

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

*Town Council Chambers*

January 11, 2011

MINUTES

The following Minutes are a record of the Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council held on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. The Meeting was Called to Order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Robert F. Parisi. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Clerk Barbara Thompson were Councilors Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Jerry Farrell, Jr., Craig C. Fishbein, John LeTourneau, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., and Town Attorney Janis Small were also in attendance.

The meeting began with a prayer by The Reverend Margaret Jay, First Congregational Church of Wallingford. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Roll Call was taken.

**3.** Consent Agenda

- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#486 - #508) totaling \$13,428.24 Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector
- 3b.** Consider and Approve the Appointment of James Seichter to the Planning and Zoning Commission as a regular member for a five-year term ending January 8, 2016 - Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3c.** Consider and Approve the Appointment of Joe Rusczyk to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate for a three-year term ending January 8, 2014 - Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3d.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,000 to Fuel Crisis-Community Acct # 001-3070-600-6810 from Contingency- General Purpose Acct # 001-7060-800-3190 - Mayor
- 3e.** Acceptance of Donations for Youth and Social Services Special Fund Adopt A Family Program and Approval of Appropriation of \$1,050 to Donations Acct # 213-1042-070-7010 and to Expenditures Acct # 213-3070-600-6000 – Youth & Social Services
- 3f.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$150,000 to Distribution Plant-Overhead Conductors Acct # 365 from Distribution Plant-Poles, Towers, Fixtures Acct # 364 – Electric Division
- 3g.** Consider and Approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Wallingford in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 and to Execute an Assistance Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development to undertake the David Doherty Municipal Building Roof Replacement Project – State and Federal Program Administrator, Donald Roe
- 3h.** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Ownership Agreement of a 1,500 kVA distribution transformer to Fastenal Company in the Amount of \$1.00 and Special Quit Claim Deed Bill of Sale – Director, Public Utilities, George Adair
- 3i.** Approve minutes of Regular Town Council meeting of November 9, 2010

## MOTION & SECOND

Mr. Farrell made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 3a. through 3i. Mrs. Rascati seconded.

All nine (9) Town Councilors voted Aye. The motion passed.

## 4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

*None*

The Town Clerk swore in Joe Rusczek to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate for a three-year term ending January 8, 2014 and James Seichter to the Planning and Zoning Commission as a regular member for a five-year term ending January 8, 2016.

## 5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, commented on the Redwood Flea Market and the parking problem with regard to safety. He said that he submitted a plan to the Town Engineer and would like to see a stronger effort to see that this is resolved this year. Mayor Dickinson said the property owner won an appeal from an action taken by the Planning and Zoning Commission. He said that that he has not had any new communications from Engineering on this subject. He said that one of the questions is whether you can limit access to the highway where there are no curb cuts. He believes that is significant. He commented that now people access the highway anywhere they choose off the property and whether there is authority to limit the curb cuts and what that does to the parking on the property is another issue. He said that he would speak with Engineering and see if there is anything new.

Mr. Sullivan said that he went to the Redwood Flea Market as it is on the Public Safety Committee agenda. He said that it is correct that there are no curb cuts, and the backing out onto the highway is a very dangerous situation.

Mr. Fishbein asked if the Town had the ability to put curbs out there. Mayor Dickinson said that once the property has a situation where they don't require permits for curb cuts. He said that is not a state highway, and he does not know the authority on that. It has never in his mind been resolved whether the Town does have the authority to say you can only access the highway in particular places. He said that would obviously reduce the parking on that property which gets into property rights, etc. Mr. Fishbein said that there is a public safety statute that states that you cannot back out of any driveway, and he thinks that along those lines, the Town might have the ability. Mayor Dickinson said that he is now aware on anything that says you can't back out from a driveway. He would like to know if there is.

Mr. Zandri added that the sketch of his recommendations that he gave to the Town Engineer did not reduce parking but rather reconfigured the operation on the site. He said that his goal is not to hinder the operation that is there.

Ben Martin, Ward Street, Co-Chairman, Wallingford Energy Conservation Committee, noticed the roof activity with schools and the Park & Recreation Department and suggested that roofs that reduce energy costs should be looked at, such as 'white', 'green' and solar or wind on the roof. He issued an invitation to the public and to the Town Council to join their group and attend the meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month. He stated that the mission of the Energy Conservation Committee is to save the Town money and lower energy use of the Town.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, asked if there would be any follow up meetings with Convanta or the trash to energy plant or if the DEP has been invited. The answer was no that there have been no requests.

6. Discussion and Possible Action regarding appointment of Council Liaison to the Wallingford Housing Authority – Chairman Robert F. Parisi

*Withdrawn*

As it was not 7:00 P.M. the Public Hearing could not be convened. Mr. Farrell moved that the Council take a 15 minute recess. Mrs. Rascati seconded. All nine (9) Councilors voted Aye. The motion passed and the recess commenced at 6:45 P.M.

7. Conduct at Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M. regarding Proposed Wallingford Project Solid Waste Participating Towns' Reserve Fund Agreement with respect to the Covanta Trash Plant – Mayor

*In attendance: Don Roe, Program Planning*

*Doreen Zaback, Resource Recovery Project Coordinator, Town of Wallingford*

Chairman Parisi opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M. and called for comments.

Mayor Dickinson said that this Agreement is being entered into by the five towns and two are voting on it tonight –Meriden and Cheshire- and that Hamden has already approved the Agreement. He said there is no status report from North Haven. He said that the purpose of the Agreement is to provide funds for purposes such as change in law liabilities and funding to enable the Town to enter into studies or programs, which would be related to recycling and to the collection and disposal of waste material. He said that in the previous relationship with CRRA, it was a plus that there were funds that were made available by CRRA to the project to accomplish these purposes as time went along, and there were needs. He commented that with the new contract and relationship with Covanta that Covanta is not a third party. There is no CRRA in this, so Mayor Dickinson asked, who will fund these projects and programs, and most importantly, should we need money, who will fund projects if there is a change in law. The contract gives the town the responsibility for improvements to the plant for environmental or other purposes. He said that this Agreement allows for funds to be held in escrow. He said that the Town of Wallingford will be the escrow agent as other towns provide funds to the same end. Mayor Dickinson said that he will be recommending that the town hold more in reserve than the \$540,000 indicated in the Agreement. He said initially that they determined and suggested to the Policy Board a \$5 million reserve, divided up among the five towns proportionally to the tonnage of the trash that has been sent to the plant. The other towns were not interested in that much of a reserve. He said that he still believes that given the nature of the project and the significant liabilities that can attach to it that we should have a larger reserve than \$540,000. He asked for the Council's approval. He said that he expects the other four towns to approve this Agreement.

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, asked if there is change in law and something might need to be retro-fitted, what is the town's financial obligation. He asked what percentage. Mayor Dickinson responded that they are fairly certain that the first part, perhaps \$30,000, is the obligation of Covanta. Doreen Zaback confirmed that the first \$30,000 each year is the responsibility of Covanta and that is for anything. Mayor Dickinson asked that it be kept in mind that this is for a change in law but if it is for repairs necessary because of operational issues, then Covanta is responsible. The change is law is if either state or federal law requires something different in equipment or in operational issues. Mr. Zandri expressed concern that the towns in the Agreement are responsible for all of the dollars above \$30,000 and that could get expensive.

Ben Martin, Ward Street, asked that if Covanta owns the plant then why they are not responsible for these things. Mayor Dickinson stated that it becomes part of the whole negotiation on these contracts. He said that if the company were to take on the total liability then they would want a much higher tip fee in order to cover their costs. It becomes a sharing of responsibilities in order to have the plant operate – sharing of risks – ultimately, the Mayor said, that is one of the areas that gets discussed when we entered into the contract. He said that there were multiple public meetings, and this was one of the subjects discussed, regarding change of law and the sharing, or not, of the expenses associated with it. They talked about tipping fees and that they are paid dependant upon who picks up trash and that in some of the towns, the towns themselves pay Covanta because they are responsible for the pickup of garbage. Mayor Dickinson continued stating that in the case of Wallingford that we pay fees associated with disposal for our seniors and we pay fees associated with the disposal of municipal waste; otherwise, it is private haulers who are paying those fees. Mr. Martin stated that he thinks that \$30,000 seems to be pretty low for their responsible part since the town is bearing the environmental risk that they are producing in their plant, including the dioxins and certain chemicals that come from the plant and the land-use issues, which is town land. He hopes things like this need to be considered in future negotiations.

Paul Ciardullo, 2 Bayberry Road, noted that Covanta is a private company, an international, profit-making company, and he sees no benefit in creating a fund. He indicated that no law stands now. He thinks that Covanta is shifting and allowing the risk onto the five towns. He thinks that the budget process is where this kind of fund as a project should be created. He said that it doesn't make any sense. Mayor Dickinson responded that it has to be kept in mind that this is money that is being distributed to the towns as a result of the termination of the project with CRRA and the signing of the new contract with Covanta. They are funds being returned to the towns that were raised by the towns through tip fees. In order to plan for the future, knowing that we have this significant liability, the change in law, that has to be implemented, it is prudent to create this fund to draw upon and not have to deal with an emergency. These funds can collect interest and fall into the town's prudent planning arena. We are protected with such a fund. Mr. Ciardullo responded that with this massive economic decline crisis that there are many places where this town will need that money and this needs to be addressed by this Council this year and he asks the Council to reject.

Bob Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, asked if when this contract was drawn up and it was known that there would be changes in the law with regard to nitrous oxides and sulphur oxides. He said that we know that we are near the limits and that the EPA might lower the amounts of emissions and it has been known for a while. Ms. Zaback said that the entire state will be required to cut emissions. Mr. Gross said he does not know why we entered into this contract. He spoke about the contract in relation to tipping fees. He said that we are not getting any kind of reduced fees for having this kind of liability in our town. He said that the money coming from CRRA is really from overpayment of tipping fees by residents. In response to a question from Mr. Gross, Ms Zaback stated that North Haven has their own Public Works garbage fleet; the Town of Cheshire contracts it out; the Town of Hamden contracts it out; and Meriden is partly subscription and partly contracted out in the inner district. Mr. Gross, referring to the contract, said that some of this reserve fund would be set aside for a tip fee stabilization fee. Mayor Dickinson stated that the tip fee stabilization covers all the tip fees and is not for just one town. Instead of having the tip fee go from \$65 to \$70, money can be taken from reserves in order to have the tip fee for everyone be at \$66 or \$67 and ease in what an increase might be. He said that individual towns would not take out money as they see fit in order to lower their tip fee. There is one fee for every town. Mr. Gross wanted to know why money isn't set aside for water or electric rates. Mayor Dickinson reported that for many years retained earnings subsidize the electric rates, and that is the case to avoid the spikes, and it is also true for water-sewer. Mr. Gross read from Covanta's 2009 annual report. He thinks that the \$30,000 can be likened to an insurance policy.

Mayor Dickinson said that contract negotiation was a lengthy process with many public meetings that explained things to the public; meetings that involved negotiations, and in the final analysis, we had two choices, the CRRA proposal and the Covanta proposal. He said it was unanimous and that no one spoke against the town entering into the Covanta contract. Now here we are re-discussing items that were discussed during that time with the recognition that no contract is going to be all to one party's benefit versus another. He said that they arrived at an average tip fee, given what was being experienced in the state. We have a plant that does operate, and hopefully, it will operate at an optimal level on a continual basis. Again he said, we can renegotiate the contract now but at the time this was discussed, he does not recall any dissenting voice saying that it should have been CRRA, and it shouldn't be Covanta. Mr. Gross retorted that he was the dissenting voice.

Ms. Zaback explained that the e-waste program which is state law and is a producer responsibility law that will require that the manufacturers of electronics be responsible for the recycling costs. It does not have anything to do with the Covanta program.

Mr. Gross asked what programs is this funding of recycling programs for. Ms. Zaback said for things that may come up in the future. Mayor Dickinson said that given our experience with the CRRA project, if the five towns had not had a reserve, we would have been totally hostage to whatever the parties wanted us to order us to take. We were in a significant leadership position because we even could have ventured to purchase the plant ourselves and that was not unnoticed by the other parties. He said that having the wherewithal to direct your future financially is a far more powerful position than sitting without any money and hoping that somehow someone will take mercy on you. He said that reserves give you the ability to make decisions, and they give you flexibility. He said that any company looking to purchase will look to the one with cash. Government should have cash on hand to deal with identifiable liabilities, which is the case when we talk about change in law potential on a plant like a mass incineration plant. He said hopefully we will never have to use the money, and he knows that concerns some people because it's money sitting there not being used. He said that it is serving a valid purpose to give us the capability to make a decision quickly and to be able to move on it without really constraining ourselves in other areas because you no longer have enough cash for operational needs. It's time to make sure that we have sufficient reserves but not anywhere close to what we had with the CRRA plant. This will assure the public that we are preparing for identifiable needs.

Mr. Gross continued stating that the Agreement gives Covanta the ability to add a surcharge, or an additional fee, to raise revenues for the communities. He wanted to know why. Mayor Dickinson said should we utilize these reserves, what will replace them? He said that we need a mechanism to replace the reserves. We wanted to plan that should we need the restoration of the reserve we have that mechanism. Mr. Gross thinks that this is a bad deal especially if the EPA decides to change the dioxin emissions that are released. He said the best scenario of all would have been to purchase the plant. He asked why is it a good idea to just put this money in for Covanta and does the recycling money and the tip stabilization fund have to go there. Mayor Dickinson said five towns need to be involved in this since it is a five town project and this is the mechanism to provide funding from the five towns. Mr. Gross and mayor Dickinson continued the discussion on which was the best plan. Mr. Gross favored the town owning the plant. Mayor Dickinson pointed out that in that case the towns would carry all of the liability. Mr. Gross said that he hopes that the Council votes it down.

Mr. Ciardullo opposed the reserve fund since no specifics have been identified or defined.

Mr. Martin asked about the length of the Covanta contract, and if the reserve account can be undone. The contract is for 20 years, and at the end of the contract, the town could get more money back than it put in.



Mr. Gross remarked that we are setting aside reserve funds for environmental concerns or law changes because they might be happening in the future. He asked if we do this for the buildings in town such as the school roofs because we knew that this was going to happen some 20 years down the road. Mayor Dickinson said that we don't do this for all our projects. What we are talking about tonight is unlike anything else and we have no expertise in this area and makes it very different and why the reserve is necessary.

There were no further comments from the public.

Chairman Parisi closed the Public Hearing at 7:40 P.M.

**8. Consider and Approve Proposed Wallingford Project Solid Waste Participating Towns' Reserve Fund Agreement with respect to the Covanta Trash Plant as discussed during Public Hearing - Mayor**

Mr. Farrell moved to approve the Proposed Wallingford Project Solid Waste Participating Towns' Reserve Fund Agreement with respect to the Covanta Trash Plant as discussed during Public Hearing as requested by the Mayor. Mrs. Rascati seconded.

Mr. Fishbein stated that this issue should be recognized as a cooperative reserve fund. He stated that the budget process is just about this town so we can deal with things about this town, pointing out that our school roofs, for instance, have nothing to do with Hamden, Meriden, Cheshire or North Haven, There are four other towns that have to do with this Agreement, and our budget process has nothing to do with those towns. He said that this is an opportunity for these five towns to collectively put together a reserve fund. He noted that this is the distinction. He said he prefers to be proactive and not reactive, and that is what we could be faced with if the Council does not do this. With reference to page 4, line 8 of the Agreement, he read from the Agreement,

“Each Town’s proportionate share for purposes of this Agreement shall be recalculated at any time the Board determines to add to the Fund.”

He understands that the percentages are calculated based on usage, but, he asked, conceptually how does that work. Town Attorney Janis Small said that it is calculated based on usage. She said, for instance, in three years the fund might need to be added to. In determining the percentages, they will look at the waste use at that time, so it is more reflective of an accurate time period when being replenished. Mr. Fishbein said so we have used up a certain amount, and we are going to restore it to the \$2 million, and we're going to automatically look at the percentages. Attorney Small said everyone's current percentages will be reviewed at that time, so if we are doing less, then our percentage would be less, or if we are doing more, the percentage would be more.

Mr. Fishbein proposed a scenario whereby all this comes to an end, and we are going to divest ourselves of this, and each of the municipalities would get their percentage, then he asked if this isn't going to be an accounting nightmare. Attorney Small stated that there will be a record of what is actually paid in by the communities, so you will be looking at the actual numbers of what was contributed at that point in time. She said that the percentage is when you need to replenish the reserve. She said that she does not consider it an accounting nightmare. To answer Mr. Fishbein's concern, she said that if the reserve were to be constantly used and replenished, then it could be a concern but she does not think that is what is anticipated.

Mr. Sullivan asked to clarify which of the towns have approved this Agreement. Ms. Zaback confirmed that Hamden approved it last week, and that Cheshire and Meriden are having a Public Hearing tonight. Mr. Sullivan asked what happens if one of the other towns votes to not place money in this pool. Attorney Small responded that if one town is out, then no one is 'in' until they have

regrouped and everyone has discussed it and made a determination, if they want to have the reserve absent a town. Mr. Sullivan said that is all or nothing, then back to the drawing boards to discuss it. He asked if there is any Charter language if we take this sum of money and put it into an account and it languishes there for several years and it's not withdrawn. Attorney Small said that this account is actually established pursuant to a State of Connecticut statute that allows towns to do this together. Mr. Sullivan confirmed that the Mayor would like to see more in this account from Wallingford than \$540,200, its share of this reserve. The Mayor said that he would and that he thinks that the town should be at least at the million dollar level. He said that it will not be in this Agreement but that we should identify at least another \$500,000 that we are holding for this purpose, given the nature of it and the potentials involved. He said that he believes that the initial belief of \$5 million was a reasonable reserve and we are well short of that. He said that it does not eliminate an individual town's liability if something major occurs. He added that a plant of this type with the processes and equipment involved, he thinks that \$1 million is appropriate.

Mr. Sullivan asked if the other towns are of the same mindset and will they adhere to the total agreed to or will they contribute even more money to this. Mayor Dickinson said that he suspects that they will only deal with what the Agreement states. Mayor Dickinson explained that Wallingford will not put more money into the Agreement than the \$540,200. Additional money would be totally under Wallingford's control. He said that he does not expect other towns to do the same. He added that they have not voiced that. He said that they rejected a reserve account of \$5 million. They discussed the financial methods necessary to fund the account. Mayor Dickinson said that the holding of the funds will be in Wallingford.

Mrs. Rascati asked if there was a reserve when we held a contract with CRRA. The Mayor said that the reserve that was created with CRRA. Monies collected through tip fees were held by CRRA and they administered it, the program. There was a Policy Board representing the towns, and CRRA paid Covanta a fee to operate the plant. It was a different configuration. He said that now there are two parties, the five towns, and Covanta. There is no third party. He reported that at the end of the project contract there was \$45,000,000 was in the reserve, which was distributed to the five towns. Mrs. Rascati quoted that the Policy Board may agree with Covanta to charge an additional fee to users of the project in order to further fund this reserve. She said the fee isn't just an arbitrary decision since the Mayor stated that he would have to come back to the Council if he wanted to add to the reserve fund. Mayor Dickinson said that the Council has to appropriate that money for the reserve fund, but if there was an additional charge on the tip fee, then that is a Policy Board decision. If the tip fee went from \$65 to \$66, then that is the decision of the five towns.

Mrs. Rascati pointed to Page 3, Section 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the agreement where it states,  
"The Policy Board may agree with Covanta to charge an additional fee to users of the Project in order to further fund this Reserve. The Policy Board shall determine the amount of the fee and the manner of payment and accounting."

Mayor Dickinson explained that the Policy Board, given whatever issues or problems are envisioned or perhaps money that has been used out of the reserve, can make a decision to replenish those funds and that would be a fee collected in the tip fee. He added that Covanta, nor do the towns, want the tip fee to be in excess of what would be a reasonable amount, given that it's then it is difficult to have trash directed to the plant that operates as a very significant control on how much that tip could potentially go up. He said that once you become uncompetitive too much trash disappears elsewhere, and the plant does not operate as it should. Mrs. Rascati said that she thought that the fees would go up if we some of that reserve, and then we have to replenish them. She said it seems like you can just up-the-fees arbitrarily. Mayor Dickinson said that it's a public body and meetings are posted, and if it's acting arbitrarily people can then voice objections to that. He said that did not happen over the

20 years of the CRRA project, and the Policy Board was making recommendations there regarding holding of reserves and the expenditure of the reserves. He said the track record is very good.

Mr. Testa commented that we are voting on the Agreement among the five towns and all that it entails and that Covanta has nothing to do with this Agreement. Mayor Dickinson said that was correct, primarily. He stated that there is a concern that the town is committing \$500,000 to this, and what happens if there is an expense and we need more money, what happens. He said that we would have to dip into the town's cash to further build the reserve to pay for those expenses. He said that as an alternative to that the Agreement says that we will have the opportunity to recoup some of those expenses via increases in fees but since they do involve an increase in fees that would require an agreement from Covanta. This provides the mechanism through tax dollars or additional fees. He said that there could be resistance by Covanta because it might effect their position in the marketplace. He commented that on the positive side if this expense came about that it would likely be something that impacts and involves all trash-to-energy facilities, and thereby effect everyone's tip fees. He said that the paragraph quoted on page 3 gives him more confidence in the Agreement because we are not saying that we are on the hook for all of this. Finally, he said that tonight is not the time to debate the wisdom of that part of the Agreement with Covanta because we have made that Agreement. He said his understanding at the time that it was not for routine maintenance, equipment breakdown, necessary upgrades, etc. but was for those situations that could not be foreseen and therefore they could not build it into their cost structure to us that we agreed to. In order for them to promise us a price for a certain number of years, they had to have that condition there that said we'll hold these prices for you for this long but if something happens all of a sudden and a new law that no one anticipated and our expenses are increased in a way that could not be anticipated, then you have to share some of the burden with us to cover it. He said that is another way of saying you have to pay the price that you would have paid in your tip fee had we been able to anticipate that in our cost structure. He said and that is the explanation on why it is there. He said he isn't crazy about it either but it's a fact of life, and if it wasn't there, we wouldn't have gotten that price structure. He asked what happens if something does come along, and Covanta says that this law is so bad that it's going to coast us \$10 million to refit, and all of the five towns say that they are not paying. He said in effect we would be breaking the contract. Covanta might say that you can't get those tip fees anymore, and we would probably be involved into a litigated re-negotiation of the contract, very much like if one town said no. Mayor Dickinson agreed. Mr. Testa added that the money that we are gradually getting from the closing out of all of the previous funds will provide the \$500,000 and continue to keep a fund set up. Mr. Testa said that he was OK with that. Mr. Bowes, Comptroller, said that was correct. Mr. Testa said that he would argue against the town unilaterally setting aside additional money because he thinks if we found that the fund wasn't sufficient that there are various mechanisms in this contract as well as just the reality that all of the five town would need to talk about how would they pay the extra. He said that we could work our way through that. He said that he felt it was important to clarify some of the things that have been discussed. He said that this is his understanding of it. We've made this commitment and he doesn't think that this is an unreasonable amount of money but that it is sufficient. He said to be reminded that this has operated as one unit, the five towns, throughout this and in good faith and that we should go along with this.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he agrees, and he thinks we should set some money aside. He said that he can live with \$500,000 but he can't sit and vote to support any motions that are going to put any more money into this fund, especially after watching paramedics be cut from our fire engines at \$140,000. He said that that he is OK with \$540,000 sitting in a fund in the event of a change in law. He added that he has a problem with any more than that because he thinks that public safety comes before garbage. He stated that at another meeting the Council discussed on changes to the Police Department because there might have been a law that would make us separate juvenile offenders from adult offenders. He said that at that time there was much concern because the town didn't have the money



to change the footprint of the Police Station. He said that it became a discussion on perhaps we need to look at the Wooding Caplan property to make a bigger Police Department because the law is going to change which would have caused us to spend millions of dollars. He said that when the time comes, he will support the added money of \$500,000 but he can't support a dime more after cutting paramedics from the fire engines.

Mayor Dickinson responded stating that the regarding juveniles did change. He said that is the law but it has not been implemented, and it still lurks as a potential, major expense. He said that it's anyone's guess whether they will keep putting it off or not. He also asked to remember the difference between operational costs and capital costs. He said operational costs are every year, and capital costs are one time events. He said that there is a huge difference in terms of the impact on the community and its financial resources.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Cervoni – Yes; Economopoulos not in the room; Farrell – Yes; Fishbein – Yes; LeTourneau – Yes; Rascati – Yes; Sullivan – Yes; Testa – Yes; and Chairman Parisi – Yes

On returning to the room Mr. Economopoulos voted Yes.

Nine (9) Aye

The motion passed.

- 9. 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*

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Rascati seconded. All Councilors present (9) voiced Aye. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Weekes  
Town Council Secretary  
Meeting digitally recorded

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Robert F. Parisi, Town Council Chairman

Date

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Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date