

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Council Chambers  
February 27, 2018  
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

3K

The Town Council Workshop on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 was called to order at 6:40 P.M. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein, Christopher K. Shortell and Vincent F. Testa. Councilor Zandri was absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald E. Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present at the meeting.

Moment of Silence

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Consent Agenda
  - 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$6,432.26 (#665-677)Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
  - 3b. Acceptance of funds and consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$435 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
  - 3c. Acceptance of donation from Sliders and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$250 to Revenue Donations - Police, Acct, #2502002-47152 and to Expense Donations - Police, Acct. #25020050-58830-10135 – Police Dept.
  - 3d. Acceptance of overtime reimbursement funds from the U.S. Government and consider and approve Appropriation of funds – Police Dept.:

\$2,218.00	To: Misc. Revenue	Acct. #1009052-47040
\$223.00	To: Police Overtime	Acct. #10020050-51400
\$1,995.00	Capital-Network Hardware/Software	Acct. #10020050-57000-00609
  - 3e. Acceptance of Overtime reimbursement funds from the U.S. Government and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,117 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
  - 3f. Acceptance of overtime reimbursement funds from DEA Drug Diversion Taskforce and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$703 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.

- 3g. Acceptance of 2017-2018 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program Grant and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$10,525 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
- 3h. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$16,200 from Regular Salaries & Wages, Acct. #10020050-51000 and to Maintenance of Equip., Acct. #10020050-54325 – Police Dept.
- 3i. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,019 from Maintenance of Equipment, Acct. #10020150-54325 to New Capital Account, Acct. #TBD- Fire Dept.
- 3j. Consider and confirm reappointment of John Smith to the Board of Ethics for a three year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2021 – Mayor
- 3k. Consider and approve Appointment of Robert Parisi as an Alternate to the ZBA to replace Frank Appuzo and serve the remainder of the three year term which expires January 2, 2020 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3l. Consider and approve Appointment of Louis Czerwinski as an Alternate to the ZBA to replace Christina Tatta and serve the remainder of the three year term expiring January 8, 2019 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3m. Consider and approve Appointment of David Parent to the Inland Wetland & Watercourse Commission for a five year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2023 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3n. Consider and approve the Appointment of Robert Simon as an Alternate to the Inland Wetland & Watercourse Commission for a three year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2021 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3o. Acceptance of State of Connecticut funds for Dispatcher 911 Training and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$850 to Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Continuing Education & Training, Acct. #10020050-55700 – Police Dept.
- 3p. Approve Town Council Minutes of February 13, 2018.

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

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3p.**

<b>MADE BY:</b>	<b>LAFFIN</b>
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	<b>FISHBEIN</b>
<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>ALL AYE</b>
<b>MOTION:</b>	<b>PASSED</b>

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Opened Public Question and Answer Period at 6:43 p.m.

Derek Stancuna, 18 Olde Village Circle, asked council about school safety measures.

Chairman Cervoni states there will be a meeting one week from tonight regarding measures in place for school safety and there will be a public question and answer period.

Paul Ciardullo asked Attorney Farrell if a decision is made not to follow the Charter, particularly referring to transparency, is this breaking the law.

Attorney Farrell stated that this is a hypothetical question and he will not answer a hypothetical question.

Larry Morgenstein, 177 South Main Street, has questions about the February 9<sup>th</sup> CMEEC PUC meeting. He would like to know what happened in Executive Session. He then asks if there is an ending in sight. Who are the attorneys? Is the PUC coming before council to ask for more money? Is the PUC going to update council and the public?

Attorney Farrell stated what happens in Executive Session is not discussed in public. The PUC will update council and the public when the time comes.

Paul Ciardullo wants to confirm that even though \$2 million was spent, you cannot give the public an update. Attorney Farrell stated that is correct.

Darryl Stancuna, 18 Olde Village Circle, questions if donations are coming to the homeless shelter and wants to know if there can be advertisement through the town asking residents for donations.

Chairman Cervoni states that the homeless shelter is managed by the Columbus House and Mr. Stancuna should feel free to contact them and share his concerns.

Mr. Stancuna asked if we can do a food drive for the homeless shelter. Chairman Cervoni replied to Mr. Stancuna that he can contact the Columbus House. Chairman Cervoni stated that he would be happy to communicate Mr. Stancuna's concerns to the Columbus House on Mr. Stancuna's behalf.

Mr. Stancuna asks if we could have the police go to high schools in the morning and then rotate to other schools as they start their day. He states to the Mayor that he has not seen one squad car present when he takes his children to school. Mayor Dickinson responds that the police are actively coordinated with the school system. Mr. Stancuna remarked that we should not have to wait for an incident to happen. The Mayor stated that security is up to the Police Chief and there is constant involvement between the police department and public schools.

Closed Public Question and Answer Period at 7:00 p.m.

- 6. Discussion and possible action regarding United Public Service Employees Union, Local 424-Unit 30 (Wallingford BOE Food Service) – Board of Education

*In Attendance: Cynthia Lavalette, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel  
David Mencher, Food Service Director*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT**

**MADE BY: LETOURNEAU  
SECONDED BY: MORGENSTEIN**

Cynthia Lavalette discussed the changes to the food service contract. She explained it is good for three years through June 30, 2020. She also discussed the insurance changes, wage increases and the change in the bereavement language.

Gina Morgenstein asked how much does the increase in the insurance premium cost employees out of their pocket. She then asked if it is more than \$1,000 per year. Ms. Lavalette stated it is much less than \$1,000 per year.

Councilor Fishbein questions Article IV Section 4.2 of the Agreement.

Cynthia Lavalette stated the language is in compliance with the law.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>MORGENSTEIN: YES</b>
<b>FISHBEIN: NO</b>	<b>SHORTELL: YES</b>
<b>LAFFIN: YES</b>	<b>TESTA: YES</b>
<b>LETOURNEAU: YES</b>	<b>ZANDRI: ABSENT</b>
<b>MARRONE: YES</b>	<b>CERVONI: YES</b>
<b>7-AYE</b>	
<b>MOTION: PASSED</b>	

- 7. Overview and discussion of the Town’s pension plan, including current status and future opportunities and risks – Councilor Shortell

*In Attendance: James Hutt, Director, Human Resources  
Bill Woollacott, Hooker, Holcomb  
Tony Tranghesi, FIA  
Gary Draghi, Chairman, Pension Commission*

Councilor Shortell thanks everyone for being here.

Mr. Hutt stated that we currently have nine pension contracts and recently negotiated an alternative retirement plan.

Councilor Shortell questions why we don’t have 401K and Mr. Woollacott explains that 547 and 403B are similar and that the alternative plan reduces risk to the town.

Councilor Shortell asked how often the Pension Commission meets. Mr. Draghi stated they meet quarterly. He went on to state they adopt policies and make sure programs are operating as intended and he mentioned there are five members; Mr. Bowes, Mr. Hutt and three public members.

Councilor Shortell asks if FIA goes out to bid. Mr. Bowes replied yes and stated we look for an independent firm.

Councilor LeTourneau asks for an explanation of a cash balance plan. Mr. Woollacott states that it looks like a 401K but better. He went on to say that the town makes contributions and that the return is better and can convert payout to an annuity.

Councilor LeTourneau asked if any other towns use this. Mr. Woollacott replied it's been used in the private sector since 1980.

Councilor Morgenstein questioned what the benefit is to the employee. Mr. Woollacott stated it takes away investment risks and is more predictable.

Mr. Hutt stated we cannot move current employee pension money to this plan, however, new hires will be put into this plan.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, asked what we have our money invested in. Mr. Tranghesi explains in detail what the money is invested in.

Mr. Ciardullo asks what the service costs are. Mr. Woollacott gives a detailed explanation.

Mr. Hutt states that we will not see savings overnight and that it will take a generation to see savings from switching to the new plan.

8. Executive Session pursuant to Section 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: LETOURNEAU**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff  
Meeting digitally recorded

Vincent Cervoni/ST 3/14/18  
Vincent Cervoni, Chairman Date

Barbara Thompson 3/14/18  
Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 3-1-18  
AT 2:00 AND RECEIVED BY  
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK