

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
*Town Council Chambers*  
June 8, 2010

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, June 8, 2010. The Meeting was Called to Order at 6:35 P.M. 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 present at roll call. Comptroller James Bowes arrived at the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

The meeting began with an Opening Prayer, led by Reverend Dean Warburton of the First Congregational Church. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Roll Call was taken.

**3.** Consent Agenda

- 3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#768 - #782) totaling \$6,075.52  
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector
- 3b.** *Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to submit the applications for Neighborhood Assistance applications to the State Department of Revenue Services – Program Planning*  
*Withdrawn*
- 3c.** Set a Public Hearing for June 22, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. regarding Neighborhood Assistance List of Projects – Program Planning
- 3d.** Acceptance of a Donation and Appropriation of \$38 Youth & Social Services Special Fund to Donations Account # 213-1042-070-7010 and to Expenditures Account # 213-3070-600-6000 - Youth & Social Services
- 3e.** Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute and file and to provide additional information as necessary to Execute a Youth Service Bureau Grant with the State of Connecticut in the amount of \$30,000 for FY 2010-2011 – Youth & Social Services.
- 3f.** Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute and file and to provide additional information as necessary to for application with the State Department of Education for a Grant Request for financial assistance in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for FY 2010-2011 – Youth & Social Services.
- 3g.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$10,000 to Purchase Professional Services-Tree Contract Acct # 001-5015-901-9023 from Materials & Supplies Acct # 001-5015-401- 4100 – Director Public Works

**3h.** Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$40,000 to Outside Contractors Acct # 001-2005-101-1800 and to Charges for Current Services Acct # 1065-060-6020– Police Chief

**3i.** Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of May 25, 2010

Mr. Farrell announced that 3b. had been withdrawn and made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 3a. and 3c to 3i. Ms. Rascati seconded. All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

**4.** Items Removed from the Consent Agenda  
*None*

**5.** PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER  
*There were no questions from the public.*

**6.** Report from the Economic Development Commission – Richard Nunn, Chairman

*In attendance: Commissioners Richard Nunn, Chairman; Joseph Mirra Vice-Chairman; Tom Collette; Mark Gingras; Rosemarie Preneta; James P. Wolfe and Don Roe, Program Planning*

Mr. Nunn said that six members of the commission and members of the staff are here tonight to respond to the Council. He said all members of the EDC are members of the Wallingford business community and view the economic well-being of the business community as being of utmost importance. He said that no one take economic development more seriously that this commission and its staff. He said that they are proud of what they have accomplished over the years, and Doreen DeSarro is a large part of what we have accomplished. He said that the commission budgets for this position. Doreen and this position are critical to our success. He introduced Mr. Mirra, EDC Vice Chairman

Mr. Mirra thanked the Council for the opportunity to review the EDC program and the value and importance of the Business Recruiter under Doreen's leadership. He referred to packets with material from 2009-2010 marketing program along with the monthly schedules of programs, the budget and the staff reports with results. He added that there are examples of yearly reports, prepared by Doreen that summarizes the work accomplishments of the EDC. He said that the Town Council has been receiving these reports for the last sixteen and one-half years that Doreen has been with the EDC. He said that the Recruitment & Retention, Marketing, Planning and Zoning liaison as well as their client services would not happen without Doreen. She is the go-to and the person to makes things happen. Speaking for the commission, Mr. Mirra stated Ms. DeSarro serves the commission, the three sub-committees, and more importantly, the town well. She is highly skilled professional with 40 years of experience, 40 years of can-do know how.

Mr. Mirra stated that Ms. DeSarro is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the New England Certified Development Corporation. She was awarded the Economic Development Profession Designation in 2009 by the Northeast Economic Development Association. She is the recipient of the 2002 Member of the Year Award by the Connecticut Economic Development Association. She is also the recipient of the 2004 Developer of the Year from the Northeast Economic Development Association. She has been with the town for sixteen and one half years and prior to that she worked the City of Hartford Redevelopment Commission for 24 years. He pointed out that there are numerous letters in the packet from clients and others that document

what they know on the commission, and the EDC hopes will give the Council a better understanding of Ms. DeSarro's ability and accomplishments.

Mr. Mirra announced a one of the projects that she has sheperded through the way and that is the purchase of the old Corometrics Building, 175,000 square foot facility, to Fastenal, who will be relocating one of their manufacturing companies. He referred to the announcement of that corporation. He remarked that this is an important transaction for the town in the areas of employment and tax benefits.

Mr. Mirra reported that the packet includes copies of compensation surveys to address the Council's questions. He said that the surveys have been conducted and compiled annually by the Northeast Economic Development Association and organization that covers eleven states. There are separate surveys for Connecticut, and also a survey that is specific to nine communities in Connecticut. He reported that Doreen DeSarro's compensation is in the lowest section in Connecticut and all throughout New England. He pointed out that Ms. DeSarro is paid on an hourly basis and receives no benefits, no health insurance, no sick leave, no paid vacation, no holidays. He said that it is the consensus of the EDC commission that based on these figures, the depth of her knowledge, which is reflected in her positive impact on the EDC and what the other commissioners will present, Wallingford is getting a really good deal. He is sure that the Council agrees and should approve the EDC budget as presented for the business recruiter's position. Mr. Mirra affirmed Ms. DeSarro's is an efficient, effective professional whose work is well documented and well done, and her compensation is waiting. He thanked the Council for their time and for the opportunity to present for the commission.

Don Roe, Program Planner, said he would speak about Ms. DeSarro's work, particularly her current client services, current projects and the work for the next two quarters. He noted that a big part of her job is to provide an array of client services on a daily basis to large and small customers. As an example on the larger side, she is currently working with five (5) manufacturers who plan to expand. Those plans account for a total of over 143,000 square feet of new manufacturing space in the community. He reported that meanwhile, she is also working with two (2) companies outside of Wallingford, a manufacturer looking for 25,000 square feet and a Connecticut office looking for 220,000 square feet.

Mr. Roe stated that on the smaller side, Ms. DeSarro's client work happens on a routine basis and includes an inquiry to start a business and the information required town permits needed to open a doggie bakery; another is a resident who wants to start a home business to do watch repair; another resident turned to Ms. DeSarro with regard to a business plan. She handles calls from property owners looking to lease their property, calls from feature writers and reporters. He referred to the Hartford Business Journal and Ms. DeSarro's work with them in solving a publishing problem about Wallingford that has led to another article about Wallingford's Route 5. He said that is because of Ms. DeSarro's skills at working with media folks and others but it started with a commissioner looking at what is out there in terms of information about the community.

Mr. Roe said that regular work will need to be done on each of the larger projects well into the next six months and beyond. Meanwhile, Ms. DeSarro will be working on several of the current EDC projects also into the next quarter. She will be working with Wallingford Center Inc. (WCI) on seasonal ads for the downtown merchants that the EDC began to support last year. She has supplied other assistance to WCI in the real estate listing side. Over the next quarter, Ms. DeSarro will continue to help four local companies that are looking to engage the WorkForce

Alliance, the regional work force development agency, in a customized call service/call center training program.

Mr. Sullivan asked if he could please interrupt and said that he is terribly confused. He doesn't understand what the charge is here. He asked Mr. Roe to tell him if he is concerned that Ms. DeSarro's position is in jeopardy.

Mr. Roe said that their understanding is that the Council passed a motion that said that line 1000 be put into the Contingency Fund and that the Council was to receive a report from Don Roe and the EDC within 30 days as to this position, and he thinks that he is trying to provide that report.

Mr. Sullivan said he thinks that we have a misunderstanding and that he doesn't think that it was Ms. DeSarro's position being in jeopardy. He doesn't think that was the intent of that motion. He thinks that he is correct on this and said that his colleague that made the motion might want to clarify it.

Mr. Fishbein said that Mr. Roe had half of it. Mr. Roe said he had the rest of the motion which he read – what has been done, what is being done and what the proposal is for the future with a list of attainable goals for the next six months. Mr. Fishbein affirmed that as being correct.

Mr. Testa commented that he is also confused and is curious if the EDC was under the impression that this Council had either asked for a justification for the position or had in any way implied that it wasn't necessary. He said that unbeknownst to him that has not been his position. He understands a little bit more now what they are doing. He said that it appeared to him that they are here tonight en masse because there was a feeling that the EDC had to justify her position and performance to the Council because there was some consideration that the Council didn't think that the position was either being filled appropriately or was justifiable and that the Council was questioning it. He said that he does appreciate the report. In reflecting on the motion, he can see why EDC thought that they had to make this detailed report in this manner. He said he wants to put minds at ease because it feels to him like an inquisition.

Chairman Parisi said that several of the Council received phone calls from him and at no time was there any indication at least on his part that this job was in jeopardy. He said that he was attempting to convey that in these economic times, this Council during a budget session felt that they wanted to be reassured that the town was getting a bang for its buck. He said that he didn't talk to everyone of the Council but he thinks that was the premise on which they approached this.

Mr. Mirra asked if he was to understand that the monies will be allocated for the salary for that person.

Chairman Parisi said that he didn't say that. He said that the reason for this discussion, and this item on the agenda tonight, was to start the process that the Council had discussed during the budget session.

Mayor Dickinson suggested that the EDC continue with their presentation.

Chairman Parisi asked them to go ahead.

Don Roe stated that he is somewhat taken aback. He said that he read the motion, and he hopes that that is what they are doing. He said that they are providing a great level of detail.

Mr. Mirra said that he has to understand something. He asked what is it that will make the funds available for this person's salary.

Chairman Parisi said that no one said that the funds would *not* be available. He said that is going on in someone else's mind. He asked for the presentation to continue.

Mr. Roe continued with his report with regard to the EDC projects that are currently underway that will carry into the next two quarters. He reported that third one is providing staff assistance to the EDC as it completes the company visitation survey program that was initiated last winter. Ms. DeSarro will perform the analysis of those surveys, working with the data and doing report preparation. Ms. DeSarro will be defining the EDC's marketing program for 2011 and begin to initiate the activities that are called for in that program. He said that each year the EDC adopts that program and Ms. DeSarro works on implementing it. She will continue her ongoing staff support to the commission's three sub-committee.

Mr. Farrell asked of Mr. Roe if it would be possible for the Council to receive something that shows them in some ongoing detail what it is that Ms. DeSarro. He said that sees other department heads here, and he can see what the staff of Public Works does and he can see the Fire Department and the Police Department. He said that they are very visible. The nature of what Ms. DeSarro does is not something where we can see the activity, so speaking for himself and why he voted for the motion was to gain some sense of the detail. Looking at the economic climate and we'd like to know the details so that when people ask, we can give them the sense of all of this. Mr. Roe said it has to do with trying to quantify the hours that are spent on what kinds of activities, and the results that are generated. Mr. Farrell said yes, to some degree.

Mr. Fishbein and Mr. Mirra discussed the compensation survey in relation to the number of hours that those in the survey work. Mr. Fishbein asked how they know that she is the lowest paid. Mr. Roe said they wonder about the survey and his point is well taken. He said that it is an understanding because people work part-time and full-time so is not figured on a full-time equivalent basis. Mr. Fishbein is looking to confirm the representation that Ms. DeSarro is the lowest paid person. Mr. Roe referred Mr. Fishbein to the nine Connecticut communities survey and draw his own deductions. The nine Connecticut communities survey is not reflected in the other surveys. Mr. Roe said that her hourly rate is \$36.90

Mr. Fishbein asked next about the company visitations. Mr. Mirra discussed two visitation surveys and the project that is underway.

Chairman Parisi called the presentation back to order.

#### MARKETING COMMITTEE

Tom Collette, Marketing Sub-Committee, Chairman and Mark Gingras, Marketing Sub-Committee.

Mr. Collette said that as volunteers they rely on Ms. DeSarro's expertise and knowledge regarding zoning, past practices, good or bad initiatives, real estate and current subject importance to the commission in carrying out the marketing mission. He said that the EDC does not currently is not using funds in the national advertising promotional events because they think that it no longer justifies the means. They do invest in local and regional opportunities to continue to evaluate these programs. From a marketing standpoint, Ms. DeSarro helps them with the budget. The committee seeks out ways to market the town within their limited budget with the expertise of Ms. DeSarro. She prepares cost estimates for promotional options



considered by the EDC year in and year out. Currently this committee is in the midst of this business survey. He said that in addition to the marketing initiatives with WCI, Ms. DeSarro does the spring and holiday ads with WC.

Mark Gingras thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak today. He sees that it is good for the Council to know what Ms. DeSarro does but also what the EDC does. Being a new member of one year on the commission, it was Ms. DeSarro who brought him up to speed. He said that she was the key person to do that. He talked about an e-newsletter, part of Ms. DeSarro's job of web-marketing, in cooperation with the Central Connecticut Alliance for Economic Development with several towns in the area. He said the Ms. DeSarro is actively involved in trade shows, not on a national basis, but more on a regional, local basis. For the Chamber Expo, she set up and attended a booth and required EDC commissioners to also man the booth. He noted that he thinks that she is the glue for the marketing committee and for the EDC.

#### RETENTION & RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

Rosemary Preneta commented that they find Ms. DeSarro's position to be of critical importance in bringing great organizational skills to the task force. She maintains new and expanding lists of Wallingford businesses and under the direction and assistance of the sub-committee, she maintain contact with all new and expanding businesses. She handles the administrative work necessary to the company visitation program. In 2009, she arranged visitations with Bristol Meyer Squibb, Boardman Silversmith, Polylok and Gouveia Winery to name a few. She spoke about Ms. DeSarro role in the tax-incentive program including assistance provided to businesses with questions on eligibility and documentation. She works with other town departments in finalizing tax agreements and promotes this program.

#### PLANNING & ZONING LIAISON

Jim Wolfe and Joe Mirra. Mr. Wolfe said that on a routine Ms. DeSarro provides them with the materials that they need to meet with Planning and Zoning in order to coordinate their efforts with Planning and Zoning. They are working on the I-5 Zone with a proposal before P & Z at this time for changes in the I-5 Zone and they are also working on the IX Zone in looking at the different possibilities of two buildings on one lot. He said that the Council has to understand that is now where we all function. He said that when people like Mortgage Lenders come to town and knock on our door and say they called Ms. DeSarro first and they are interested, that is when the entire EDC goes to work. He said that when large companies come in, you have the locomotive going but you can't take the engine away. Ms. DeSarro is the engine, and we all rely on her. We get our information from her. She is the center core.

Joseph Mirra compared Wallingford and Massachusetts in bringing Mortgage Lenders to town. He said the the governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney, was the representative for Massachusetts when Mortgage Lenders wanted to locate to a new complex and the Wallingford EDC was handling it for Wallingford. There was no governor or state representation. He said that Ms. DeSarro was able to pull in the state support that the EDC needed, and the governor did get involved. He said that she was able to make the right connections and they did come. He said that it is very unfortunate that the economy went the way that it did.

No comments or questions were forthcoming from Mr. LeTourneau, Mr. Economopoulos, Mr. Cervoni or Mr. Testa.

Mr. Fishbein asked about the company visitation survey. Mr. Mirra described the program and that Ms. DeSarro was instrumental in setting up the survey and the companies to visit. To date they have visited 18 of 24 businesses in the survey. They will consolidate the data and produce a

report. They want this report to give them a working plan to move forward with a strategy. In the general picture, the EDC is there to help business to grow and the town to grow. He said they can't fill every storefront but they can provide the town with the marketing techniques and skills to continue a fair growth. Despite the economy, we have diverse businesses and businesses are moving in, and we have expansions. He said that our night population is 45,000 and our day is 120,000. There is a lot that is working.

Mr. Fishbein asked questions with regard to the surveys, their numbers, how many had been returned, Ms. DeSarro's role in the company visitation survey project. Mr. Mirra said that 18 surveys are complete in the last 3 or 4 months and are done by volunteers. Mr. Fishbein said that some of the documents that he reviewed for the meeting go back about three years. Mr. Mirra said that those are the other type of visits that he spoke about. Mr. Fishbein said that he read that 30 surveys were given out and only 4 were returned. He asked if this is the average.

Mr. Roe stated that his guess is that it relates to the current survey and certainly several months ago that was a report on how many had been received. He said that as commissioners have been able to make the arrangements to visit that the number of returned surveys has increased.

Mr. Fishbein said that part of his problem with this whole situation is that the title is 'business recruiter' and as he hears what she does perhaps that is part of the problem. He has a certain picture of a business recruiter and what he hears is that it is a multi-function job, which is support staff always at the ready call is part of this also and is the part that is new to him.

Mr. Mirra said that is what is complicated about government business in that there are many regulations, laws, ordinances and limitations and restrictions. He said that these are the things that they need their business recruiter for. He recalled Mortgage Lenders again because Ms. DeSarro knew the right people to call, the right funds, the right grants, who to speak with at the state level and that is all part of that one client. He said that if they did a study on the client that came in today, that they would see a lot of the same. He said that it is a lot more to get a business to move into town than describing a great building and a great town.

Mr. Fishbein asked about the Central Connecticut Alliance of Economic Development not having a web presence. Mr. Mirra said that along with the e-newsletter it is still a new venture waiting for grants funds and they are ironing out some of the technical support issues. Mr. Fishbein concluded that it is more an EDC issue than a business recruiter issue.

Mr. Sullivan thanked the group for coming in. He said that as a Councilor there are some things that he would like to see: a Strategic Plan with quarterly goals and for the EDC to come back on a quarterly basis to let the Council know how the EDC is doing. He recalled his own statement from the budget workshop that the EDC is the train that is going to drive us and it's going to bring in new businesses and it's going to allow for expansion of businesses and it's going to bring new employment opportunities for residents and also for people outside of Wallingford to come here to work. He said those people spend money, and they pay for taxes. He said that he would like to see new businesses and expansion of businesses. He would like to see the zoning regulations be maximized so that we can get more business in town where we are restricted in some areas. He would like to see a link between colleges and universities and businesses so students have a place to come to work and that we have a relationship where these employers would hire new graduates. He said that the EDC has a small budget and as he said at budget time, the EDC is under-funded for the job we want you to do. He remarked that a budget of approximately \$25,000 for the EDC to go out and promote out town. He said that included the literature to do it. He observed that he does not think that is enough money for them to

successfully do what we are asking you to do. He said that next time we sit down for a budget that the budget can be expanded but before we can do that he hopes that the EDC has a really good plan for what the EDC wants to do and what results we might see. He said that his job is not here to manage all that but what he does have to do is to manage the budget. He reiterate what the Chairman said that we do want the biggest bang for our buck. He said that tonight is not a assault on Ms. DeSarro and stated that that is not what he came here to do. He said that he is sorry if that is what was thought to be the case. It's not.

Ms. Rascati commented that she thoroughly agrees with Mr. Sullivan's viewpoint.

Chairman Parisi said that he thinks that Mr. Sullivan summed it up very nicely. He feels badly because he tried to project to some members of the commission that this was a different Council with different thinking. He said that for many years these types of questions were not brought up. He observed that perhaps there were not any Councilors who thought there was a necessity. He said that times changes, economies change and the pressures are different. He said that he hopes that it is clear and that there is absolutely no question in your integrity, in your effort or in the spirit in which the EDC approached their job. He thanked the EDC for their monetary status, which is free. He asked them to understand the Council's side of it. The public expects the Council to ask the questions. He remarked that he thinks that this Council would like some sort of periodic report that would cover what is being done and what is planned to be done so that the Council has a measure of what the EDC is doing.

Mr. Mirra asked if the Council could be patient so that the EDC can complete the surveys. He said that their deadline is the end of June because that is going to be the foundation for a new strategic plan. He said so rather than come up with a report to pacify the Council that he would rather give a report that is sincere and with real vision and direction. He is looking at October or November 1.

Chairman Parisi asked if the timeline was realistic. Mr. Roe said that he hopes it would be and that is entering into a new budget season. Chairman Parisi observed that we are all on the same team. Mr. Mirra agreed and said that it is a new season and that they started this project four or five months ago. He said that if it isn't done right, then it's a waste of time and a waste of money. He remarked that when they have this report together, they will be looking for the additional funds, which is when they will need them.

Mr. LeTourneau said that he has found attending some of the EDC meetings to be very informative and that he reports back to some of the Councilors. He acknowledged their hard work, and he thinks that tonight was good because it clarified what the EDC does and what Ms. DeSarro does. He thinks that the economic times have driven the Council to look at every budget dollar with every department. He said that when they got to the EDC that not a lot was known and that he agrees with Mr. Sullivan that economic development is critical to the town of Wallingford. It is our tax base. He asked do we need more staff, do we need more hours for Ms. DeSarro, do we need to put more money into economic development. He said that these reports will help us as time goes on. It comes down to what can we do better for economic development. He said that at budget time we might need to spend a little more money.

Mr. Fishbein acknowledged the Economic Development Commission.

Lucille Trzcinski, 25 Turnberry Road, said that she was amazed that not one member of the Economic Development Commission said that we are woefully under-funded and that Ms.



DeSarro is terribly overworked. She commented that some of the tasks that she performs are usually relegated to support staff. She said that yesterday she was trying to find someone to go into a 7,000 square foot space, and she spend an entire day talking to people, which should be what Ms. DeSarro should be doing, and it should be a priority in order to bring businesses into town. She remarked that the Economic Development Commission is the most commission in Wallingford. She talked about the time consuming administrative tasks that someone other than Ms. DeSarro should be doing, so that Ms. DeSarro can be the rainmaker creating ideas, developing ideas and going out to put deals together. Ms. DeSarro is now being asked to compile reports, another task that is going to take her away from the primary work that she is supposed to do. Ms. DeSarro needs additional paid staff to help her and expanded hours, if she could do them. Ms. Trzcinski said that you can't do the job you expect her to do on 19.5 hours a week and you can't expect this commission to go out and look for businesses throughout the United States with the amount of money that is in the EDC budget. She stated that the burden should not be on this commission to prove what they are doing. The burden is on the Council to give them the appropriate funding and the appropriate wherewithal to do the job that you expect them to do.

Chairman Parisi stated that he wants to clarify one thing. He said that he doesn't know if this Council will give anybody any money without a justification. He understands what she said and the message that is being conveyed, he would not just appropriate money without adequate backup that will justify it. He said that he is not saying that it isn't justified as we sit here. He said that we are all learning a lot. He said that hopefully that is a good part of this and he thinks that is what the attempt was.

Mr. Mirra said he meant what he said earlier in his appreciation for the opportunity to display this because it is obvious that a lot of what happens behind the doors upstairs that isn't known. He understands that more money is good but the EDC needs to have a final report of where their money is going. He added that he thinks salaries need to be stabilized.

Mr. Nunn summarized the presentation by saying to the Council that the EDC, staff and commissioners, are business people and that we are looking. He said that we are always looking to get the best product for the best price. He was not adverse in saying that they could give the Council reasons to increase the budget to increase the efforts that they are doing but Wallingford has that engine in Doreen DeSarro. To clear up a misconception that we seemed to have at the beginning, he said that they were not saying that this an effort on the part of the Council to question the type of work that Doreen DeSarro is doing. He said that we are telling you what she is doing. She is the biggest help that this commission could have. He posed the questions of could we use additional help and could we use some additional hours, and said absolutely. He said that he is not questioning the authority that is vested within the Council but it has upset or concerned this commission about that budget item into a contingency. Nobody is going to work a month and then get evaluated, then a second month, and so forth. He stated that we have to come up to the table and say that this job is needed; we have to fund it; and we have to take this money out of contingency and make it a salary issue like anyone else. He added that we could add more monies this year or next year to improve on it and use it for whatever purposes we have to do. He said we are all in the same agreement, that economic development is a very important product to be provided to the Town of Wallingford. He stated that as the Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, he recommended that the budget item for the salary be removed from the contingency status. He added that some of the work that Doreen has produced includes 15 companies that generated new tax revenue in excess of \$500,000.

Mr. Lube, Montowese Trail, commented on the impressive work of the EDC and the businesses who are involved and of Ms. DeSarro. He wanted to know more about a marketing program, what it constitutes. He said that one of the things that an economic recruiter is expected to be doing is to be enhancing the industrial and commercial grand list for tax purposes. He said that he thinks that we don't have a recruiter but that we have a business coordinator who has done a fantastic job of coordinating all of the efforts to try to retain the businesses that we have and to assist them in expansion. He said that in terms of an outreach program and asked the EDC what significant businesses have come to Wallingford that we contacted initially, not the ones who find us, but those that we have reached out for and have brought them to Wallingford. He would like to know how long a list that would be. He would also like to know how we are going to have a marketing program and is it going to attempt to be a shot-gun approach – best electric, best water, etc. He asked what is it that this town needs, what can this town offer in the way of tool makers or skilled workers and then zero in on an industry that would be looking for what we have to offer. We should focus on those companies that need what we have to offer.

#### RECESS

Mr. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cervoni, for a 5-minute recess. All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed. The recess commenced at 7:52 P.M.

7. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$41,908 FY 2010-2011 To Regular Salaries & Wages Acct # 001-7030-101-1000 from Contingency- General Purpose Acct # 001-7060-800-3190 – Program Planning

The Chairman called the meeting back to order from the recess at 8:11 P.M.

#### MOTION

Mr. Farrell made a motion to Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$41,908 FY 2010-2011 to Regular Salaries & Wages Acct # 001-7030-101-1000 from Contingency- General Purpose Acct # 001-7060-800-3190 on the condition that the EDC and the Program Planner report within two weeks the parameters that they will supply future information to the Council.

Mr. Fishbein seconded.

Mr. Cervoni said that he has saved his comments until now and recalled that during the budget process that he was one of the votes against removing this to the contingency fund. He was surprised that Councilors were surprised that such a grand presentation was made but he understands and a point was made. He, therefore, is looking forward to the reports that the Council will be getting; he is looking forward to getting the strategic plan; and he is looking forward to this department enhancing what it does for business recruitment in Wallingford. He thanked the commission.

There were no other comments from the Council or from the Public.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Cervoni	Yes	Letourneau	Yes
Economopoulos	Yes	Rascati	Yes
Farrell	Yes	Sullivan	Yes
Fishbein	Yes	Testa	Yes
		Chairman Parisi	Yes

The motion passed.

Chairman Parisi said that the Council will look forward to that report, hopefully, in October, understanding that those things are difficult to nail down. Mr. Testa said that we should make it

clear what we are looking for. Chairman Parisi said it would be the major results of the survey that was mentioned in the EDC presentation.

Mr. Mirra replied, "In October."

Chairman Parisi confirmed, "Right, in October."

Mr. Mirra stated, "And a brief outline in two weeks."

Chairman Parisi responded that the Council is looking for the parameters which the EDC will be using for the report. He asked the EDC and Mr. Roe if that was clear.

Mayor Dickinson said that the transfer of the money cannot occur until the next meeting that the Council is looking for the report. Chairman Parisi said that the Council can do it at the next meeting. Mayor Dickinson said that the transfer was contingent upon a report in two weeks which would mean the transfer wouldn't occur.

Chairman Parisi said that that was not... Mayor Dickinson said that is what the motion said. Mr. Farrell said that the motion said that the EDC and the Program Planner would report on the parameters of future reports. He said, in other words, the EDC is going to give us an outline of how future information will look, and if we have a problem with it at that point, the Council would tell them up front and not several months down the road.

Mayor Dickinson said that he understands that, but if the transfer is contingent upon the report within two weeks, if for some reason the report isn't acceptable, then that would hold up the transfer of the money. He said the transfer is contingent upon the acceptability of the report; otherwise, the contingency won't have any effect. He noted that they are more than willing to make the report, and he does not think that the Council needs the contingency of report. He said that the way the motion reads is if there is something unacceptable about the report or the discussion has to be postponed, then the transfer will not occur.

Mr. Testa said that he agrees with the Mayor because the motion said 'contingent.' He suggested another motion to remove the official contingency from the approval of the transfer.

#### MOTION

Mr. Farrell made a motion to remove the 'condition' (from the prior motion). Mr. Fishbein seconded. All Councilors present voted Aye, and the motion passed.

#### 8. Consider and Approve Bid Waiver List for FY 2010-2011 – Mayor

Mr. Farrell made a motion to Approve the Bid Waiver list as documented in the materials with the exception of the Pro-Health Physicians item which has been withdrawn at the request of the Board of Education as requested by the Mayor. Mr. Testa seconded.

Mr. Farrell said that there is a lot of material, including letters.

Mayor Dickinson noted that the generic, list of hardware stores are for all departments.

Mr. Fishbein asked about Yankee Gas. He asked about the new item requested by the Police Department and why not try to get a lower price, why the bid waiver request.

Chief Dortenzio responded that they already have the hardware. He stated that this is firewall software for their entire network; it's corporate level equipment that is rack mounted. It is several devices that update daily and guard the data that is in their network. It's a subscription that maintains the device around the clock, 365 days per year. The software is proprietary in nature.

Mr. LeTourneau pointed out that Fazzino True Value Hardware and Kamko Colony Lumber are gone and asked why they are on the list.

There were no more questions or comments.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

9. Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$66,000 to Maintenance of Treatment Equipment Acct # 461-8640-652 to Source of Funds-Appropriation from Cash - Sewer Division

#### MOTION

Mr. Farrell made a motion to Approve a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$66,000 to Maintenance of Treatment Equipment Acct # 461-8640-652 to Source of Funds-Appropriation from Cash as requested by the Sewer Division. Mrs. Rascati seconded.

*In attendance: Roger Dann, General Manager, Sewer Division and  
David Gessert, Public Utilities Commissioner*

#### MOTION AMEMDMENT

Mr. Farrell moved to amend his motion to include FY 20102011. Mr. Fishbein seconded.

Mr. Dann stated that the high failure rate of the speed reduced units at the waste water treatment plant. He said that they were designed before the denitrification process; some are failing early in life and are being returned to the manufacturer for repair. Heavy rain has contributed to the failures.

There were no questions or comments.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

10. Consider and Approve Bid Waiver Request for hiring a project manager whose duties would be to develop specifications for bidding energy saving measures pursuant to the Nxegen Study – Board of Education

Mr. Farrell made a motion to Approve Bid Waiver Request for hiring a project manager whose duties would be to develop specifications for bidding energy saving measures pursuant to the Nxegen Study as requested by the Board of Education. Mts. Rascati seconded

*In attendance: Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent of Schools  
Tom Hennessey, Chairman, Board of Education  
Robert Gaudet, CMEEC*

Mr. Farrell read Dr. Menzo's memo which stated that he is requesting the waiver of the low bid requirement concerning installation of miscellaneous Energy Conserving Measures in the nine Public Schools with an anticipates annual savings of \$450,00. He is asking for a Request For Proposal (RFP) from firms that concentrate on the specialized nature of the controls and equipment involved.

This request is only for the waiver and nothing else. Mr. Fishbein said he read the Nxegen study and supports the motion.

Ben Martin, Ward Street, asked that the RFT timetable be watched and as a member of the Energy Conservation Commission thinks this is a great thing.

Representative Mary Mushinsky, also a member of the Energy Conservation Commission fully supports this motion.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

11. Consider and approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$654 to Wireless Microphone Acct # 001-1303-999-9910 from Regular Salaries & Wages Acct # 001-3020-101-1000– Program Planning

Mr. Farrell made a motion to approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$654 to Wireless Microphone Acct # 001-1303-999-9910 from Regular Salaries & Wages Acct # 001-3020-101-1000 as requested by Program Planning. Mrs. Rascati seconded.

Mr. Farrell read the from a letter from Mr. Roe. It said that the FCC is requiring current users of 700 MHz frequency to discontinue use as of June 12, 2010. Government TV uses wireless devices using this frequency for its remote productions, so it is necessary to purchase new equipment. This purchase will be the first step with the rest to follow in the next fiscal year that will complete the transition.

There were no comments or questions from anyone.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

12. 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
13. Executive Session pursuant to Sec. 1-200 (6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending tax appeal matter of Infinity Route 5 Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford – Town Attorney

Mr. Farrell 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 – Mayor

Sec. 1-200 (6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending tax appeal matter of Infinity Route 5 Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford – Town Attorney

Mrs. Rascati seconded. All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed. The Council entered into Executive session at 8:45P.M.

At 9:14 P.M., Mr. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rascati, to come out of Executive Session. All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

*Executive Session Attendance:*



Item 12. - All nine (9) Councilors, Mayor Dickinson, Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes

Item 13. - All nine (9) Councilors, Mayor Dickinson, Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes

- 14.** Motion to consider and approve the settlement of the Infinity Route 5 Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Farrell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rascati, that the Council authorize negotiation and settlement of the matter of Infinity Route 5 Limited Partnership v. Town of Wallingford as discussed in Executive Session.

All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Farrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Rascati seconded. All Councilors present (9) voted Aye. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 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

