

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town Council Chambers

September 8, 2009

The following minutes are a record of the Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council held in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. The Meeting was Called to Order at 6:35 P.M. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Council Secretary Sandra Weekes were Councilors Mike Brodinsky, Nick Economopoulos, Jerry Farrell, Jr., John LeTourneau, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, Michael Spiteri and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Councilor Vincenzo M. DiNatale arrived at 6:40 P.M. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes were also present.

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Roll Call.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#64 - #179) totaling \$84,485.10
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and Approve Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Use of Federal Grant Funding and Custodial Ownership of Regional Assets in DEMHS Region 2 for Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program – Fire Chief
- 3c. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$100 Youth and Social Services Special Fund to Donations Acct # 213-1042-070-7010 and to Expenditures Acct # 213-3070-600-6000 – Youth and Social Services
- 3d. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount \$3,834 of to Revenue Highway Safety Acct # 001-1050-050-5883 and to Police Overtime Acct # 001-205-101-1400 – Police Chief
- 3e. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount \$37,600 to Retained Earnings and to Conservation Expenses Acct # 909
- Electric Division
- 3f. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount \$15,000 to Federal Fire Act Grant Acct # 223-1050-050-5000 and to Volunteer Recruitment Acct # 223-2030-605-6000 – Fire Chief
- 3g. Bid Waiver for Comcast for the production and airing of a TV ad to recruit new volunteer firefighters in the amount of \$15,000 – Fire Chief
- 3h. Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting June 2, 2009
- 3i. Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting June 30, 2009

- 3j. Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting July 14, 2009
- 3k. Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting August 11, 2009

Mr. Testa made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 3a. to 3k. Mr. Parisi seconded the motion.

All Councilors present (8) by voice voted Aye. Councilor DiNatale was absent

The motion passed.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None

Councilor DiNatale arrived at the meeting.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER

Mr. Rooney, Williams Road, made comments about the removal of the silt from MacKenzie Reservoir, which he valued at \$400k. He indicated that the town gave it away. Chairman Brodinsky said that if the town could sell it, the town would have to pay to truck it out, so it was determined that the liability belongs to the contractor to take it away; and therefore, the contractor performing the work has the right to dispose of the silt. Mr. Rooney also made comments regarding fireworks and paraprofessionals.

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, reported another serious accident on August 27 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the crossroad of Rt. 5 and Toelles Road. He said this major accident tied up 2 patrol cars, an ambulance and 2 fire trucks. He said that no one in ten years has addressed this problem. He also referred to his recommendation that the Town Council, Planning and Zoning and Mountainside meet together to hammer out a regulation that would deal with the problem. Chairman Brodinsky said that it belongs to ZBA. Mr. Zandri said get the regulation and stay out of court.

Bob Hogan, Grieb Road, read a prepared statement regarding the lack of information online with respect to appraisals. He said that of the 168 municipalities in Connecticut only two do not have this information online; Wallingford is one of them. He suggested looking at the Essex website. Mayor Dickinson said that there are many privacy considerations, cost considerations, including breeched information. He does not feel that in this economic climate that another expense should be added.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, spoke about particular locations regarding broken curbing and patched curbing where no backfill was performed leaving the job unfinished. He gave the locations to the Mayor and also displayed photos of these areas.

John F. Marriott, 33 Grieb Road, member of Board member of the Committee on Aging Spoke about taxes, telephone land lines, scams, answering machines and suggested providing a survey for the distribution of ideas.

Diana Hotchkiss, 38 Clifton Street, said that in her research about trains and train stations that North Haven has selected the Toelles Road crossing as the location for a station. She thinks that because this location is being studied for this purpose that this is the reason that nothing has been done to correct the danger at that crossroad. She also said that no train will stop in Wallingford in the future. She said that she has a video that she is willing to share from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

6. Update on H1N1 planning by the Health Director, Eloise Hazelwood
– Councilor John LeTourneau

Health Director, Eloise Hazelwood, with the aid of a handout (*Appendix I*) stated the definitions of occurrence in an *Epidemic*, an *Outbreak* and a *Pandemic*. She reported information regarding the basics of H1N1 and the difference of it from seasonal flu. She discussed that inoculations for both kinds of flu are necessary, and when vaccines will be available. The Health Department recommends visiting the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) website on a regular basis at www.ct.gov/dph/flu. Several times, she reviewed prevention guidelines

Wash your hands

Cover your cough/sneeze

If you are sick, stay home but go to school or work if you are not sick

Superintendent of Schools Salvatore Menzo expressed his concerns with swine flu and asked parents to review the website of the Board of Education with respect to this matter.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on correcting the voting district assignments for the 103rd and 90th districts per the Registrars' recommendation - Registrars

Withdrawn

8. Executive Session pursuant to § 1-200 (6) (E) of the with regard to strategy and negotiation with respect to Collective Bargaining - Wallingford Board of Education

Mr. Testa made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to § 1-200 (6) (E) of the with regard to strategy and negotiation with respect to Collective Bargaining as requested by the Wallingford Board of Education

Mr. Parisi seconded the motion.

All Councilors (9) present voted Aye. The motion passed. The Council entered into Executive Session at 7:25 P.M.

Mr. Testa made a motion, seconded by Chairman Brodinsky, to come out of Executive Session. All Councilors (9) present voted Aye. The motion passed. The Council exited from Executive Session at 8:20 P.M.

Executive Session Attendance:

All nine (9) Councilors, Mayor Dickinson, Terence Sullivan, Director of Personnel, Town of Wallingford

Executive Session Attendance con't

Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent of Schools
Janice Guarino-Rhone, Director of Human Resources, Board of Education
Thomas Hennessey, Vice-Chairperson, Board of Education,
Roxanne McKay, Member, Board of Education

9. Discussion & Possible Action regarding Local 474, Unit 30, UPSEU (cafeteria union) contract Effective September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2012 – Board of Education, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Testa read the item. Chairman Brodinsky asked for a motion.

MOTION

Mr. Parisi made a motion to reject the contract of Local 474, Unit 30, UPSEU (cafeteria union) Effective September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2012.

Mr. Farrell seconded the motion.

In attendance

Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent of Schools
Janice Guarino-Rhone, Director of Human Resources, Board of Education
Thomas Hennessey, Vice-Chairperson, Board of Education,

Mayor Dickinson said that with regard to this contract, and the one following this one, his comments would be virtually the same. He said that our budget this year was built around no wage increases for the year 2010 for the reason of the economic meltdown. He said that the desire was to limit tax increases and not be funding wage increases when there is so much hardship throughout our economy and affecting so many people. He said that the town is currently involved in two arbitrations with units on the general government side. He said that one of the primary issues is over wage increases for the year 2010. He said he urges the Council to reject these contracts because not only does it affect costs in education this year, next year and each following year but it also effects how the community can deal with arbitrations on other units. He said it is extremely important that we not be approving wage increases, especially for the year 2010.

Dr. Menzo introduced Board of Education representatives to the Town Council. He said that he respectfully understands the Mayor's point of view, and the contract increases they negotiated are:

1% 1st year,
1.95% 2nd year
1.95% 3rd year.

He said that the actual financial implications equal just over \$300 per employee for the three-year contract. He said there are 51 employees in the unit and for the 2nd and 3rd years, it will be less than \$400 per employee. He said that there is no change in health insurance. He said it is important to know that this is a self-sustaining program, which is funded through the meals that are served in the schools. It is not part of the Board of Education budget. We have been fortunate that this program has been very successful in the service that has been provided to parents and students at a very reasonable price over the past several years. He said that the increases can be accommodated to these very hard working people, based on the fact that this

does not effect our budget. He said that they feel this is an appropriate raise because of the level of work that they provided.

Dr. Menzo continued in discussing the contract itself and said that there some minimal language changes but one of the most important, and not minimal, should not go without review. He said that with regard to health care insurance, wording that has been changed for potential provider changes in the future. He said that this is in the central part of the contract that they need to have that leeway. He said that everyone knows that health care is a concern, and the Board of Education wants to make sure that they have the potential to change providers with a reasonable amount of response to the union. He said that the union has accepted this wording and that, as a benefit to the Board of Education, this is wording that they would like to get into all of their contracts.

Chairman Brodinsky asked where the gross receipts for the cafeteria go. Dr. Menzo said that there is a separate cafeteria account used for products, salaries and reimbursement for reduced lunches from the State of Connecticut. Dr. Menzo said that over the past several years for purposes of making sure that they have this ability to provide a quality service at a reasonable price, there is a carryover amount in terms of the amount that allows them to better the program from year to year. He said this is based on the savings they have developed based on the profits over time. The total cost for each year for 51 members is:

1st year is \$16,287

2nd year is \$21,365

3rd year is \$20,283

Dr. Menzo responded to Chairman Brodinsky saying that an individual worker can make from \$10.90 to \$22.75 per hour with the average rate of about \$15.00 per hour.

Mr. Testa said that he appreciates the stance that the administration is taking regarding no wage increases. He said in his years on the Board of Education and the Town Council, he has always stressed that contracts are about overall cost. He said that when he looks at these contracts, he looks at what the overall effect is on the budget. He thinks that concessions on health care are very important, and in other areas where there are cost savings that this is important too, so it isn't always just about wages. He said in this particular case, the cost of going to arbitration would far offset what the contract would cost. He said that the administration took a stance in budgeting this year that would not fund wage increases, and we would try to negotiate contracts the best way the town could. He said he thinks that rejecting a contract merely, simply and philosophically because the contract has a wage increase in it, is counterproductive when the contract has been negotiated in good faith, responsibly, reasonably and aggressively with long term benefits implied. He said that to reject it to back up a bargaining position, or strategy, that the administration is taking isn't prudent.

Mr. Economopoulos said that he broke this down into three fields of thought. He said that he admires the Mayor for taking a stand. Somewhere we all have to take a stand and say that's it. there are no more wage or salary increases. He said that if you break this down into his three categories that he cannot see *not* passing these two contracts. 1) The monetary reality is over-loaning. The custodial contract itself has a reduction of \$650 per custodian the first year because they were change... Chairman Brodinsky said that it was the cafeteria contract under consideration right now. Mr. Economopoulos said in the cafeteria workers that a one percent increase on a \$10 wage earner is a dime, ten cents. He said sometimes you have to take a stand with the chiefs and not with the workers. He said that he wants to approve this contract.

Mr. Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, asked about insurance and if the Board of Education will be able to go out to bid and also will it also allow an outside TPA administrator besides Blue Cross Blue Shield without any problems. Dr. Menzo said that the provision provides a timely notification and an appropriated analysis of doctors in the network versus out of network but it does give substantial language to allow negotiation for a change in carrier. He said that it allows for them to go out to bid more frequently and to look for the best price for the town. Mr. Gross said it is the administration's position that the contracts, as they are written now and which he does not agree with, state that you cannot go out to bid. Mayor Dickinson said that is not correct but that this is an improvement and it requires the union cooperation and agreement in the process. It's not you go out to bid and choose the lowest price or what you think is beneficial and everyone has to agree with it. He said that he never said that we can't go out to bid. He said you go out to bid but there is no language to say that you can require anyone to adhere to the results of the bid and this certainly improves that but it does require notice and agreement from the union on some key aspects in order to have it accomplished and ultimately a change approved. Mr. Gross argues a long-term savings.

Mary Beth Applegate, 1 Perkins Drive, asked that since there are two other unions in arbitration right now, and we give these raises, will this have impact on those discussions because it is the opposite of the Mayor's position to not give any raises. Mayor Dickinson said in his opinion, yes, and every action or inaction taken by the town is usable in those discussions in the ultimate resolution of an arbitration on an another unit's contract. Ms. Applegate said that this may only be ten cents on the dollar but what is it going to do in terms of impacting the other contracts that are currently being discussed. She thinks it is an important thing to look at.

Mr. Parisi asked if Dr. Menzo said that doctor selection would be part of the approval process. Dr. Menzo explained that something that Wallingford is moving toward is that you state the perimeters by which you can change providers, and one thing that employees want to be aware of is that their employer doesn't come in one day and say, we are switching health care insurance, and now you can't go to any of your doctors. He said that they have to do their due diligence with their insurance companies and through their bid process to go vet that information and bring that back. Mr. Parisi asked if the majority of the people don't care for the doctor selection that is available to them, then what happens. Dr. Menzo said that the agreement states that there has to be a disruption report run, and that is a factual piece of information, that is data based on their usage, so that they would have in a confidential way a usage disruption report. He said that they look at the data, the statistics, and ask if it follows the language of the contract, and if it does, then the union has to agree with it because now it is in the contract. He said that the language did exist in the past contract. He said that the new language is much more detailed and specific in avoiding issues. Mr. Parisi asked if he had a doctor for twenty years, is it possible that he would not be able to continue going to that doctor. Dr. Menzo said that there is a very slight chance because that would have to match 90% of the physicians.

Mr. Parisi said that he made this motion and that it wasn't easy. He said that he was on the Council when the cafeteria ran a horrendous deficit, unreal. He said to see what the present director has done and he knows that she has wonderful people with her. He commends and understands that but he wants the people in that cafeteria to know that this is a philosophical position, and what he calls part of being a Councilor making a tough vote. He said that this is a very difficult vote.

Mr. Spiteri asked about the deletion noted in Item 6 in one of the health care networks that was available. Dr. Menzo said that no one in this contract was taking the HealthNet option. They will not be able to participate in HealthNet.

Mr. Economopoulos talked about the percentage reality which is one percent and 1.95% and 1.95%. He said that they are going to be going to arbitration with Fire and Public Works. He said emphatically that they are not going to settle for numbers less than that in arbitration. He said they might be able to get a wage freeze the first year but he can't see them coming up with zero percent, zero percent and zero percent. He said that the arbitrator doesn't make deals. He goes with the last, best offer and you are tying their hands behind their backs by voting this down because arbitration is \$30,000 for each contract. That's \$60,000 that is not budgeted for by the Board of Education. He said that you could come out of arbitration with higher wage percentages than 1 percent, 1.95 percent and 1.95 percent. Dr. Menzo concurred. Mr. Economopoulos said that he would be voting to pass this contract.

Chairman Brodinsky reminded everyone that the motion is to reject.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

DiNatale – Yes; Economopoulos – no; Farrell – yes to reject; LeTourneau – Yes to reject; Parisi – Yes to reject; Rascati – Yes to reject; Spiteri – No; Testa – No; Brodinsky - No
5 to reject; 4 to accept

The motion carried. The contract was rejected.

10. Discussion & Possible Action regarding Local 1303-60, Council #4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (custodian union) contract Effective October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012 – Board of Education, Director of Human Resources

In attendance

Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent of Schools
Janice Guarino-Rhone, Director of Human Resources, Board of Education
Thomas Hennessey, Vice-Chairperson, Board of Education,

MOTION

Mr. Economopoulos made a motion to accept Local 1303-60, Council #4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (custodian union) contract Effective October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012 as requested by the Board of Education, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Testa seconded the motion.

Mayor Dickinson said that his comments are the same on this. He said that it is a difficult issue but that difficulty is mirrored across our society. There is nothing simple about what is going on with our economy and the uncertainty that most people have for the future. He said that at this point that we need to be indicating consistently that we are not approving wage increases for the year 2010. He said that ideally, we would not approve them for other years but he recognizes that as a more difficult issue. He does not want to approve wage increases for 2010. He said that this is an important message for the general public and for our bargaining units. He said that we are conscious of everyone's problems but we need to be tough about what liabilities and what needs the town will have for the future budgets regarding taxes, rates, et cetera.

Dr. Menzo, regarding the three years of the settlement that they tentatively agreed to and was ratified by the Board of Education, said that the first year was 1% increase, the second year is 1.95%, and the third year 1.95%. He said that the significant piece of the custodial contract refers to HealthNet. He said that HealthNet was an option for health insurance which the members were allowed to opt into. At the present time they have nine (9) employees that are using the HealthNet service. In the negotiated contract, we were able to remove the HealthNet service as an option, and in so doing, they realized a \$35,000 savings. He said that with that savings in the first year of the contract, the actual cost to the district is a negative. The savings to the district is \$25,759. He said that wages and step increases total \$17,500. The health insurance savings because they no longer have that as an option and we have moved and projected moving these people to the other health insurance plan, which is Blue Cross Blue shield. They have accounted for the cost of them in the other plan, so this is a real savings of \$35,000. He said reported on the co-pay and life insurance. He reviewed the cost of the three-year period. He said that there are 37 members in this unit. He said salaries range from \$17.20 to \$30.49.

Mr. LeTourneau noted that annualized salaries were \$36,234 to \$58,427.

Mr. Economopoulos said that the stand of no wage increase may not be taking place here but there is no contract increase. He said that in fact there is a first year contract decrease and a savings of over \$25,000 with a locked in one percent wage increase. He said that because of some of the verbiage and give-backs in insurance that they were able to obtain in this contract, it will save the town \$25,000 in the first year. In the second year, it's going to cost the town \$7,000 and \$2,000 to the town in the third year. If they go to arbitration, it will be \$30,000 with no guarantee that the percentages of 1%, 1.95% and 1.95% are going to be lower than that. He said that if you take the yearly rate of salary, will a family with these earnings be eligible for free lunches. He said that this is not the place to take a stand. He is making a personal guarantee that when Public Works and Fire have their contracts settled in three consecutive years without opening wages every year that the numbers will be higher than 1%, 1.95% and 1.95%. He said that he is voting for this contract.

Mr. Spiteri said that the chance of the town getting a contract at 1% is not what is happening right now. He said that unfortunately this has degenerated into an area of one person's stubbornness over doing what is right. He said that the language changes are not going to be there with the arbitrator, and he is probably going to award more than what they asked for. He said that these two unions are going to come out in better shape. He said that it's a pipe dream to think that an arbitrator will give zero percent. He said that he will be voting to ratify this contract and it was arrived at through hard negotiations and that we are hurting ourselves by turning this down.

Chairman Brodinsky said that an important point in the first year is that there is a \$25,759 savings. He said that the Mayor makes the point that by agreeing to this that precedent is set, which is a good, fair and serious point. He said if in the other negotiations that we are concerned about, we can go to the bargaining table and say on the custodial contract we saved \$25,000, match that. He said that the contract that was negotiated was a net savings. Why should we walk away from this on the basis of a precedent? The precedent is that we are saving money.

Mayor Dickinson, speaking to the insurance issue, said that he can say that in no year that he has been in office has he seen decreased insurance costs. He said that in the second year that we are guessing at the increase as every year it goes up because now everyone will be on Anthem Blue Cross. He said that insurance in his terminology is not a savings because it goes up due to trends and experience, et cetera. He wants everyone to understand that there is an argument on the insurance side which is what he is voicing.

Mr. Testa said insurance increases as it will but your contract has allowed for a lower percentage, then it is going to equate to a cost savings. When the language allows for a larger contribution from the employee and or eliminates a higher cost of plan, then you are saving money, a lot of money. He said that if your insurance premiums go up, you are still saving money because your insurance premium didn't go up as much. He said that for years we have been negotiating to reduce the benefit expenditures of the town, and that is a very important part of these contracts, and it can't be brushed aside.

Chairman Brodinsky said that the motion is to accept the contract.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

DiNatale – No; Economopoulos – Yes; Farrell – No; LeTourneau – No;
Parisi – No; Rascati – No; Spiteri – Yes; Testa – Yes; Brodinsky – Yes
5 No; 4 Yes

The motion failed.

Chairman Brodinsky said that contract is not accepted.

Mayor Dickinson said that there must be a motion to reject the contract to technically deal with it; otherwise, it becomes a problem.

Mr. Parisi made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rascati, to reject the contract of Local 1303-60, Council #4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (custodian union) Effective October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

DiNatale – Yes; Economopoulos – No; Farrell – Yes; LeTourneau – Yes;
Parisi – Yes; Rascati – Yes; Spiteri – No; Testa – No; Brodinsky – No
5 - Yes; 4 - No

The motion passed, and the contract was rejected.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on whether to accept or reject a proposal by H.V. Kohler, Jr., on behalf of Choate Rosemary Hall, dated July 10, 2009 concerning closing a portion of Old Durham Road – Chairman Mike Brodinsky

Mr. Testa read Item 11 stating Discussion and Possible Action on whether to accept or reject a proposal by H.V. Kohler, Jr., on behalf of Choate Rosemary Hall, dated July 10, 2009 concerning closing a portion of Old Durham Road requested by Chairman Mike Brodinsky

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to accept the offer.

Chairman Brodinsky asked for a second to the motion. He asked again for a second. There was no second to the motion of Mr. Testa.

Chairman Brodinsky said that procedurally, there is no second to that motion, so it is not being taken up, and there will be no action on it as no one saw fit to second the motion to accept. He said it is, therefore, clearly implied that it is not acceptable to anyone on the Council. He said that

although it is somewhat anticlimactic to many of the public sitting in the Chambers, it was put on the agenda because an offer was presented to us, a motion was made for the purpose of discussion but no Councilor was interested to second the motion. He said that Number 11 is off the agenda.

Mayor Dickinson said that representatives of Choate are here, and he thinks that we would benefit by getting more information about the educational opportunity. Chairman Brodinsky asked how does the Council square this with the agenda. He said that everyone had an opportunity to put something on the agenda and that was not there. He said that he has had comments from both sides of the aisle and in preparing the agenda, we don't like things dropped on us at the last minute. He said that we like to study in advance, and he has heard that especially to his left. He said that if there was some additional information, wouldn't it be fair to the Council, to the town and to everyone to send it through normal channels; give it to the Council secretary and let us see what it is? There is no general presentation by Choate on the agenda.

Mayor Dickinson said that this is not a new proposal. He said that this is part of the educational component that has been discussed already. It's how to outline what the educational component is.

Chairman Brodinsky said that he is ruling it out of order as it is not listed on the agenda. He said had this been presented to us in a timely fashion, we could have done something but to have it dropped on us is not really the way that we should be doing things. He said Item 11 is off the agenda, and there is no discussion, and we are moving to Item 12.

Councilor DiNatale left the meeting at this time.

12. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property – Mayor

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property as requested by the Mayor. Mr. Brodinsky seconded the motion.

Eight (8) Councilors present by voice voted Aye. Councilor DiNatale was absent. The motion passed. The Council entered into Executive Session at 9:10 P.M.

Mr. Testa made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parisi, to come out of Executive Session. Eight (8) Councilors present by voice voted Aye. Councilor DiNatale was absent. The motion passed. The Council exited from Executive Session at 9:22 P.M.

Executive Session Attendance:

Eight (8) Councilors, Mayor Dickinson and Town Attorney, Janis Small.
Councilor DiNatale was absent for this Executive Session.

WAIVE RULE V.

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to Waive Rule V for the purpose of taking up a bid waiver request from the Department of Public Works. Mr. Parisi seconded.

Eight (8) Councilors present by voice voted Aye. Councilor DiNatale was absent. The motion passed.

Mr. Testa made a motion to approve two bid waivers as requested by the Department of Public Works as follows:

1. Purchase of steel "I" Beams from R.W. Conklin Steel and
2. Continued rental of sheet piling and hammer and the purchase of several piling sheets as recommended by the Engineering Department with no bid limit.

Mr. Parisi seconded.

Eight (8) Councilors present by voice voted Aye. Councilor DiNatale was absent.
The motion passed.

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parisi, to adjourn. All Councilors present (8) voted Aye on the motion. Mr. DiNatale was absent. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Meeting recorded by Sandra Weekes

Chairman, Mike Brodinsky

Date

Town Clerk, Barbara Kapi

Date



Town of Wallingford, Connecticut
Health Department

ELOISE E. HAZELWOOD, RS, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

GEORGE YASENSKY, RS
REGISTERED SANITARIAN

D.B. SMITH, MD
MEDICAL ADVISOR

45 SOUTH MAIN STREET, RM 215
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT 06492
PHONE (203) 294-2065
FAX (203) 294-2064

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 1, 2009

To: Wallingford Town Council

From: Eloise Hazelwood, Director of Health *EH*

Re: Update on Influenza, H1N1

The following is per your request:

1. Define: Epidemic, Outbreak and Pandemic

Epidemic: Cases of illness in excess of normal expectancy over a specific time period in a community, geographic region, building or institution.

Outbreak: Same as above but sounds more alarming

Pandemic: Cases of illness in excess of normal expectancy in at least two separate Countries/regions

*However, none of the above terms refers to the SEVERITY of illness, just the occurrence

2. Seasonal versus H1N1:

Type A Influenza, Seasonal Flu, occurs every year w/ 5% to 20% of the population ill and more than 200,000 hospitalized and about 36,000 people die

H1N1 is a subtype of Influenza A, currently the severity mimics seasonal flu.

This fall, BOTH strains of Influenza are circulating. Both are Community Acquired meaning it is airborne and within the Community as a whole.

3. Prevention is the same for Seasonal and H1N1:

Wash your Hands

Cover your cough/sneeze

If you are sick, stay home but if you are not sick go to school/work

4. Signs and Symptoms:

Key s/s is Fever >100 accompanied by productive cough
Onset is quick (w/in 1-2 days) and duration is about 5-7 days.

IF you have Influenza like illness (ILI) stay home for 24 hours after your fever is gone. "Self isolate" or practice "social distancing" (try to stay one arm length away, respect personal space)

5. Cleaning:

Virus "lives" 5-8 hours on a surface (droplet from sneezing), so normal routine cleaning recommended.

6. Vaccination available for seasonal flu and will be initially limited for H1N1. H1N1 based on Priority groups established by CDC (see attached). Contact your doctor for availability.

Wlfd Health Dept will receive a listing of providers offering the H1N1 vaccine. The H1N1 is currently a 2 dose vaccine; seasonal flu is a single dose. Based on availability and priority group, may be given at the same time (initial dose and seasonal flu).

We will provide periodic updates to the Towns website also CT DPH website updated regularly at www.ct.gov/dph/flu.

7. Review:

Key: Don't panic, wash your hands and stay home IF sick but go to school/work if you are not sick.

H1N1 and Seasonal Flu

The H1N1 flu vaccine is not yet available. The Wallingford Health Department anticipates that we will receive a list of private providers and community clinics offering the H1N1 vaccine by late September or early October. All residents are encouraged to call their doctor concerning the availability of Seasonal Flu and H1N1 vaccine.

As the vaccine will initially be in limited supply, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has established priority groups to receive the initial supply of H1N1 vaccine as follows:

- Pregnant women.
- Household contacts and **caregivers** for children younger than 6 months of age.
- Healthcare and emergency medical personnel.
- All people from 6 months of age through 24 years of age.
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

As the vaccine supply increases, additional groups of residents will be added to the priority list

For more information, please refer to the following websites:

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu or www.ct.gov/dph/flu

Or call the Wallingford Health Dept 294-2065

Thank you for your cooperation in prevention of Seasonal and H1N1 Influenza.