

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
ROBERT F. PARISI COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY

April 25, 2017
6:30 P.M.

BUDGET WORKSHOP
FY 2017 – 2018

MINUTES

The Special Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 was called to order at 7:53 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, Christopher K. Shortell, John J. Sullivan, Vincent F. Testa, and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Comptroller, James Bowes were also present at the meeting.

1. Moment of Silence
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call
3. **BUDGET WORKSHOP**

LIBRARY

In Attendance: Jane Fisher, Library Director
Robert Carmody, Treasurer
Julie Robertson, President

Mr. Carmody gave a brief overview of the budget, there is an overall increase of 2.08 percent an increase of \$18, 501 and salary increase of 1.07 percent. There historical increase has been 1.89 percent in the past so this year is slightly higher.

Councilor Fishbein asked about their pension expenditures being down. Mr. Carmody said they have had a lot of higher salaried employees retire and new employees are at much lower salaries right now. Councilor Fishbein asked about the two Capital expenditures and if they were going to be doing them. Ms. Fisher said that the Mayor did not fund them so they need to see how they will get the money to get them done. Mr. Carmody said that we typically do not include capital items in our budget request but we brought it up for discussion purposes with the Mayor in our budget meeting.

Councilor Sullivan asked about the postage and why the amount has dropped. Ms. Fisher said that they email their patrons for reminders and late notices and now they just started text messaging.

Councilor Zandri wanted to know if the Library is open on Sundays. Ms. Fisher said it is only open on Sundays January through the end of April.

Councilor LeTourneau inquired about how much it would cost to be open every Sunday. Ms. Robertson said it's about \$1,000 dollars for a Sunday.

PERSONNEL, PENSIONS

*In Attendance: James Hutt, Personnel Director
Kurt Treiber, Risk Manager*

Councilor Fishbein asked about the consulting services line item we approved last year and again this year. He noted it is in the budget, but the history does not look like it gets used. Mr. Hutt says we use that line item for various items at different times of the year, and although we do not always have a need to use it, we need to have the flexibility for when we need it. Councilor Fishbein inquired about the grievance line item which looks like it is also not being used. Mr. Hutt said they use that for arbitration filing fees or after a termination.

Councilor Testa questioned if all the general government positions are 35 hours and asked if that is the standard. Mr. Hutt answered yes.

RISK MANAGER

No Questions

PENSION FUND

*In Attendance: James Hutt, Personnel Director
James Bowes, Comptroller*

Councilor Testa stated that one of our residents, Mr. Gross, has raised some questions that have merit, the type of investments and funds we are invested in. He asked what was the rate of return? Mr. Bowes replied from December 31, 2016 we had 8 percent revenue per calendar year, 2016 calendar year was 8.3 percent. We are using some changes in our style of investment and our fee structure is basically low.

Councilor LeTourneau asked what we are paying the consultant. Mr. Bowes stated that 1.88 million is our pension fund balance roughly. Councilor LeTourneau said he calculated that we are paying about \$744,000 for the consultant. Mr. Bowes said it doesn't show anywhere.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

No Questions

INSURANCE PROPERTY/CASUALTY

No Questions

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE

In Attendance:

*In Attendance: James Hutt, Personnel Director
James Bowes, Comptroller*

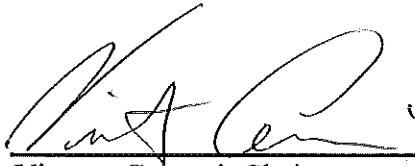
Councilor Shortell wants to know how frequently we do a big increase in changing from participating to HSS. Mr. Hutt said that all of the Fire Department has moved over and is participating in HSS. Councilor Shortell thought that Mr. Hutt's response to the public about going out to bid for insurance was a very basic answer, and he hoped there was more complexity to it than that. Mr. Hutt said that yes it is a very complex bid process and must be kept confidential. He went on to explain that we go out to bid every 5 years and that every portion of the insurance is bid, consultants, plans, etc.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MADE BY: LETOURNEAU
SECONDED BY: MARRONE
ALL AYES

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

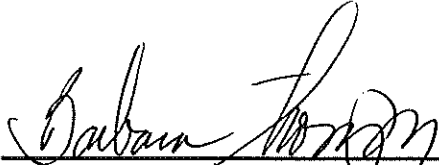
Submitted by: Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

10 MAY 2017

Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

5-9-17

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 5-1-17
AT 4:45 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act- Individuals in need of auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Wallingford are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Compliance Coordinator at 203-294-2070 five days prior to meeting date.