

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers
45 South Main Street

FEBRUARY 28, 2012

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Councilors Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Craig C. Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Jason Zandri. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Corporation Counsel and Comptroller James Bowes were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

The Opening Prayer was offered by the Reverend Dean Warburton of the First Congregational Church of Wallingford.

2. Correspondence

No correspondence.

Chairman Parisi introduced Boy Scout Maxwell Lezon who was attending the Town Council meeting to fulfill a government requirement for his Merit badge. Chairman Parisi also stated that the family of Dr. Harry Haakonsen is also in attendance and speak later on in the meeting.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds totaling \$4,018.39 (#507-523)
Acct. #001-1000-010-1170 – Tax Office
 - 3b. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$10,000 to Maintenance-Miscellaneous Distribution Expense Acct # 598 from Operations-Overhead Line Expense Acct# 583 – Electric Division
 - 3c. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$8,000 to Other Expense – Community Welfare Acct. #426 from Other Interest Expense -Customer Deposits Acct #431 – Electric Division
 - 3d. Acceptance and Appropriation of \$4,123 Federal/State Highway Safety Grant to Revenue – Highway Safety Acct # 1002001-45208 and to Expenditure – Police Overtime Acct #10020050-51400 – Police Chief
 - 3e. Consider and Approve Revised Job Description for the position of Chief Electrician for Electric Division – Personnel
 - 3f. Consider and Approve Revised Job Description for the position of Maintenance Electrician for Electric Division – Personnel
 - 3g. Consider and Approve Job Description for the new position of Computer Technician I – Board of Education
 - 3h. Consider and Approve Naming the Wallace Dam Fishway in honor of the late Dr. Harry O. Haakonsen – Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- Removed*
- 3i. Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign the First Supplemental to the Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Wallingford for the Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of Resurfacing Treatment on North Plains

Industrial Road Utilizing Federal Funds under the Urban Component of the Surface Transportation System – Town Engineer

- 3j. Consider and Approve the Re-Appointment of Ellen Deutsch to Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission as a Regular Member for a Five Year Term Expiring March 1, 2017 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3k. Consider and Approve the Re-Appointment of Barbara Sibley to the Historic Properties Commission as a Regular Member for a Five Year Term Expiring March 27, 2017 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3l. Consider and Approve the Appointment of Members to the Flood and Erosion Control Board according to Chapter 8, Article VI, Section 8-15 of the Code of the Town of Wallingford as follows:
 - Councilor Robert F. Parisi, Chairman
 - Councilor Vincent Cervoni, Vice-Chairman
 - Councilor Craig Fishbein
 - Councilor Tom Laffin
 - Councilor Rosemary Rascati
 - Councilor John Sullivan
 - Councilor Jason Zandri
 - Councilor Nick Economopoulos, Alternate
 - Councilor John LeTourneau, Alternate
- 3m. Consider and Approve corrected Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of January 24, 2012
- 3n. Consider and Approve Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting of February 14, 2012

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3g. & 3i.-3n.

MADE BY: CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

VOTE: AYE-8; 1 abstention from Councilor Fishbein as one of his clients is named in Item 3a.

MOTION PASSED.

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

- 3h. Consider and Approve Naming the Wallace Dam Fishway in honor of the late Dr. Harry O. Haakonsen – Chairman Robert F. Parisi

Councilor Cervoni stated that he had removed the item from the Consent Agenda when he learned that members of the family of Dr. Haakonsen would be in attendance tonight. Chairman Parisi asked if Dr. Gebhardt was in attendance. Mayor Dickinson said that he was assuming that they didn't plan on attending because this item was scheduled on the Consent Agenda. He continued saying that the Conservation Commission has heartily endorsed naming the fishway after Harry Haakonsen and we are blessed by having family members here tonight. Dr. Haakonsen's reputation and efforts with regard to the environment are known in the community. He was very active, a very respected member of the community, and it is recognizing that legacy and the kind of person he was that brings us to the point of naming this new fishway which provides a whole new world for our finned friends to be able to head upstream and live like they did many, many years ago.

Jeffrey Borne, Chairman, Conservation Commission, said that the Conservation Commission heartily supports naming the fishway in honor of Harry Haakonsen. Harry is a favorite son of Wallingford; he was a champion of open space and the town's natural resources; he appreciated the quality of life aspects to which those resources contributed, and for those

reasons the Commission urges the Council to approve to name the fishway in honor of Harry Haakonsen. Mayor Dickinson added that the naming of it in his behalf will have his name be remembered and associated with such wonderful thoughts and actions on behalf of the environment.

Erik Haakonsen thanked everyone for this consideration on behalf of his sisters, his mother and himself, saying that they all are very touched by this thought. He said that he grew up at the fishway with Steve Gebhardt on Long Island Sound; he said that the Haakonsen family went to Norway for a year to learn more about Atlantic salmon and fishways. He remarked that family feels that this is such a fitting tribute.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE NAMING THE WALLACE DAM FISHWAY
IN HONOR OF THE LATE DR. HARRY O. HAAKONSEN.**

MADE BY CERVONI:

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

Mayor Dickinson stated that he understands that there will be an informational station at the fishway explaining everything, and that it is part of the project.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION PASSED.

Barbara Sibley was sworn in to the Historic Properties Commission by Assistant Town Clerk Mary Beth Trautman.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Geno Zandri asked if the Police Officers were reporting streetlights that are out to the Electric Division.

Bob Gross asked about the agenda items 13. & 14.

6. **Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$35,000 to Purchase Professional Services-Tree Contract Acct # 10030000-56756 from Materials & Supplies Acct # 10030000-56140**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Transfer in the Amount of \$35,000 to
Purchase Professional Services-Tree Contract Acct # 10030000-56756 from Materials &
Supplies Acct # 10030000-56140**

MADE BY CERVONI

SECONDED BY: RASCATI

In attendance: Henry McCully, Director, Public Works

There was long discussion with regard to tree cutting; identifying street trees as opposed to privately owned trees; and locations in town parks of certain trees being cut. They talked about stump grinding; determining which trees need to be cut/trimmed; professional tree companies and working around electrical wires.

Mr. McCully stated he is the tree warden; the transfer is within the department and will last in this budget category until the end of June. He added that the two-storm clean-up is still going on. He reported that FEMA funds for the town are being requested to offset what is being spent in this clean-up.

VOTE: Eight (8) Councilors voted Aye; Councilor Economopoulos voted Nay.

MOTION PASSED.

7. Conduct a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. to Amend Chapter 43, Purchasing, §43-2.B, §43-11.A, §43.12.A and §43-12B

Councilor Cervoni opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 P.M. to introduce an Amendment of an Ordinance to raise the bid minimum threshold from \$4,000 to \$7,500 and to add language to §43-12B to encourage the use of local vendors in Wallingford. Copies of the proposed Ordinance are on file and open to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and here at the meeting.

MOTION TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE TITLE OF THE ORDINANCE IN FULL AND SECTION 1 OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE BE READ AND THAT A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE BE ATTACHED TO THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

**MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
VOTE: ALL AYE (9)
MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Gross asked how many bids occur between \$4,000 and \$7,500
No further Public comment. Public Hearing closed at 7:28 P.M.

The Council discussed with the Purchasing Agent and Mr. Bowes bid notification and procedure. It was determined that local vendors are called to see if certain services can be provided to a particular department. Notice of bids goes to all parties, including local vendors, at the same time.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO Chapter 43, Purchasing, §43-2.B, §43-11.A, §43.12.A and §43-12B. to raise the bid minimum threshold from \$4,000 to \$7,500.

**MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI**

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION AND TO ALSO INCLUDE THAT WHENEVER POSSIBLE EFFORTS SHALL BE MADE TO OBTAIN SUCH QUOTES FROM VENDORS LOCATED IN WALLINGFORD BE ADDED TO §43-12B.

**MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI**

ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT:

**CERVONI-YES; ECONOMOPOULOS-YES; FISHBEIN-YES; LAFFIN-YES;
LETOURNEAU-YES; RASCATI-YES; SULLIVAN-YES; ZANDRI-YES;
PARISI-YES
9-AYE
MOTION PASSED**

ROLL CALL FOR THE AMENDED ORDINANCE

**CERVONI-YES; ECONOMOPOULOS-YES; FISHBEIN-YES; LAFFIN-YES;
LETOURNEAU-YES; RASCATI-YES; SULLIVAN-YES; ZANDRI-YES;
PARISI-YES
9-AYE
MOTION PASSED**

8. Conduct a Continuation of a Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. to Repeal or Amend Ordinance No. 345 “Article V, Insurance Commission”

The Public Hearing continuation opened at approximately 7:35 P.M.

Statements and responses were offered by the Town Council, the Mayor, The Segal Company, the Corporation Counsel and the Public. It was a long discussion with people offering support for an Insurance Commission and those giving many reasons for the lack of need of such a commission given the expertise of the administration and the town’s consultants. The hearing closed at approximately 8:34 P.M.

MOTION WAS MADE TO REPEAL Ordinance No. 345 “Article V, Insurance Commission.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

**CERVONI-YES; ECONOMOPOULOS-NO; FISHBEIN-YES; LAFFIN-YES;
LETOURNEAU-YES; RASCATI-YES; SULLIVAN-YES; ZANDRI-NO;
PARISI-YES
7-AYE; 2-NAY
MOTION PASSED.**

9. *Discussion and possible action regarding request for sale of town property for an extension of Brockett Road – Corporation Counsel*

Withdrawn

10. Discussion and possible action on re-formatting our local tax bill(s) to reflect, by major department, anticipated application of those tax dollars – Councilor Craig Fishbein

Discussion referred to Mr. Bowes’ letter on the subject and included possible ways re-formatting could look and its cost. The conversation turned to the posting of the budget on the town’s website.

MOTION TO TABLE THE ITEM UNTIL MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED.

MADE BY: LETOURNEAU
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN
INDIVIDUALLY CALLED OUT VOTE: 9-AYE
MOTION PASSED.

11. *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

12. Executive Session pursuant to §1-225(f) and §1-200(6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss the following cases:

Town of Wallingford v. Magliulo; and
Cytec Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford - Corporation Counsel

**MOTION WAS MADE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT §1-225(f) and §1-200(6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss the following cases:
Town of Wallingford v. Magliulo; and
Cytec Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford as asked for by the Corporation Counsel.**

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: UNANIMOUS - 9
MOTION PASSED

Councilor Sullivan left the Executive Session at approximately 9:13 P.M.

MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: 8-Aye; Councilor Sullivan was absent.
MOTION PASSED

EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTENDANCE: Cervoni, Economopoulos, Fishbein, Laffin, Letourneau, Rascati, Sullivan, Zandri, Chairman Parisi, Mayor Dickinson and Corporation Counsel Janis M. Small. Councilor Sullivan was absent.

TIME OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:12 P.M. – 9:25 P.M.

13. Possible Action on Town of Wallingford v. Magliulo – Corporation Counsel

MOTION WAS MADE THAT THE TOWN ATTORNEY BE ALLOWED TO NEGOTIATE AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.
MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: 8- AYE; Councilor Sullivan was absent.
MOTION PASSED

14. Possible Action on Cytec Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford – Corporation Counsel

MOTION WAS MADE THAT THE TOWN ATTORNEY BE AUTHORIZED TO SETTLE THE MATTER OF Cytec Industries, Inc. v. Town of Wallingford AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.
MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: 8- AYE; Councilor Sullivan was absent.
MOTION PASSED

MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

MADE BY: CERVONI
SECONDED BY: RASCATI
VOTE: 8- AYE; Councilor Sullivan was absent.
MOTION PASSED

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Weekes
Town Council Secretary
Meeting digitally recorded

Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

Date

Mary Beth Trautman, Assistant Town Clerk