

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 27, 2012

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. A Moment of Silence was observed, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilors in attendance were as follows: Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Craig C. Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Town Attorney Gerald E. Farrell, Sr. were also in attendance at the meeting. Comptroller James Bowes arrived at the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

Opening Prayer was given by the Reverend Dean Warburton, First Congregational Church of Wallingford.

2. Correspondence

None

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$12,513.89 (#541 - #552)
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 – Acting Tax Collector
- 3b.** Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$210 *Youth & Social Services Special Fund* to Donations Acct #2134002-47010 and to Expenditures Acct # 21340100-58830 – Youth & Social Services
- 3c.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$453 to Probate-Office Expenses & Supplies Acct # 10010850-56100 from Probate-Office Renovations Acct # 10010850-57000 – Probate Court
- 3d.** Authorize Appropriations in Force Fund/Carry Forward for \$45,000 for Fire repairs to Engines 4 & 6 as of 6/30/11 - Comptroller
- 3e.** Consider and Approve Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$525,000 to Conservation Expense Acct # 909 from Retained Earnings – Director, Public Utilities
- 3f.** Acceptance of Scott RIT PAK III valued at \$3,075 and EZ-Glide Evacuation Chair valued at \$2,295 from anonymous donor – Fire Chief
- 3g.** Consider and Approve the Reappointment of Mr. David Gessert to the Public Utilities Commission for a three-year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2015 - Mayor
- 3h.** Consider and Approve Fair Housing Resolution for 2012 - Mayor
- 3i.** Consider and Approve Nine (9) Farmland Lease Properties for the remainder of 2012 - Conservation Commission
- 3j.** Consider and Approve the Appointments of Bill Pursell, Rep. Mary Mushinsky John Lynch, Sharon Mooney, Ben Martin, Troy Searcy to the Wallingford Energy Conservation Commission (WECC) – Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3k.** Approve Minutes of Special Town Council meeting of March 12, 2012
- 3l.** Approve Minutes of Special Town Council meeting of March 13, 2012
- 3m.** Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of March 13, 2012

Wallingford Town Hall, 45 South Main Street

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA 3a. through 3m.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: UNANIMOUS; AYE-9
MOTION PASSED.

Chairman Parisi announced that *Item 8* was withdrawn from the agenda.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

Suzanne Jordan, 52 Hintz Drive, asked the Town Council to be thoughtful when considering this year's Board of Education budget. She said it is a thorough and transparent budget.

6. Consider and Approve awarding to other than low bidder, in accordance with Purchasing Ordinance, Code 43-111, Public Bid 11-086, for the purchase of three-quarter (3/4) ton, heavy-duty pick-up truck (Rescue Truck) – Fire Chief

MOTION MADE TO CONSIDER A BID WAIVER REQUEST TO PURCHASE A THREE QUARTER (3/4) TON, HEAVY-DUTY PICK-UP TRUCK, A RESCUE TRUCK.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI

*In attendance: Peter Struble, Fire Chief
Richard Heidgert, Deputy Fire Chief*

Chief Struble gave a history of the department's experience with their present Ford vehicle stating that it has cost the town in lost service due to frequent repairs and in lost funds when it was traded in that totaled more than \$100,000. He said that the 2004 vehicle only saw one year of service. He said that because of this experience with the Ford vehicle that he is reluctant to purchase another Ford vehicle. He reported that the second lowest acceptable bid was submitted by Davidson Chevrolet.

AMENDMENT MADE BY: CERVONI

Councilor Cervoni intervened with an amendment to add to his original motion stating the following:
AWARDING TO OTHER THAN LOW BIDDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PURCHASING ORDINANCE, CODE 43-111 Public Bid 11-086.

The motion, amended, reads as follows:

MOTION MADE TO CONSIDER AWARDING TO OTHER THAN LOW BIDDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PURCHASING ORDINANCE, CODE 43-111 PUBLIC BID 11-086. FOR THE PURCHASE A THREE QUARTER (3/4) TON, HEAVY-DUTY PICK-UP TRUCK, A RESCUE TRUCK.

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

Questions were asked about whether the low bidder met the specifications and about the bid for the Chevy, which was in excess of the specifications; the reasons for lack of confidence in ordering another Ford vehicle; and about lost service that included 22 incidents with the Ford and the repair for each incident taking from two days to one month.

The VOTE was called out individually:

Cervoni-yes; Economopoulos-yes; Fishbein-no; Laffin-yes;

Letourneau-yes; Rascati-yes; Sullivan-yes; Zandri-yes; Parisi-yes

8-yes; 1-no

MOTION PASSED.

7. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$70,000 to C.R.R.A. Distribution Fund #200 and to Fire Rescue Vehicle Repairs Acct # 20080350-57000-10016 – Fire Chief

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE an Appropriation in the Amount of \$70,000 to C.R.R.A. Distribution Fund #200 and to Fire Rescue Vehicle Repairs Acct # 20080350-57000-10016 as requested by the Fire Chief.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

The **VOTE** was called out individually:

UNANIMOUS; AYE-9

MOTION PASSED.

8. *Report out from the Wallingford Housing Authority with questions to Chairman Michael Misiti and Vice-Chairman Robert Wiedenmann, regarding:*
- *Report on the new management company*
 - *General operational items*
 - *Councilor Nick Economopoulos*

Withdrawn

Councilor Cervoni read into the record a letter written by the Wallingford Housing Authority Board of Commissioners Chairman, Michael Misiti that concluded that a report to the Town Council would be ready at the end of April.

9. Report from Engineering Department on Wooding-Caplan property temporary parking & improvements in the Caplan - Wooding area - Councilor John LeTourneau

Both John Thompson, Town Engineer and Henry McCully, Public Works Director appeared before the Council to present and explain the plan for the property.

Permitting is moving along; in two months bid specifications should be out; summertime construction; change in plan for the gate arm for the Police Department; short talk about signage; discussion with regard to temporary and permanent paving areas of the project; concern about snow plowing on the temporary surfaces; suggestion of a two-inch paving on top of the millings as it is more attractive and easier to plow with a longer life than just the millings; concern about maintenance of temporary surfaces; project goal of temporary and low cost were emphasized several times; drainage discussion with respect to the neighbors of the property who have residences on North Elm Street and project plans to direct water away from that edge of the property; snow will be pushed to the corners of the property and not along the back edge. Another discussion centered around an overall town center parking plan from Wooding Caplan property to the west side of the railroad area and is there a plan. A short history of the Wooding Caplan property was given by the Mayor with references to the length of time it takes to develop ideas such as the study of privatization of the parcel; the Police Station Study; drawing up the architectural plans. Simpson Court rear parking plan took years to put together. He said that the current plan took more than six months to one year to develop; similar lots to the one

suggested for the Wooding Caplan property are located at Vietnam Park on East Center Street, Pragemann Park, Harrison Park and others.
Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, favors the coating on top of the milling material.

Richard Krombel, 38 North Elm Street, expressed his concerns about water,

Ben Martin, Ward Street, heartily requested the incorporation of bicycle racks in the parking area.

Kathy Avery, 42 North Elm Street, encouraged the Council to look long term and to make this property a plan to embrace as much green as possible. She suggested car, then green, then car, then green, etc. She also mentioned the use of an urban tree whose leaves disappear in the fall with no need for cleanup.

Robert Mansfield, Mansion Road, representing St; Paul's Episcopal Church, testified that everyone uses the church's parking lot. He requested that a certain area be mowed to improve appearance of that area.

10. Discussion on and possible action to re-designate money in Capital and Non-Recurring account that was to be used for the Simpson Court rear parking lot to the Wooding-Caplan property temporary parking lot - Councilor John LeTourneau

Mayor Dickinson stated that this appropriation will be addressed in the upcoming budget sessions.

11. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Nicholas Lombardi to the Wallingford Housing Authority Board for a Term left vacant by resignation of Joseph DiNatale that ends October 31, 2012 - Councilor Craig Fishbein

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE the Appointment of Nicholas Lombardi to the Wallingford Housing Authority Board for a Term left vacant by resignation of Joseph DiNatale that ends October 31, 2012.

**MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**

Both Mr. Lombardi and Mr. Russo were complimented on their qualities for the Housing Authority Board. Councilors stated that this has been a difficult decision with two good candidates. Chairman Misiti addressed the question saying that Mr. Russo would be his choice.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

**Cervoni-YES; Economopoulos-NO; Fishbein-YES; Laffin-YES; Letourneau-NO; Rascati-YES; Sullivan-NO; Zandri-NO; Parisi-YES
5-yes; 4-no**

MOTION PASSED.

12. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Larry Russo to the Wallingford Housing Authority Board for a Term left vacant by resignation of Joseph DiNatale that ends October 31, 2012 - Councilor John Sullivan

Councilor Sullivan complimented Mr. Russo and stated that should the opportunity present itself that he hopes Mr. Russo will express his interest in the board again.

The Town Clerk swore in Nicholas Lombardi to the Wallingford Housing Authority Board and Mr. Benjamin Martin to the Wallingford Energy Conservation Commission.

13. Authorize the sale of tax liens, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 12-195h, to the buyer of 6 and 8 Beaumont Road – Corporation Counsel

Councilor Cervoni recused himself from the question.

MOTION WAS MADE TO Authorize the sale of tax liens, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 12-195h, to the buyer of 6 and 8 Beaumont Road.

**MADE BY: RASCATI
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**

At the behest of the Town Attorney, Mr. Farrell, Sr., **Councilor Fishbein amended the motion to include “up to \$15,000”. Councilor Rascati seconded.**

**AMENDMENT VOTE: EIGHT (8) AYE; ONE (1) RECUSED
MOTION PASSED.**

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION TO Authorize the sale of tax liens up to \$15,000, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 12-195h, to the buyer of 6 and 8 Beaumont Road.

**EIGHT (8) AYE; ONE (1) RECUSED
MOTION PASSED.**

14. *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*

Withdrawn

MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

**MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: ALL NINE (9) COUNCILORS VOTED AYE**

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

Date

Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date