring. It then enters the Revenue, Capital & Non-Recurring Contribution from General Taxation Account and the Expenditures: Self-Finance Quinnipiac Corridor Design Fee Acct. This is the same project which appeared before the Council at its last meeting which will allow for the placement of traffic lights at Washington Street and Cook Hill Road. The reason for the rush on this item is that the State has accelerated the schedule and we have to provide the design by January or February. The design fee for the project is approximately \$120,000.

Mr. Killen stated that it was ludicrous to take money from the annual

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budget and place it in a bond account. The money is in the contingency account in case of an emergency. There is nothing preventing you (Mayor) from increasing the size of the bond.

Mayor Dickinson responded that we don't have two months to amend the ordinance. It will put us two months outside of the State's schedule. It is not my recommendation that we take that risk. He did not know what would happen with a new administration and he would like us to be in the position as quickly as possible to access those funds once the specifications go out.

Mr. Killen stated, Mr. Rys raised the issue at the last Town Council Meeting of the dollars that were in the Capital & Non-Recurring Account allocated for roads and bridges. You (Mayor) mentioned the fact that dollars have already been expended and encumbered and they have not been bonded. It just came from cash that was on-hand. Now that amounted to \$300,000 or more. We are trying to say now that \$25,000 isn't available to do the very same thing here until such time as we change the bond amendment. It is ridiculous.

Mayor Dickinson responded, \$100,000 was identified for design. We need more than that to complete the design. As a result there is not an authorization to use anything to pay for the additional design. It (money) has to either move within that ordinance via the authorization within that ordinance or we bring in cash for the purpose, but there has to be an authorization to allow us to spend additional money for design.

Mr. Killen responded, we could have slated the authorization of it, the monies were still there. There was no authorization that came across the table to allow the Comptroller to use the money that he has been using within that particular ordinance already but he is already doing it.

Mayor Dickinson answered, of course he has authorization.

Mr. Killen asked, by whom?

Mayor Dickinson answered, it is within the authority of the Finance Department to manage the money that the Town has.

Mr. Killen answered, then he (Comptroller) has the same authorization here.

Mayor Dickinson stated, no he doesn't because the project was limited to \$100,000 for design. We have to sign a contract and obligate ourselves to the architect for funds in addition to the \$100,000. He can't do the work unless we sign that contract and we can't sign it without the money.

Mr. Killen stated, if you read what is in front of us tonight you will see that there is no such thing as an authorization. To the untrained eye it is strictly a transfer.

Mayor Dickinson stated, it (transfer) creates an authorization.

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Mr. Killen did not like this item before the Council at the last minute and would not vote in favor of it, urging the other Councilors present to do the same.

Mayor Dickinson stated, a budget creates the authorization to spend the dollars.

Mr. Rys stated that he approves of the idea of the transfer coming from Council Contingency due to the fact that this is an emergency. He would have preferred to see the money come from the Culverts Account, having the money move around within the account, specifically out of Culverts as indicated before. Perhaps Mr. Costello did not see that it could work that way, but if it is an emergency then it should come from Contingency.

Mayor Dickinson responded that originally the discussion centered on taking the money from Culverts however the difficulty with that is that it is not done with design work on any specific culverts in mind. Without work having been performed in design to know what the potential cost is, Mr. Costello cannot accurately represent the fact that he has money in the account that he does not need.

Mr. Solinsky asked if the money can be replaced at a later date?

Mayor Dickinson responded, if the ordinance is amended eventually it could be replaced. The cash is being utilized to avoid borrowing. We

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent; Killen, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #4 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$25,000 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Capital and Non-Recurring Contribution from General Taxation Acct. #001-8100-800-8040 - Engineering

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Killen stated that he was disturbed that if the people around this table do not understand what is happening here then we are ill-equipped to handle the main item on this agenda tonight.

Mr. Solinsky stated, it is obvious that no one else shares Mr. Killen's feelings.

Mr. Killen responded, he could live with that but the thing that bothers him is that it is not just his money. He is trying to represent someone else's.

Mr. Solinsky responded, everyone at the table is representing someone else.

Mr. Killen asked, are they representing them to the best of their ability?

Mr. Solinsky asked if anyone was not representing the public to the best of their ability.

There was no response given.

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent; Killen, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #2 Joint Executive Session of the Town Council and the Public Utilities Commission Pursuant to Section 1-19b(7) of the CT. General Statutes with Respect to the Contents of Engineering or Feasibility Estimates and Evaluations Made for or by an Agency Relative to Prospective Public Safety Contracts

-Discussion of Ongoing Negotiations for Future Power Supply Contract Arrangements

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Enter Into the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Knight.

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

All parties remained in the executive session with the exception of the Town Council Secretary.

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Exit the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Killen to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Gouveia and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

Kathryn F. Milano
Kathryn F. Milano
Town Council Secretary

Approved by: *Thomas D. Solinsky* 2-22-95
Thomas D. Solinsky, Chairman Date

Kathryn J. Wall FEB 14 1995
Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk Date