

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Council Chambers  
April 25, 2017

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 was called to order at 6:35 P.M. The opening Prayer was given by Rabbi Bruce Alpert, Beth Israel Synagogue. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Christopher K. Shortell, John J. Sullivan (arrived at 7:16 p.m.), Vincent F. Testa, Jr. and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald E. Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James Bowes (arrived at 6:56 p.m.) were also present at the meeting.

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Consent Agenda
  - 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$7,864.87 (#717-766)  
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector
  - 3b. Acceptance of Donation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,002 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Veterinary, Acct. #10020100-56742 – Animal Control
  - 3c. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$665 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 - Y&SS
  - 3d. Consider and Approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$35.00 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830– Y&SS
  - 3e. Acceptance of Donation from SCOW and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,000 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
  - 3f. Bid Waiver Request for Type 1 Frazer Ambulances – Fire Dept.
  - 3g. Acceptance of Grant and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$17,013 to EMP Grant – Revenue, Acct. #225002-45114-10204 and to EMP Grant – Operating Expenses, Acct. #22520150-58735 – Fire Dept.
  - 3h. Bid Waiver Request for Lifeguards – YMCA - BOE
  - 3i. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,400 from Unemployment Insurance, Acct. #10012100-52970 to Personal Computer, Acct. #TBD - Personnel

- 3j. Consider and Approve two Farmland Lease Properties Program bid awards for five year terms – Conservation Commission
- 3k. Approve Town Council Minutes of April 11, 2017 and Budget Workshop Minutes of April 11, 2017
- 3l. Consider and Approve the National Day of Prayer Committee’s use of the Parade Grounds for a gathering on May 4, 2017 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. to commemorate National Day of Prayer Day- Mayor – *Removed and Cancelled from Agenda*

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

**MADE BY:               LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY:       FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE:                   ALL AYE**  
**MOTION:               PASSED**

- 4. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda – None**
- 5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Opened Public Question and Answer Period at 6:40 p.m.

Paul Chiardullo, Bayberry Drive, questioned figures from the Audit Report on the revenue side. He commented that we came in with an excess of 6 million dollars in revenue this year and no tax increase should be needed. He then stated that we should reduce the revenue estimates for the upcoming year.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, agrees with the previous speaker and hopes we will look at our expenses going forward.

Closed Public Question & Answer Period at 6:53 p.m.

- 6. Acceptance of Donations and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$10,100 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

*In Attendance: Craig Turner, Director, Youth & Social Services and Mark Brennan*

Craig Turner mentioned that since May of 2009, \$71,443.00 has been raised for the youth sports program in town and 270 scholarships for kids have been given out to date.

Mark Brennan gave a brief description of how and why they raised the money through their comedy shows.

Chairman Cervoni thanks Mr. Brennan for his hard work and his generous donations.

Councilor Zandri expressed his thanks to Mr. Brennan and stated that if it weren't for him, this would not have gotten done.

Councilor Laffin thanked Mr. Brennan for all he does. He then remarked that a lot of people don't realize that the comedians that Mr. Brennan gets to come in and perform also don't make a lot of money.

7. Acceptance of Donation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$100 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

*In Attendance: Craig Turner, Director, Youth & Social Services and Mark Brennan*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR ITEM #'S 6 AND 7.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**  
**VOTE: ALL AYE**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

8. Discussion and possible action regarding the United Public Service Employees Union – Wallingford Educational Secretaries Contract from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018 – Local 424 – Unit 31 - BOE

*In Attendance: Cindy Lavalette, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel, BOE  
Karen Hlavec, Board Member*

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT AS PRESENTED**

**MADE BY: LETOURNEAU**  
**SECONDED BY: SULLIVAN**

Cindy Lavalette explained that this is a 68 member union and a two year contract. She went on to say that a 2% wage increase is for the top step members and that there is no wage increase for non-max step employees. She then stated that 16 positions are being reduced in length of work year and retirees are not being replaced.

Councilor Fishbein stated that 25 of the 68 members are getting 2% and most of the others are getting 5% with the step increase.

Councilor Shortell stated that he doesn't know why we vote on these contracts and he went on to say that no action by the Council is an automatic approval of contract.

Councilor Marrone stated that he is voting no because he does not know why we go through this exercise.

Councilor LeTourneau stated that this is not an exercise and he thinks the taxpayer should know our thoughts on these contracts.

Chairman Cervoni stated only the top step employees will receive the 2% increase.

Councilor Shortell clarified that he was not calling the contract meaningless, just the motion. He then stated this contract will pass regardless of the vote.

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

9. 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*
10. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending foreclosure matter of *Town of Wallingford v. Charles Voss, et al* – Law Dept.
12. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending tax appeal matter of *Metpath New England, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:35 P.M.**

<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>

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (#10)** pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending foreclosure matter of *Town of Wallingford v. Charles Voss, et al* and **(#12)** pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending tax appeal matter of *Metpath New England, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* – Law Dept.

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

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:40 P.M.**

**MADE BY:** LAFFIN  
**SECONDED BY:** FISHBEIN  
**VOTE:** ALL AYE  
**MOTION:** PASSED

**Time of Executive Session: 7:35 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.**

**Attendance at Executive Session (#10 and #12)**

FISHBEIN  
LAFFIN  
LETOURNEAU  
MARRONE  
SHORTELL  
SULLIVAN  
TESTA  
ZANDRI  
CERVONI

MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.  
TOWN ATTORNEY, GERALD E. FARRELL, SR.

11. Motion to consider and authorize taking action in the pending foreclosure matter of *Town of Wallingford v. Charles Voss, et al* as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ACT ON the pending foreclosure matter of *Town of Wallingford v. Charles Voss, et al* as discussed in Executive Session.**

**MADE BY:** LAFFIN  
**SECONDED BY:** FISHBEIN  
**VOTE:** ALL AYE  
**MOTION:** PASSED

13. Motion to consider and authorize a settlement of the pending tax appeal matter of *Metpath New England, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* – Law Dept.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO AUTHORIZE A settlement of the pending tax appeal matter of *Metpath New England, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session.**

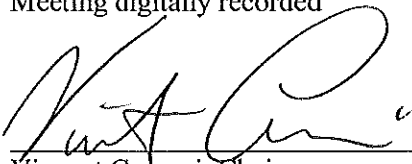
**MADE BY:** LAFFIN  
**SECONDED BY:** FISHBEIN  
**VOTE:** ALL AYE  
**MOTION:** PASSED

**MOTION TO ADJOURN  
MADE BY: FISHBEIN  
SECONDED BY: SULLIVAN  
ALL AYES**

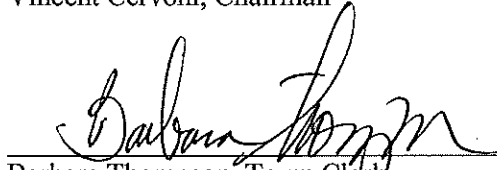
The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff  
Meeting digitally recorded

  
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Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

10 May 2017  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

5-9-17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 4-27-17  
AT 3:00 AND RECEIVED BY  
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK