

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 16, 1994

5:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for the Purpose of Performing Repairs to Community Pool
3. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 from Rental Boys Club Acct. #001-4000-500-5801 to Pool Maintenance Acct. #001-4010-500-5110 - Parks & Recreation Dept.

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 16, 1994

5:30 P.M.

A special meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Monday, May 16, 1994 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairman Thomas D. Solinsky at 5:34 P.M. Answering present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Kathryn J. Wall were Councilors Gouveia, Knight, Papale, Rys, Solinsky and Zappala. Councilor Duryea was absent due to an accident in the family. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. was also present. Town Attorney Janis M. Small and Comptroller Thomas A. Myers were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ITEM #2 Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for the Purpose of Performing Repairs to Community Pool

Motion was made by Mr. Knight, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Stan Shepardson, Director of Parks & Recreation stated that the work will be done by the same individual who has performed other work for the department in the past, most recently the patching of the kiddie area of the pool last year.

Mr. Knight asked if there are any square footage costs quoted for the work?

Mr. Shepardson responded, 80% of the kiddie area which is 10,000 sq. ft. will be done along with some of the apron where it meets the concrete wall. Several areas within the deep area will be patched as well.

Mr. Knight asked, is it pretty much just patching?

Mr. Shepardson answered, yes.

Mr. Knight asked, is the painting is to come out of this year's budget and do you still plan to paint 30,000 sq. feet?

Mr. Shepardson answered, yes. We were going to paint one coat but now that we are going to patch we will have to paint two coats in that particular area to be patched. With the amount of money 30,000 sq. ft. will still get done but it won't be as wide an area. Some of the apron and as much of the deep area will be painted as well. The paint applied last year has held up good so we know we will get one year out of this painting with a possibility of two years. It depends on the type of winters we will have.

Mr. Knight asked if there was some sort of electrical problem that had surfaced?

Mr. Shepardson explained, this last fall an electric storm occurred which hit the transformer and burned out the wires leading into the filter plant. We are having that repaired now, privately at a cost of

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\$1,200 which will come from our maintenance account.

Mr. Zappala stated that the pool needs more than paint to be acceptable to the public. We must start thinking about what we are going to do with the pool the year after next. He hoped that Mr. Shepardson did not have plans to run the pool in the same condition again next year. The people deserve better than that. He supports fixing the pool temporarily for this season only.

Mayor Dickinson commented, it depends upon the cost. If complete resurfacing runs into substantial amounts of money, given the age of the pipes underneath, that would not be advisable. Our most obvious direct course of action would be to renovate the pool and now we are back to that issue. We should not leave this issue with the view that somehow we are going to possibly resurface the bottom at the cost of a substantial sum of money given the age of the pipes.

Mr. Zappala felt that we do not have to spend millions of dollars, just repair the pipes and resurface the pool.

Mayor Dickinson commented, we cannot simply replace the pipes that are there. Once we dig that up to repair any of it we need to....we are then in the entire renovation issue again because at that point you want to have a design by a recognized architect or individual who has designed pools and has designed a system that will properly treat that size pool and the amount of the water there. If we replace simply what is there, it will be inadequate.

Mr. Shepardson explained that we would need a new filter system also.

Mayor Dickinson reminded Mr. Zappala, even though the water quality is good we are not using the deep end of the pool. That is where the sediments collect, it is screened off and no one swims in it. The water quality is good, yes, but the way the pool has been operated in recent years we have not used 25% - 33% of the pool. Should we put \$100,000 into the pool in expectation that we will not use 25%-33% of the pool? That would be hard to justify. We should be able to use the entire pool.

Mr. Zappala felt that if a new filtration system could be adapted to the pool and we still have 75% of the pool to use, everyone would be happy rather than spend \$1 million.

Mayor Dickinson stated, if people want to repair the pool to the extent that we only use that portion of it and recognize that the deep area could not be used and we had the collection of sediment and other problems, then that is something that can be approved. Up until this time that has never been brought forward as an option.

Mr. Zappala stated, major repairs should be done for next year.

Mr. Shepardson informed the Council that if there were to be any renovation it would have to be done after next summer unless there is money appropriated before that, in the early spring for instance.

Mr. Gouveia stated that he is getting the feeling that the Council is coming back 360 degrees from where we were three years ago which was to improve the filtration, resurface the pool, spend about \$200,000 and everyone would be happy. Why wasn't this done three years ago that way?

Mr. Knight replied, nothing in terms of the legal requirements have changed other than we were not required to meet all the design criteria. We are still, even with the new legislation, required to meet circulation standards. This pool could not meet those requirements on its best day with no one in it. As soon as you put a backhoe into that pool to replace pipes, what ever legislation presently in effect kicks in.

Mayor Dickinson stated, I have not been made aware of a renovation that could be accomplished for \$200,000. To accomplish what was desired we were in the range of \$1.8 to \$2.3 million. It has never been brought forward that we could accomplish repairs required by law and by practicality without spending substantial sums of money.

Mr. Knight verified that comment.

Mr. Shepardson commented, if you are going to renovate you will need some sort of a gutter system so that you can get the surface of the water which is, as far as health purposes, they say that is where most of your problems lie.

Mr. Gouveia asked, how much of the \$6,000 will be spent on the adult side of the pool?

Mr. Shepardson explained, some of the apron area will be done where the concrete wall meets the bituminous and several of the areas where it has raised in the deep area. The diving area will not be touched at all.

Mr. Gouveia stated, there are some areas where the processed stone is exposed. Another concern of his is the seepage of ground water that is now taking place. In the summer time we will continuously lose water through the same seepage areas.

Mr. Shepardson felt that we lose most of our water in the dam area where the bituminous is.

Mr. Rys stated that he witnessed a large sanitation-type tank truck be driven down into the deep end by Public Works. He was encouraged that a five ton truck could drive across the pavement without a problem. He asked about the condition of the underground pipes.

Mr. Shepardson commented that he was told that they are cast iron pipes that are not in as bad a condition as he originally thought they were. Because they are cast iron they will last a long time. They have been wearing away over time for there is some scaling present.

Mr. Gouveia pointed out that the pool has a base and it is not a matter of sinking but rather literally cracking into pieces.

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Ms. Papale stated that she is here tonight to vote for the \$6,000 to repair the pool solely for this year. She is hopeful that the \$1.8 million or more is allocated for a new pool.

Mr. Solinsky asked, what does it cost to fill the pool?

Mr. Shepardson has never been billed for the water. It takes about 1.5 million gallons of water.

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

ITEM #3 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 from Rental Boys & Girls Club Acct. #001-4000-500-5801 to Pool Maintenance Acct. #001-4010-500-5110 - Parks & Recreation Department

Motion was made by Mr. Knight, seconded by Ms. Papale.

Mr. Gouveia was disappointed that a special meeting had to be called on this issue when Mr. Shepardson was told on Thursday, May 5th, to do what ever he needed to do to get the pool up and running for the coming season. That was five days prior to the Town Council Meeting.

Mr. Shepardson responded that he was asked on Friday to investigate what the cost would be to resurface the pool. On Monday, May 9th he contacted the contractor who visited the pool on Tuesday. At 4:30 P.M. on Tuesday a price was obtained from the contractor.

Mayor Dickinson stated that he was not in his office to approve the request and have it verified by the Comptroller.

Mr. Gouveia responded, he has witnessed exceptions when transfers have been generated and approved during a Town Council Meeting by the Comptroller. It could have been done in this instance as well.

Mayor Dickinson does not approve of conducting business in that fashion and will not encourage it.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Ms. Papale.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

Kathryn F. Milano

Kathryn F. Milano, Town Council Secretary

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Approved by:

Thomas D. Solinsky
Thomas D. Solinsky, Chairman

May 24, 1994
Date

Kathryn J. Wall
Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

May 24, 1994
Date