

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Council Chambers  
April 8, 2014**

**RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:33 P.M. The Opening Prayer was offered by Reverend Dee Ann Dodd, St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Wallingford, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John Letourneau, Christine Mansfield, Larry Russo, John Sullivan and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Councilor Robert F. Parisi was absent for personal reasons. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney G.E Farrell, Sr. and James Bowes, Comptroller, were also present at the meeting.

**2. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Electric Production, IBEW, Local 457, Arbitration Award for Wages 09/01/12 through 08/31/15 - Personnel**

*In Attendance: James Hutt, Assistant Personnel Director  
Dennis Ciccarillo, Town Labor Attorney*

Attorney Ciccarillo stated that this is the result of an interest-arbitration between the Town and the Electric Production Unit, which are Linemen and other related classifications. He reported that the interest-arbitration was over three years of wages with September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015 contract years. The result of the interest-arbitration are wages of zero %, 2.0% and 2.0%. There was a slight increase in the shoe allowance. He conveyed that by statute the Council is permitted, allowed, to reject this arbitration result by 2/3 of the members present and voting. He said that would send this on to a paper review by another panel of arbitrators who would re-decide each of the issues. He said that the recommend that there be no such rejection.

Mr. Hutt had nothing to add and said that Mr. Ciccarillo explained the arbitration process thoroughly.

Councilor Fishbein inquired about the interest-arbitration process, how we got there.

Mr. Hutt said that negotiations began when they met with the bargaining unit on several occasions in 2012. He referred to his memorandum which outlines agreements between the parties that were made during these negotiations. He said that they had a mediation session, which resolved more issues. He said that there were the three remaining issues that were arbitrated.

Councilor Fishbein asked if the Council had first rejected this agreement. Mr. Hutt stated that is a different procedure that involves a state mediator and who mediates agreement between the parties on the issues that are outstanding. He said that they were able to find many agreements in the contract with the Unit before they got to the arbitration process.

Councilor Fishbein asked if it was fair to say that the prior agreement did not come to us before the arbitration. It went from mediation directly to arbitration

Mr. Ciccarillo stated that there wasn't a tentative agreement but there were a number of agreements in the May-June 2013 timeframe on mostly smaller items and one notable item, having to do with health insurance with regard to plan design and deductibles.

Councilor Fishbein summarized his understanding of what happened that a number of items were agreed upon, and the parties agreed to disagree on the items that went to arbitration. Mr. Hutt concurred. Councilor Fishbein was interested in the Town's cost of arbitration to which Attorney Ciccarillo responded in ball-park figures approximately \$12,000. It was determined that the Electric Division pays for the arbitration for the 37-member unit. The effect to the current budget for the wage increase for September 1, 2013 is \$50, 229 for the straight-time payroll. For the one successive year September 1, 2014, the amount is \$51,234. The first year was zero.

Councilor Sullivan asked about a cost analysis done on what the Town has saved throughout the period of these contracts. Mr. Hutt replied that he had figures supplied by their consultant. The plan design changes for this Unit are expected to be approximately \$13,000 and the Employee Contribution is expected to be \$12,000 or approximately \$25,000 in total cost reductions to the Town.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, asked if a pay schedule of every two weeks was discussed. Mr. Hutt replied that the bargaining unit proposed it, and the bargaining unit withdrew it.

There were no more inquiries from either the public or from the Council.

**No action was taken.**

**3. Consent Agenda**

**3a.** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$875.13 (#578-#589)  
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector

**3b.** *Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$72 to Veterinary  
Acct #10020100-56742 and to Misc. Acct # 1009052-47040 – Animal Control*

*Removed*

**3c.** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$899 to Dryer Acct # New Line  
Item from Regular Salaries & Wages Acct # 10020100-51000 – Animal Control

**3d.** *Acceptance of Donation for Youth & Social Services Special Fund (Relay for Life)  
and Appropriation in the Amount of \$479 to Donations Acct # 2134002-47152  
and to Expenditures Acct # 21340100-58830 – Youth and Social Services*

**3e.** *Acceptance of Donation for Youth & Social Services Special Fund (Coalition for a Better  
Wallingford) and Appropriation in the Amount of \$100 to Donations Acct # 2134002-47152  
and to Expenditures Acct # 21340100-58830 – Youth and Social Services*

**3f.** *Acceptance of Donation for Youth & Social Services Special Fund (Relay for Life)  
and Appropriation in the Amount of \$161 to Donations Acct # 2134002-47152  
and to Expenditures Acct # 21340100-58830 – Youth and Social Services*

**3g.** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$500 to Maintenance  
of Equipment Acct # 10030050-54325 from Office Expense & Supplies Acct #  
10030050-56100 - Engineering

**3h.** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$1,800 Purch. Svcs-Software  
Supp.(Comptroller's) Acct # 10010401-56718 from Regular Wages (Comptroller's)  
Acct 10010401-51000 - Comptroller

- 3i. Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of March 25, 2014
- 3j. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$800 to Security Camera Access- Tax Acct # 10010403-57000-00251 from Regular Wages Acct # 10010403-51000 - Comptroller

**MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS, 3a. and 3c. through 3j.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECOND BY: FISHBEIN**

**VOTE: ALL PRESENT AYE (8); 1 ABSENT (COUNCILOR PARISI)**

#### **4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

- 3b. Acceptance of Donation and Appropriation in the Amount of \$72 to Veterinary Acct #10020100-56742 and to Misc. Acct # 1009052-47040 – Animal Control

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT DONATION AND APPROVE AN APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$72 TO VETERINARY ACCT # 10020100-56742 AND TO MISC ACCT # 1009052-47040.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN  
SECOND BY: FISHBEIN**

**VOTE: ALL PRESENT AYE (8); 1 ABSENT (COUNCILOR PARISI)**

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

This item was removed by Councilor Testa to discuss procedures regarding the transfer of funds between accounts. Donations, appropriations and transfers were briefly discussed

**VOTE: AYE (7); 2 ABSENT (COUNCILOR PARISI AND COUNCILOR LETOURNEAU WAS OUT OF THE ROOM)**

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

#### **5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

Larry Morgenstein, South Main Street, had done more research on the Amatek violation issued by CT, DEEP. He later gave the Council some of his statistics. (*This document is part of the record of the meeting.*) He urged the Council to push for legislation that notification is given to towns when a violation occurs. He is most concerned with regard to the population within a three-mile radius of Amatek.

Crissy McGrath, Main Street, discussed the removal of town trees with the Mayor regarding what trees, where and type of replacement trees, pruning, size of canopy, public bid result and limited space for a tree. Ms. McGrath asked for a map of the tree replacement project.

Gina Morgenstein, South Main Street, read from a prepared statement with regard to the recent history of the tree replacement program and her concern with the end decisions that were made.

Robert Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, made a statement with respect to carcinogens in our air.  
*Wallingford Town Hall, 45 South Main Street*

Lucille Casagrande, 25 Turnberry Road, spoke of her disappointments in town.

**6. 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: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE: 8-AYE; 1-ABSENT**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes  
Secretary to the Town Council  
Meeting digitally recorded

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Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

Date

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Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date