

3X

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Council Chambers  
July 11, 2017**

The Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 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: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christopher K. Shortell, John J. Sullivan, Vincent F. Testa and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Corporation Counsel Janis Small were also present at the meeting.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$34,831.62 (#1-13)  
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and Approve WCI's use of the Parade Grounds, Town Hill Lawn, Simpson Court, South Main Street, North Main Street and Hall Avenue for Celebrate Wallingford Street Festival October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 3c. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$35 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3d. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$35 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3e. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$640 to Revenue/Donations, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS
- 3f. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$5,899 to Miscellaneous Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Professional Services – Lawyers, Acct. #10010300-56710- Law Dept.
- 3g. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$15,000 to Miscellaneous Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Professional Services – Lawyers, Acct. #10010300-56710 ( FY 2017-2018) – Law Dept.
- 3h. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$6,500 from Contingency, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Town Council – Office Expenses, Acct.#10010050-56100 – (FY 2017-2018) Town Clerk
- 3i. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$2,136 from Contingency-Accrued, Acct. #10019000-58821 to Building Dept. – Reg. Wages, Acct. #10010050-51000 – Building Dept.
- 3j. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$8,329 to Covanta Fund 211, Acct. #Revenue-Fund 211 and to Covanta Fund 211, Acct. #Expenditures-Fund 211- (FY 2017-2018) – Program Planning

- 3k. Consider and Approve an Agreement between the Town of Wallingford and Comunidad Hispana de Wallingford, Inc. "SCOW", as our subcontractor, to fulfill all terms and conditions of the CT Department of Social Services Human Resource Development (HRD) Grant – Program Planning
- 3l. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$29,717 to SCOW Grant HRD Fund Revenue, Acct. # - Fund #231 and to SCOW Grant HRD Fund Expenses, Acct. # - Fund #231 – (FY 2017-2018) – Program Planning
- 3m. Consider and Approve an Agreement between the Town of Wallingford and Comunidad Hispana de Wallingford, Inc., "SCOW", as our subcontractor, to fulfill all terms and conditions of the CT Department of Social Services Hispanic Human Resource Development (HHD) Grant – Program Planning
- 3n. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$67,481 to SCOW Grant HHD Fund Revenue, Acct. # - Fund #217 and to SCOW Grant HHD Fund Expenses, Acct. # - Fund #217 (FY 2017-2018) – Program Planning
- 3o. Consider and Approve Appointment of Steven Allinson as an Alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three year term effective immediately and expiring on January 8, 2020 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3p. Approve Town Council Minutes of June 27, 2017.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a–3p.**

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

- 4. **Items Removed from Consent Agenda: *None***
- 5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Opened Public Question & Answer Period at 6:32 p.m.

Darryl Stancuna, 18 Olde Village Circle, asked if the Town will give any assistance to residents whose rents are going up.

Brian Doyle, 25 Southside Terrace, stated that the Housing Authority sent him a letter that the rent is going up 60%.

Darryl Stancuna commented that other towns have big bands coming in playing for free and asked why we don't. He then asked what we are doing to keep businesses from leaving Wallingford.

Christina Tatta, 71 N. Farms Road, stated that she was upset about the PUC Commission again coming up in an editorial. She then stated that the Commission did listen to every side of the argument and had good conversations on the topic. She hopes the public will read the minutes on this.

Closed Public Question and Answer Period at 6:46 p.m.

6. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Agreement between the Town of Wallingford Board of Education and the Wallingford CT Health Service Professional Association July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019 – Board of Education

*In Attendance: Savlatore F. Menzo, Ed.D., Superintendent, BOE  
Roxanne McKay, Chairman, BOE*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE WALLINGFORD CT HEALTH SERVICE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2019.**

**MADE BY: LETOURNEAU  
SECONDED BY: SULLIVAN**

Dr. Menzo explained that it is a 14 member union and a two year contract. He then stated that there is 1.9% increase the first year and a 1.8% increase the second year and the total cost is \$37,253.00.

Mayor Dickinson asked when negotiations started and Dr. Menzo answered early April. Mayor Dickinson then stated that it was before we knew there was no state budget.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>SHORTELL: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: NO</b>	<b>SULLIVAN: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>LETOURNEAU: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>MARRONE: NO</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>7-AYE</b>	
<b>2-NAY</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

7. Discussion and Possible Action regarding draft explanatory text and the number of Charter ballot questions – Chairman Cervoni

Chairman Cervoni stated that the quality and variety of recommendations are a good product from the Commission and he hopes it would be a one ballot question.

Councilor Fishbein commented that he did not see in the minutes that the Commission recommend one question and then asked Attorney Small where she got that comment from.

Attorney Small responded that her advice to the Commission was that they have no say in if it will be one question or not, but their conversations throughout have all revolved around only having one question on the ballot.

Chairman Cervoni invites the Charter Chair, Stephen Knight, and the Vice Chair, Christina Tatta to the table and asks them to please address the presumption of Attorney Small and the one question item.

Mr. Knight stated over the course of time, their goal was to produce a document that modernizes the Charter and gives the voters a document that did not contain any severe governmental structured changes. He went on to say that the Commission wanted a document that would not be controversial and could be presented as one question.

Mrs. Tatta stated that she agrees with Mr. Knight and went on to say that their work was to help the voter get to understand the changes simply.

Councilor Shortell thanks everyone. He then stated to Mr. Knight and Mrs. Tatta that he does not recall reading in the Charter Commission minutes about anyone coming to their meetings questioning them about putting the questions on as individual questions. Mr. Knight responded no, no one did. Councilor Shortell says he is open to either way.

Councilor Sullivan asks if it was the Commission's charge to come up with a single ballot question and Mr. Knight answered no and stated general consensus was to have a single ballot question.

**MOTION TO HAVE ONE QUESTION ONLY AND IT READS "SHALL THE REVISIONS TO THE WALLINGFORD TOWN CHARTER RECOMMENDED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION AND APPROVED BY THE WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL ON JUNE 27, 2017 BE ADOPTED?"**

**MADE BY: SULLIVAN  
SECONDED BY: TESTA**

Councilor Zandri worries that the voters will vote it down because they don't like one issue and Mrs. Tatta remarked that she thought about the same thing, and thought that would be a small percentage.

Councilor Laffin stated that he thinks it will be a small percent who are confused and he supports one question. He commented that Councilor Fishbein wrote a great breakdown but it's confusing to the voters. He doesn't see anything controversial enough to not do one question.

Councilor Marrone stated that he's not that passionate one way or another but he is concerned that crunching it into one question isn't a great idea. He thinks voters are smart enough to know what they are voting on.

Councilor LeTourneau stated that he supports Councilor Sullivan's Motion. He stated that we need to get the word out on what the voters are voting on.

Councilor Fishbein asked if the Commission discussed the issue of one question and stated that he doesn't want to see the whole thing go down in flames. He then stated if this question passes, the Town Clerk will work for the Mayor and not the Council. He doesn't agree with the fact that the Council already gave up their staff.

Councilor Fishbein remarked that we have a small controversy over the Environmental Planner. He stated that any of these questions with explanatory text can blow up the question.

Councilor Laffin stated that he is extremely comfortable with the Clerk running the Council office. He went on to say that the Councilors knew when she took it on that it might be temporary but they have been very lucky that she and her staff can get the work done.

Councilor Sullivan stated he thinks we have the best Town Clerk and hopes she stays a long time but when the time comes, the Mayor, whoever that is, should hire the most qualified person for the job and not be appointed by the Council.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pat Kohl, 50 North Street, Member, Charter Revision Commission, stated that they incorporated most of 2009 questions into their revision and they would like one question.

Darryl Stancuna, 18 Old Village Circle, suggested sending this proposal out to the public first along with the electric bill.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>SHORTELL: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: NO</b>	<b>SULLIVAN: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>LETOURNEAU: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>8-AYE</b>	
<b>1-NAY</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE EXPLANATORY TEXT AS PRESENTED**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>SHORTELL: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: NO</b>	<b>SULLIVAN: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>LETOURNEAU: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: YES</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>8-AYE</b>	
<b>1-NAY</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

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

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 P.M.**

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

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO Section 1-200(6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:22 P.M.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECONDED: FISHBEIN  
VOTE: ALL-AYE  
MOTION PASSED**

**Time of Executive Session 8:08 p.m. to 8:22 p.m.**

**Attendance at Executive Session:**

<b>FISHBEIN</b>	<b>MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.</b>
<b>LAFFIN</b>	<b>CORPORATION COUNSEL JANIS SMALL</b>
<b>LETOURNEAU</b>	
<b>MARRONE</b>	
<b>SHORTELL</b>	
<b>SULLIVAN</b>	
<b>TESTA</b>	
<b>ZANDRI</b>	
<b>CERVONI</b>	

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN  
SECONDED BY: SULLIVAN  
VOTE: ALL AYE  
MOTION: PASSED**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff  
Meeting digitally recorded

Vincent Cervoni (Lm) 8-8-17  
Vincent Cervoni, Chairman Date

Barbara Thompson (Lm) 8-8-17  
Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 7-13-17  
AT 4:30 AND RECEIVED BY  
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK