

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

December 15, 2009

6:30 P.M

The following minutes are a record of the Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council held in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall on Tuesday, December 15, 2009. The Meeting was Called to Order at 6:43 P.M. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Council Secretary Sandra Weekes were Councilors Mike Brodinsky, Vincenzo M. DiNatale, Nick Economopoulos, Jerry Farrell, Jr., John LeTourneau, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Councilor Michael Spiteri arrived at the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Also present for the meeting were Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes.

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Roll Call.

2. Chairman's Report-Chairman Brodinsky reported that the Fishway project is still moving forward and that the project lacks only about \$50,000. The project is not in jeopardy.

Mr. Testa acknowledged the service to the town of each outgoing Town Councilor Vincenzo DiNatale, Town Councilor Mike Spiteri and Councilor-Chairman Mike Brodinsky. All three have served the town with distinction and dedication for many years in various capacities. He said that it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with all three people. For the Town Council and the Town, Mr. Testa thanked them.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#421 - #435) totaling \$2,903.14
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector

- 3b. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Caryl Ryan as representative to the Central Tourism District (formally the Greater New Haven/CONNECTICUT Convention and Visitors Bureau) for a term effective immediately and ending December 31, 2012
- Mayor

- 3c. Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment in the Amount on \$1,480 to Maintenance Wells & Springs Acct # 431-8600-614 from Office Furniture & Equipment \$620 Acct # 433-9012-391 and from Power Operated Equipment \$860 Acct # 433-9012-396
- Water Division

- 3d. Consider and Approve a Budget Transfer of funds in the Amount of \$7,500 to Maintenance-Underground Lines Acct # 594 from Maintenance-Overhead Lines Acct # 593 – Electric Division

- 3e.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$11,000 to Debt Service – Principal Acct # 001-1402-800-8500 from Debt Service-Interest Acct # 001-1402-800-8510 - Finance
- 3f.** Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor of the Town of Wallingford, Mass Dispensing Area (MDA) 23, to receive and dispense the \$15.00/vaccine administration fee approved by the Center for Disease Control and the Connecticut Department of Health for a total of available funds up to \$30,000 (2,000 doses) and designate Eloise Hazelwood, Director of Health, as the administrator MDA 23 for the purpose of coordinating the novel H1N1 vaccine distribution plan.
- This amends the previously adopted Resolution, approved October 27, 2009, which was based on 700 doses of vaccine with a total of \$10,500.
– Director of Health
- 3g.** Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of November 24, 2009

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda 3a. – 3g. Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. All Councilors present (8) voted Aye. Councilor Spiteri was absent. The motion carried.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER

Phil Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street, acknowledged outgoing and incoming Town councilors for the work that has been done and the work that is ahead.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, made comments regarding the contract for the property on North Farms Road, the budget and salt and sand for residents.

Resident, Yalesville, said he is unhappy with spending and that taxes have increased every year for the past 25 years. Mayor Dickinson commented that everything has increased across the board from fuel to health costs to fixing a road. The resident said that he is not in favor of developing the trail and added that the town does not need to spend so much money on a police station of such the size that has been proposed.

Lucille Trzcinski, 25 Turnberry Road, reported darkness around the railroad station and that not on the lights in the area of the eaves are working and that there are also street lamps that are dark. The Mayor thinks perhaps that the repairs being done on the exterior features of the railroad station may explain why there are not lights operating at the present time. Ms. Trzcinski also asked that a light be put inside the gazebo where now there is none.

Mr. Spiteri arrived during this period.

6. Award other than to low bid for Preservation Project to Brown's River for an additional amount of \$3,200 - Town Clerk

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to approve a bid waiver for the Preservation Project in the Town Clerk's Office to Brown's River Marotti Company for an amount of \$17,165 as requested by the Town Clerk. Mr. Farrell seconded.

Chairman Brodinsky explained that this is a company with whom the town has a long relationship and the work they have done in the preservation of old documents, and through inadvertance, there was not a bid waiver in place at the time of the work. The purpose of the motion in order to get the invoice paid is for the town to waive the bid as stated in the motion.

There were not questions or comments from the Town Council or from the public.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. Councilors Economopoulos, Farrell and Parisi were absent from the meeting. The motion carried.

7. Consider and Approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the Town of Wallingford a STEAP Grant Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance in the amount of \$200,000 to facilitate the construction of the Senior Center Connection component of the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail and to enter into such agreements, contracts and to execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut – Engineering

MOTION

Mr. Testa made a motion to Approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the Town of Wallingford a STEAP Grant Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance in the amount of \$200,000 to facilitate the construction of the Senior Center Connection component of the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail and to enter into such agreements, contracts and to execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut as requested by the Department of Engineering. Mr. Farrell seconded.

In attendance:

John Thompson, Town Engineer

By means of a handout and a map on display, Mr. Thompson described the next phase of the Enhancement Project, which has two components. Those components are the Senior Center connection from the center to the trail head in northern part of the Community Lake Park parking lot, and secondly, the Hall Avenue Streetscape. This STEAP grant is to be used for the Senior Center Connection component of the Enhancement Project and is in the amount of \$200,000 where application was in the amount of \$500,000. Mayor Dickinson explained that both components will move forward at the same time as one project when the town has the funds to complete the project. He stated that one component cannot be done without the other. With acceptance of the STEAP grant, there is a \$756,000 shortfall in funding to complete the project. Currently \$756,000 is planned for in the Engineering Capital and Non-Recurring budget.

There was discussion concerning funding. The STEAP grant, a reimbursement grant, can be held into the future, perhaps until the town is ready to use the funds for the project with

the caveat that the town may need to reapply for the funds to be renewed. Environmental condition near Oak Street was discussed. Boardwalk was discussed. The FY 2010-2011 budget was discussed with respect to the funds set aside in the Capital and Non-Recurring budget. Mayor Dickinson said that might very well not be moving forward with the project and that he would not support this project during the current economic climate.

The Town Council expressed opinions ranging from returning the grant money to the state to full support of a long-developing project.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Brodinsky -NO, DiNatale -NO, Economopoulos – YES; Farrell -YES,
LeTourneau -NO, Parisi -YES, Rascati -YES, Spiteri -YES, Testa –YES

(6) AYE; (3) NAY

The motion carried.

- 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

Mr. Testa made a 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 as requested by the Mayor. Chairman Brodinsky seconded.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed, and Executive Session began at 8:17 P.M.

The Council exited Executive Session at 8:35 P.M. at which time Chairman Brodinsky declared the Council back in session.

Executive Session attendance included: Town Council (9), Mayor Dickinson, Town Attorney Janis Small.

MOTION

Mr. Parisi made a motion to Adjourn from the meeting. Chairman Brodinsky seconded.

All Councilors present (8) by voice said Aye. Councilor DiNatale had left the meeting by the time of the vote to adjourn. The motion passed

The Town Council meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Meeting digitally recorded by Sandra Weekes

Chairman, Mike Brodinsky

Date

Town Clerk, Barbara Kapi

Date