

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers**

**TUESDAY
JUNE 12, 2018
6:30 P.M**

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 was called to order at 6:33 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, Vincent F. Testa (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), Jr. Councilor Jason Zandri was absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present at the meeting.

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$13,215.03 (#848-886)
Acct. #1001001-41020 – Tax Collector

- 3b. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$2,982 to Open Space Mgmt., Acct #2151001-44060 and to Open Space Mgmt., Acct. #21511100-58830-10009 – Conservation Commission

- 3c. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$30,000 from Town Wide Drainage Projects, Acct. #3010201857000-20181 to Police-Storage/Sign Bldg., Acct. #3010201857000-20178 – Police Dept.

- 3d. Acceptance of State of Connecticut Dispatcher 911 Overtime Costs reimbursement and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$437 from Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.

- 3e. Acceptance of Federal/State Highway Safety grant 2017-2018 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Program and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$17,849 to Revenue Highway Safety, Acct. #1002001-45208 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.

- 3f. Acceptance from State of Connecticut Dispatcher 911 Training reimbursement and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$365 to Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Continuing Education & Training, Acct. #10020050-55700 – Police Dept.

- 3g. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$750 from Contingency-Accr., Acct. #10019000-58821 to Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020100-58735 – Animal Control Officer

- 3h. Acceptance of National Education Foundation Grant and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$15,000 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3i. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$960 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3j. Acceptance of funds for STEM Academy from Hamden Public Schools and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$403 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$46,000 – Fire Dept.
- | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$10,000 | From: Regular Salaries & Wages | Acct. #10020150-51000 |
| \$ 8,000 | From: Overtime | Acct. #10020150-51400 |
| \$18,000 | From: Utilities | Acct. #10020150-53010 |
| \$10,000 | From: Contin Education & Training | Acct. #10020150-55700 |
| \$46,000 | To: Replacement Pay | Acct. #10020150-51500 |
- 3l. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$6,629 – Public Works
- | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$1,629 | From: Contingency- General | Acct. #10019000-58820 |
| \$5,000 | From: Contingency-Accrued | Acct. #10019000-58821 |
| \$6,629 | To: Capital-Rec-AC Unit | TBD |
- 3m. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$21,000 from Maintenance of Mains, Acct. #43100673 to Maintenance of Meters, Acct. #43100676 – Water-Sewer Division
- 3n. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$806,000 – Electric Division
- | | | |
|-----------|--|------------|
| \$806,000 | From: Retained Earnings | Acct. #NA |
| \$ 21,000 | To: Distribution Operations-
Load Dispatch | Acct. #581 |
| \$770,000 | To: Distribution Maintenance-
Overhead Lines | Acct. #593 |
| \$ 15,000 | To: Admin and Gen'l–Employee
Pens. and Benefits | Acct. #926 |
- 3o. Approve Minutes of Town Council Meeting of May 22, 2018.

Addendum to Consent Agenda:

- 3p. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds to Special Revenue in the amount of \$441,990 to State Grant Revenues, Fund #235 and to Program Expenditures, Fund #235 – Board of Education

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

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

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

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

6. 6:30 p.m. Public Hearing regarding Neighborhood Assistance Program.

Opened Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m.

Chairman Cervoni read the title of the Resolution: Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 12-631, the State of Connecticut has provided tax incentives for Connecticut businesses that donate to community programs under certain circumstances.

He then read the list of programs that are part of the Neighborhood Assistance:

Columbus House
First Congregational Church of Wallingford
Gaylord Hospital, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven
Ulbrich Boys & Girls Club

Closed Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m.

7. Consider and Approve Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit Neighborhood Assistance Applications to the Department of Revenue Services and the Summary List of Neighborhood Assistance Programs for 2018.

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO APPROVE Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit Neighborhood Assistance Applications to the Department of Revenue Services and the Summary List of Neighborhood Assistance Programs for 2018.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN

ROLL CALL VOTE:
FISHBEIN: YES
LAFFIN: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES
MARRONE: YES
7-AYE
2-ABSENT
MOTION: PASSED

MORGENSTEIN: YES
SHORTELL: YES
TESTA: ABSENT
ZANDRI: ABSENT
CERVONI: YES

8. Update and Discussion on Conservation Commission activities.

Mary Heffernan talks about the power-point presentation that is presented. She mentioned that the Commission oversees 2,000 acres, 36 fields and 400 acres of leased farm fields.

Councilor Fishbein stated that Yale is using fresh meadows to do a project on spiders and commented that it's interesting to see others using the property.

Mayor Dickinson stated we should thank the Commission for all their work but the leased fields are not open to the public.

Diane Lender, Commissioner, indicated this is a really difficult time for Tyler Mill because of the storm and she stated we will need help to restore it.

Councilor Laffin wanted to send a message for the different groups out there, boy scouts, girl scouts, etc. that they should think of helping.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Morgenstein, South Main Street, commented that the sand plains have been in the news and asked if anyone wanted to speak to that.

Erin O'Hare, Environmental Planner, stated we are a sand deposit and there is very little sand plain left. The Conservation Commission came out with a plea two years ago to save them. It is now in front of Planning & Zoning and it is a private property.

Chairman Cervoni thanked Ms. Heffernon for the presentation.

MOTION TO WAIVE RULE V

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$60,000 from Retirement Sick Leave, Acct. #10012100-51750 to Overtime, Acct. #10030000-51400 – Public Works

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE TRANSFER FOR \$60,000 from Retirement Sick Leave, Acct. #10012100-51750 to Overtime, Acct. #10030000-51400

MADE BY: LAFFIN

SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU

In Attendance: Henry McCully, Director, Public Works

Mr. McCully talked about how we experienced a harsh event on the southeast side of town and we are still collecting brush. He explained they have a lot of work ahead of them, there are huge stumps, the men are working every Saturday and at this point, it's about \$30,000 a week in overtime.

Councilor Morgenstein thanked the Public Works Department and commented they are working very hard. She then asked where the money is coming from for the transfer. Mayor Dickinson responded he thinks it is payment for sick leave when you retire.

Councilor Morgenstein asked if the brush is going to be ground up. Mr. McCully answered yes and stated they will wait until the end.

Councilor Morgenstein and Councilor Marrone both stated that Public Works is doing a great job.

Councilor Marrone asked if the retirement sick leave is generally over budget at this time of year. Mayor Dickinson answered that he didn't know. He explained it varies and we need the money based on if someone retires and we never know that year in and out.

Councilor Fishbein commented to Mr. McCully that he was here two weeks ago and received the overtime money from Health Insurance and commented so we project each year how many people will retire.

Councilor LeTourneau thanked Mr. McCully and his department for doing a great job. He then asked who takes care of the leaning tree on South Whittlesey. Mr. McCully answered the homeowner.

Councilor Testa asked if it is the tree at Whittlesey and the corner of Union Street. Mr. McCully explained if the tree fell in the road, we would have to clean it up but if it's leaning on the house and on private property, we do not touch it. He indicated it's a matter of practice from his department. Mr. McCully stated that he discussed this with the Law Department.

Attorney Farrell explained trees falling are always considered acts of God and we do not go on people's property we are not responsible.

Councilor Fishbein asked if we are getting any money from FEMA. Mayor Dickinson stated FEMA visited today and if it meets disaster threshold then we get some money. He mentioned that Electric assessed their damage at over \$1 million.

Jared Lieu, 59 Curtis Avenue, followed up on the act of God comment. He mentioned the way the town re-planted some of the trees just a few years ago and indicated they made the town aware of the poor planting practice from the contractor.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	MORGENSTEIN: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	SHORTELL: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
LETOURNEAU: YES	ZANDRI: ABSENT
MARRONE: YES	CERVONI: YES
8-AYE	
1-ABSENT	
MOTION: PASSED	

9. Discussion regarding Community Pool Survey

*In Attendance: John Gawlak, Director, Parks and Recreation
Dave Gelo, Chairman, Parks & Recreation*

Councilor Shortell stated we received the survey and we were asked for our feedback. He then asked can you just give us an update on why. Mr. Gawlak stated they just went out for a design plan and they hope to have that within a few months to know where we are going with the pool going forward.

There was talk between Councilor Shortell and Mr. Gawlak regarding the survey. Councilor Shortell hopes people fill it out and return it.

Councilor Testa stated to Mr. Gawlak that he appreciates the fact that he has spent a lot of time on this and remarked then we question what you're doing. He stated he has an issue with this not being an online survey.

Councilor Fishbein asked why we aren't doing this online. Mayor Dickinson stated we need to know these are Wallingford residents with bonafide names and addresses.

Councilor Fishbein stated he sees this is an administration decision and not Parks & Recreation. Mayor Dickinson stated he consulted with the Parks & Recreation Department.

Councilor Fishbein noted he would do both written and on-line surveys.

Councilor Laffin stated this is an opportunity for everyone to participate so he asked that everyone in town participate. He worries about the cost and time of the staff tabulating this survey.

Councilor Morgenstein stated to Mr. Gawlak that he has really made some good options for this pool and we need to do this online. She stated we could reference the account number for accountability.

Councilor Shortell stated at the end of the day we have to make a decision we have to give the survey its due but he indicated he will advocate for the pool and he believes in it.

Mr. Lieu's Children, Brandon, Emmie & Rosie Lieu, stated they love the community pool. Mr. Lieu thinks it should be a mail/on-line survey.

Mr. McNamara asked if the return envelope will be prepaid postage. Mr. Gawlak answered no. Mr. McNamara thinks it should be.

Patricia Corbett, 310 North Main Street, stated she loves the pool and would like the pool time to be extended.

Mr. Ganim, High Street, loves the pool and would like it to be a destination. He thanked Mr. Gawlak for his time.

Janes Hine, 342 South Elm Street, thanked John and Dave for their efforts. He likes the idea of making this a destination pool and park.

Gilbert Craig, 310 North Main Street, asked if each survey will go to one dwelling. He would like to see the pool have more competitive swimming.

Larry Morgenstein commented that what you really want is a response so it can't hurt to do the survey in both forms.

Chairman Cervoni thanks John Gawlak and Dave Gelo for coming.

10. Select a date for a Council workshop to discuss the Council's goals for the 2019-2020 Budget.

Councilor Marrone commented that he has done three budgets and they really never talk about the budget. His thought was to talk about their goals on the budget in the future. He wants to hear from other Councilors what their goals are. A special meeting will be held on September 25th.

11. 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: SHORTELL
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
MOTION: PASSED**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

26 June 2018

Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

6-26-18

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 6-15-18
AT 10:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK