

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Town Council Chambers

January 8, 2013

RECORD OF VOTES AND MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:33 P.M. Following a Moment of Silence, the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were as follows: Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John Letourneau, Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Jason Zandri. Councilor Nick Economopoulos was present although was out of the Council Chambers for the Roll Call. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Town Attorney Gerald E. Farrell, Sr. were also in attendance at the meeting. Comptroller Bowes was not at this meeting.

2. Correspondence - *None*

3. Consent Agenda

3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$1,738.40 (#445 - #462)
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector

3b. Consider and Approve an Appropriation in the Amount of \$6,085 to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct # 1009052-47040 and to Replacement Pay Acct # 10020150-51500 – Fire Chief

3c. Consider and Confirm the reappointment of Mr. Robert P. Blanchard to the Pension Commission for a six-year term Effective December 31, 2012 – December 31, 2018 - Mayor

3d. Consider and Approve a Request for a Bid Waiver to extend the Farmland lease for open space property (Field 18A) located at 995C East Center Street for a term of five (5) year Environmental Planner

3e. Set a Public Hearing for 7:00 P.M. on January 22, 2013 to repeal Chapter 75-Bicycles of the Code of the Town of Wallingford – Vincent Cervoni and Craig Fishbein, Co-Chairmen of the Ordinance Committee

3f. Approve minutes of Regular Town Council meeting of December 18, 2012

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: ALL AYE (9)

(N.B. Councilor Economopoulos had returned at this time)

MOTION PASSED.

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

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Geno Zandri, 9 Balsam Ridge Circle, updated the Council with regard to street lights reporting that the Wallingford Police Department had reported to the Electric Division in excess of 200 street lamps that were out and that the Electric Division has already replaced most of them.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, with regard to the Annual Audit Report, made comments that the fees paid to manage the Pension Fund were in excess of \$600K. He spoke about active and passing funds.

The Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson, swore in Mr. Robert P. Blanchard to the Pension Commission for a six-year term to the Commission that is effective December 31, 2012 to December 31, 2018.

Councilor Fishbein told a personal story that illustrated the outstanding service provided by the Electric Division in times of emergency. He said that our Electric Division is unlike another town where he has lived. He shared his sense of pride and said that he was happy that we have an Electric Division that is ‘tied together’.

- 6. Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$250 from Mrs. Souza to Revenue Miscellaneous Donation Acct # 1009052-47040 and to Veterans’ Aid (new account to be established in Veteran’s Budget) – Veterans’ Service Officer

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE the Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$250 from Mrs. Souza to Revenue Miscellaneous Donation Acct # 1009052-47040 and to Veterans’ Aid (new account to be established in Veteran’s Budget) MADE BY: CERVONI SECONDED BY: RASCATI

Councilor Cervoni read a letter from George Messier, Veterans’ Service Officer, which stated the recommendations of the Comptroller for the funds to be placed in an account ‘earmarked to purchase retail gift cards for use by needy Wallingford Veterans and families.’ The letter noted that this would be consistent with similar donations from other sources.

Alice Souza, 125 Cook Hill Road, the donor, told the Council that she made the donation because the Veterans were there when she needed them.

**VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
MOTION PASSED.**

- 7. Acceptance of Donation from Evonic Industries and Appropriation of Funds to new Special Revenue lines in Fund #250 as follows:

\$500	Wallingford MRC	Fund #250 Revenue
\$1,500	Wallingford Fire Department	Fund #250 Revenue
\$1,500	Wallingford Police Department	Fund #250 Revenue

TO:

\$500	Wallingford MRC	Fund #250 New Line to be established
\$1,500	Wallingford Fire Department	Fund #250 Revenue New Line to be established
\$1,500	Wallingford Police Department	Fund #250 Revenue New Line to be established

- Mayor

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE TO the Acceptance of Donation from Evonic Industries and Appropriation of Funds to new Special Revenue lines in Fund #250 as follows:

\$500	Wallingford MRC (Health Dept.)	Fund #250 Revenue
\$1,500	Wallingford Fire Department	Fund #250 Revenue
\$1,500	Wallingford Police Department	Fund #250 Revenue

TO:

\$500	Wallingford MRC(Health Dept)	Fund #250 New Line to be established
\$1,500	Wallingford Fire Department	Fund #250 Revenue New Line to be established
\$1,500	Wallingford Police Department	Fund #250 Revenue New Line to be established

Mr. Peter Stein, Evonic Corporation, Site Manager on South Cherry Street, said they were happy to be at the meeting and to thank the town services for the help during the hurricane. They are very grateful. Mr. Stein said he hopes that this money helps to keep things going for the departments that are receiving the money.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
MOTION PASSED.

8. Consider and Approve a Request for Bid Waiver for the purchase of ION-8600 Substation Class Revenue Meters – Electric Division

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE A REQUEST FOR A BID WAIVER FOR THE PURCHASE ON ION-8600 SUBSTATION CLASS REVENUE METERS AS PRESENTED BY THE ELECTRIC DIVISION.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI

In attendance: George Adair, Director, Public Utilities
Richard Hendershot, General Manager, Electric Division

Mr. Adair began the discussion saying that Mr. Hendershot's memo provides the details of the request for the bid waiver to purchase and install the Connecticut standard, and the footprint of UI and CL & P Ion-8600 class revenue meters. The product has been vetted by the IOUs, and Wallingford can enjoy this product and benefit from their research. He continued stating that this is the product is available from only one vendor so a bid waiver is necessary to purchase the meters.

Mr. Hendershot stated that the advantage to our Electric Division in purchasing this meter is that these meters are used by several power entities in our region to register and monitor the flow of electric energy from the grid of the high voltage network into our system. The current meters only support one entity reading at a time, and the new meters would support four. He said that the original meters were purchased at a time when the electric industry was different than it is now where this level of monitoring and meter reading wasn't envisioned. He said the meters being requested via the bid waiver are through the firm who are the only ones who can supply them in this region. These new meters have become the defacto standard for this application in this part of the country, therefore, they would be well supported. This is why they have been chosen. He said that presently only one of four entities can get information from the grid at a time. With the new meters all four would be able to get the readings they need at the same time.

Mr. Hendershot stated that there are products on the market that are similar to the product they are requesting that perform the same things. CMEEC and the ISOs have researched this product. He noted that CMEEC has one of these meters doing the same function with good service. The IOUs in Connecticut have chosen this meter as their standard for this application and have begun to install them. CMEEC is advising their participating systems to use this meter since they are one of the entities who will be reading it and the other Connecticut

municipal systems have begun to install these meters or are scheduled to do so in their next budget cycle. The meters are approximately \$60K. There are a handful of competitors but we do not know the cost range of other companies. He said no other quotes were sought. He felt that research done by others would only have been duplicated by his staff. After speaking with CL & P and CMEEC and with manufacturer's rep, and they understand why they have chosen the model meter and this particular manufacturer. He explained that the meter will do everything they ask it to do, and they do not think the price is inappropriate or out-of-line. He said that it makes sense to order the same meters that they others are ordering since the meters can work well with the electric utilities to which the Electric Division is connected and with whom they share a variety of things.

There was discussion re comparative costs from other manufacturers, which were not procured by the Electric Division, and that the Electric Division is relying on the research that others have done. Mr. Hendershot said that if they use another model meter that getting the meters tested will be difficult and more expensive going forward. CL & P won't be able to test the meters for the Electric Division as they do now.

Mr. Adair said they are comfortable with what is the primary characteristic of standardization in a regional context which is tied to the grid and read by others. The Electric Division does have the benefit of the substantial, technical presence by the IOUs, our neighbors, who have selected and standardized this product. He also said that they are comfortable with the advisement of Mr. Hendershot and his staff as to the wisdom of that choice, especially from a testing and maintenance standpoint.

Mr. Hendershot responded to Mr. Gross as to cost of the meters, which is \$6,367 per meter for a total bid cost of \$57,299.

**VOTE: INDIVIDUALLY CALLED OUT ALL AYE (9)
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

**MOTION TO ADJOURN.
MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: AYE (9)
MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M. with no further business to conduct.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes
Town Council Secretary

Town Council Chairman Robert F. Parisi Date

Town Clerk Barbara Thompson Date