

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers**

FEBRUARY 10, 2015

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:33 P.M. The Opening Prayer was offered by Pastor Doug Valentine of the First Baptist Church of Wallingford, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni and Councilors Tom Laffin, John Letourneau, Christine Mansfield, Robert F. Parisi and Larry Russo. Councilors Craig Fishbein, John Sullivan and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. were not present for the meeting with excused absences. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Town Attorney G. E Farrell, Sr. were also at the meeting.

- 3.** Consent Agenda
- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$4,747.87 (#572-578)
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
 - 3b.** Consider and Approve Merit Review Increase – Personnel
 - 3c.** Acceptance of Donation of \$200 and Registration Fees of \$710 for an Appropriation for *Youth & Social Services STEM Academy Fund* in the Amount \$910 to Donations Acct #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures Acct # 22640150-58830
– Youth and Social Services
 - 3d.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$3,000 to Overtime Acct # 10020100-51400 from Contingency Acct # 10019000-58820 – Animal Control
 - 3e.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$6,000 to Leased Property on Customer Premises Acct # 372 from Street Lights and Signal Systems Acct # 373
- Electric Division
 - 3f.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$8,400 to Various Accounts From Distribution Maintenance-Overhead Lines Acct # 593 – Electric Division
 - 3g.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$1,330 to Snow Pusher for Backhoe Acct # 10030000-57000-00351 from Infield Groomer Acct # 10030000-57000-00345
-Public Works
 - 3h.** Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting of January 21, 2015
 - 3i.** Approve Minutes of Special Town Council Meeting of January 29, 2015

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, ITEMS 3a. – 3i.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECOND: PARISI

VOTE: 6-AYE; 3 ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)

MOTION PASSED.

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

5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Laurence Morgenstein, South Main Street, commented on spray paint, graffiti even at synagogue, benches. Mayor Dickinson stated that arrests have been made with regard of at least one or more of those incidents. He has been in touch with the Chief and they are on top of the issue. He reported that we do not tolerate vandalism and that he is satisfied that are on the issue.

Mr. Morgenstein also asked about the progress of the bad-well situation. Mayor Dickinson commented that there extending water into the area is still being investigated by Public Utilities and they are in touch with the various property owners regarding approvals. At this time, the water is safe due to the water purifiers installed by the State of Connecticut.

James Hine, 342 South Elm Street, asked about the status of the applications for the development of the parking lot at Pat Wall field. Mayor Dickinson said that he had no update and added that the Engineering Department would be working on this.

6. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$13,750 to Waste/Compost Acct # 10030000-56754 from Ball Field Mower Acct # 10030000-57000-00346 -Public Works

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Transfer in the Amount of \$13,750 to Waste/Compost Acct # 10030000-56754 from Ball Field Mower Acct # 10030000-57000-00346.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND: PARISI**

In attendance: Henry McCully, Director of Public Works

Mr. McCully presented a little background, saying that in October 2014 the last contractor, We Care Organics, completed their 4.5 year operator status as the compost site. Part of the transition from We Care Organics to the new company Harvest New England, was to leave the site clean for the new operator. In a meeting We Care Organics was told that they needed to clean up the site, which they failed to do and have refused to do. As a result the As a result their last month's payment from the Town, \$11,900, was held up. Consequently, the new operator was left with a pile of 3,800 cubic yards of composted material that the new contractor removed and the town paid them \$7,499 to remove this compost. He continued stating that there was another 5,000 of mixed debris, called 'overs' material. The town put that out to bid and bids came in at \$2.75 per cubic yard, which adds up to the amount of the transfer, \$13,750. He said that the Law Department will be pursuing the monies that are owed to the town.

There were no comments from the Council or from the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

**FISHBEIN: ABSENT
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MANSFIELD: YES
PARISI: YES**

**RUSSO: YES
SULLIVAN: ABSENT
TESTA: ABSENT
CHAIRMAN CERVONI: YES**

**6-AYE; 3-ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)
MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION WAS MADE TO WAIVE RULE V IN ORDER TO TAKE UP A FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL FOR THE CENTER STREET CEMETERY.

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: PARISI

VOTE: 6-AYE; 3 ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)

MOTION PASSED.

In Attendance: Don Roe, Program Planning.

Mr. Roe thanked the Council for entertaining this item, and he explained that because of timing with this financial assistance proposal, he asked to have this on the Council's agenda for this evening. He said that the state has offered the town \$275,000 to construct the garage and office building. Mayor Dickinson added that the architect has been hired, a design is under development and it will probably come to the Council before it is put out to bid, and then the Town would award the bid. He said having this grant in place is a big help. He said that this is a reimbursement grant. Mr. Roe confirmed this.

Councilor LeTourneau asked about the two start dates in the letter.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FISHBEIN: ABSENT

RUSSO: YES

LAFFIN: YES

SULLIVAN: ABSENT

LETOURNEAU: YES

TESTA: ABSENT

MANSFIELD: YES

CHAIRMAN CERVONI: YES

PARISI: YES

**6-AYE; 3-ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)
MOTION PASSED.**

7. Discussion with respect to Fireworks – Councilor John Sullivan

In attendance: Jason Zandri, Fireworks Fund creator

For Councilor Sullivan, Councilor Russo introduced Item 7 and brought his attention to the backup material that was recently distributed.

Mr. Zandri presented some of the history behind the town's fireworks celebration. He said that in comparison and unlike other town events, the fireworks celebration receives no assistance from the town in the way of services. He noted that Wallingford Center, Inc., SCOW and the Dog Park all receive assistance from the town. He asked for equal treatment and asked the town to provide town services for the 4th of July Event. He said that the cost of the event could be reduced by holding the Fireworks on July 11 this year, one week after July 4, 2015. He thinks that money can be found in the budget.

8. 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 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.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND BY: PARISI
VOTE: 6-AYE; 3-ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)
MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECOND BY: LETOURNEAU
VOTE: 6-AYE; 3-ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)
MOTION PASSED.**

ATTENDANCE AT EXECUTIVE SESSION: SIX (6) TOWN COUNCILORS, MAYOR DICKINSON AND TOWN ATTORNEY FARRELL, SR.

TIME OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:18 PM- 7:35 PM

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR PARISI AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR LAFFIN.

**VOTE: 6-AYE; 3 ABSENT (FISHBEIN, SULLIVAN, TESTA)
MOTION PASSED.**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes
Secretary to the Town Council
Meeting digitally recorded.

Chairman Vincent Cervoni

Date

Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson

Date