

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

April 26, 2011

**RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

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ATTENDANCE: Councilors Vincent Cervoni, Nick Economopoulos, Jerry Farrell, Jr., Craig C. Fishbein, John LeTourneau, Chairman Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, John J. Sullivan and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes were also in attendance.

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

1. The Opening Prayer was offered by the Reverend Margaret Jay of the Wallingford First Congregational Church.

2. Correspondence  
*None*

Chairman Parisi announced items 3b, 3c, 3d & 3e. be removed from the Consent Agenda.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3a. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#659 - #668) totaling \$1,444.87  
Acct. # 001-1000-010-1170 - Tax Collector

- 3b. Approve Reappointment of Candace Brashears as a member of the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi- *Removed*

- 3c. Approve Reappointment of Tara Knapp as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi- *Removed*

- 3d. Approve the Appointment of William Austin as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi- *Removed*

- 3e. Approve the Appointment of Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi- *Removed*

- 3f. Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$16,273 to Maintenance of Vehicles Acct # 2030-550-5000 from Volunteer Tax Abatement \$4,598  
Acct # 2030-101-1800 from Heating System Controls-Headquarters \$ 9,500  
Acct #2030-999-9028 from Radio Pagers for Volunteer Firefighters \$2,175  
Acct # 2030-999-9032 - Fire Chief

- 3g.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$12,000 to Professional Services-Lawyers Acct # 001-1320-901-9002 from Professional Services-Specialists Acct # 001-1320-901-9003 – Town Attorney
- 3h.** Schedule a Public Hearing for May 10, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.  
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,268,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS MUNICIPAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2011-2012 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,268,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE
- 3i.** Confirmation of Reappointment of the following Board of Ethics members  
Three-year term effective immediately and expiring 3/1/2014  
Sean Doherty  
Mary Paquette  
Reverend Dean Warburton  
Jon Paul Venoit (currently serving as alternate; is being appointed as full member)  
Alternate:  
Iris Papale (effective immediately and expiring 3/1/2013)

Requested by Mayor

- 3j.** Consider and approve the following Resolutions

**Resolved,** that the Wallingford Town Council authorizes the Wallingford Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept grants for the Asbestos Removal Projects at the Cook Hill Elementary School, Dag Hammerskjold Middle School, Highland Elementary School, Lyman Hall High School, James H. Moran Middle School, Pond Hill Elementary School, Rock Hill Elementary School, Mark T. Sheehan High School and E. C. Stevens Elementary School.

**Resolved,** that the Wallingford Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Asbestos Removal Projects at the Cook Hill Elementary School, Dag Hammerskjold Middle School, Highland Elementary School, Lyman Hall High School, James H. Moran Middle School, Pond Hill Elementary School, Rock Hill Elementary School, Mark T. Sheehan High School and E. C. Stevens Elementary School

**Resolved,** that the Wallingford Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Asbestos Removal Projects at the Cook Hill Elementary School, Dag Hammerskjold Middle School, Highland Elementary School, Lyman Hall High School, James H. Moran Middle School, Pond Hill Elementary School, Rock Hill Elementary School, Mark T. Sheehan High School and E. C. Stevens Elementary School

- 3k.** Approval of appointment of the following Building Committee members for the *Asbestos Abatement Project*- Tom Hennessey, Kathy Castelli, Salvatore Menzo, Mark Deptula – Superintendent of Schools
- 3l.** Approve minutes of Special Town Council meeting of April 11, 2011

- 3m.** Approve minutes of Regular Town Council meeting of April 12, 2011
- 3n.** Approve minutes of Special Town Council meeting of April 13, 2011
- 3o.** Approve minutes of Special Town Council meeting of April 14, 2011
  
- 3p.** Appointment of John J. Andrews as Deputy Fire Marshal effective immediately  
– Chairman Robert F. Parisi
- 3q.** Appointment of Brian R. Schock as Deputy Fire Marshal effective immediately  
– Chairman Robert F. Parisi

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a. and 3f. to**

**3g.**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9

**MOTION PASSED**

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

- 3b.** *Approve Reappointment of Candace Brashears as a member of the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi*
- 3c.** *Approve Reappointment of Tara Knapp as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi*
- 3d.** *Approve the Appointment of William Austin as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi*
- 3e.** *Approve the Appointment of Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva as an alternate to the Historic Properties Commission effective immediately for Term to Expire March 27, 2016 – Chairman Robert F. Parisi*

At the request of Councilor Testa, Candace Brashears, accompanied by candidates Kimberly Lode-Dellaselva and William Austin, came to the panel table. Mr. Testa asked Ms. Brashears how the Historic Properties Commission operates. She reviewed the role of the Commission with regard to the state statute and discussed the purpose and the responsibilities of the Commission, noting that there are only three named properties in Wallingford for which the Commission is accountable. The Commission would review proposed changes to an exterior of one of the properties to ensure that historic qualities and values are kept in place.

Mr. Testa asked Councilor Farrell about the Historic Preservation Trust the private, non-profit property owner of the three properties. He said that the Trust goes to the Historic Properties Commission for approval to proposed property projects that affect the exterior of the property, such as the active and current program for the iron fence restoration to the Johnson Mansion property. He added that the Connecticut Commission of Culture and Tourism suggested the formation of the Historic Properties Commission to enhance its ability in being awarded grant funds.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3b, 3c, 3d, and 3e.**

**MADE BY:** TESTA

**SECONDED BY:** SULLIVAN

**VOTE:** EIGHT (8) AYE; COUNCILOR FARRELL ABSTAINED

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER**

Robert Gross; Williams Road resident; and Wes Lubeo spoke.

- 6.** Discussion and possible action on appointing Thomas Dacey as Interim Tenant Commissioner to the Wallingford Housing Authority until (at least) a regular appointment is made.  
– Councilor Craig C. Fishbein

After some discussion, the item was withdrawn due to lack of interest from the Town Council to the ‘interim’ process.

- 7.** Discussion and possible action of nomination of former Tenant Commissioner Patricia Hogan as Interim Tenant Commissioner to the Wallingford Housing Authority until such time an election of such as set up by the Wallingford Housing Authority takes place  
– Councilor Nicholas Economopoulos

After some discussion, the item was withdrawn due to lack of interest from the Town Council to the ‘interim’ process.

- 8.** Discussion and Possible Action to appoint Town Councilor Nicholas Economopoulos to serve as a liaison between Wallingford Town Council and the Wallingford Housing Authority– Councilor Nicholas Economopoulos

**MOTION WAS MADE TO appoint Town Councilor Nicholas Economopoulos to serve as a liaison between Wallingford Town Council and the Wallingford Housing Authority**

**MADE BY:** ECONOMOPOULOS

**SECONDED BY:** TESTA

It was reported by the Chairman that there are not two Councilors right now to serve as liaison to the Wallingford Housing Authority. He invited Councilor Economopoulos to attend their meetings and to give reports to the Town Council if he wished. It was pointed out that the Town Council can only by state statute appoint and remove Commissioners. Councilors acknowledged and expressed good feelings towards Councilor Economopoulos but stated that they cannot support the motion to appoint him as liaison. Members of the public who spoke with regard to the motion were: Wendy Liseo, Robert Gross, Don Savage, Wes Lubeo, and Pat Hogan. Councilor Testa stated that Councilor Economopoulos has made serious inquiry with regard to

the operation of the Wallingford Housing Authority and has tried to make it better. He added that honor is due Nick and that he should be appointed as the Council's representative to the Wallingford Housing Authority. He asked the Council to give it consideration and to find a second person.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO CALL THE QUESTION**

**MADE BY:** FISHBEIN  
**SECONDED BY:** LeTOURNEAU  
**VOTE:** ALL AYE/9  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE FOR appointing Town Councilor Nicholas Economopoulos to serve as a liaison between Wallingford Town Council and the Wallingford Housing Authority**

**Cervoni**-No    **Economopoulos** -Yes    **Farrell** - No    **Fishbein** - No    **LeTourneau** - No  
**Rascati** - No    **Sullivan** -Yes    **Testa** - Yes    **Chairman Parisi** - No

6 -Nay; 3 -Aye

**MOTION FAILED.**

9. Bid waiver for interruptible gas for 7/1/11 – 6/30/12 at Moses Y. Beach Elementary School, E. C. Stevens Elementary School, Yalesville Elementary School, Dag Hammerskjold Middle School, Lyman Hall High School and the Vocational-Agricultural Building at Lyman Hall High School (Dual fuel capability facilities) – Board of Education

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE Bid waiver for interruptible gas for 7/1/11 – 6/30/12 at Moses Y. Beach Elementary School, E. C. Stevens Elementary School, Yalesville Elementary School, Dag Hammerskjold Middle School, Lyman Hall High School and the Vocational-Agricultural Building at Lyman Hall High School (Dual fuel capability facilities)**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI

*In attendance: Superintendent of Schools Salvatore Menzo; Business Manager Linda Winters; Joe Heller, Yankee Gas*

Superintendent Menzo stated the savings realized by the use of gas at these schools will offset to a certain degree the rising cost of #2 fuel oil. Going out to bid has resulted in only 3 un-usable bids in five years. Mr. Heller of Yankee Gas stated that Yankee Gas will allow the Board of Education access to natural gas and at lower prices. He reported that change over notice is about four hours during any 24-hour time period and also informed the Council that Yankee Gas is the only transporter of natural gas in Connecticut. Ms. Winters spoke about the commodity and transportation costs.

**VOTE:**

**Cervoni - Yes   Economopoulos - Yes   Farrell - Yes   Fishbein - No   LeTourneau - Yes  
Rascati - Yes   Sullivan - Yes   Testa - Yes   Chairman Parisi - Yes**

**8 –Aye; 1 –Nay**

**MOTION PASSED**

- 10.** Consider and Approve a Transfer in the Amount of \$196,367 to Various Accounts (attached) for AFSCME 1183 Pay Raises from Various Accounts (attached) for AFSCME 1183 Pay Raises - Comptroller

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Transfer in the Amount of \$196,367 to Various Accounts (attached) for AFSCME 1183 Pay Raises from Various Accounts (attached) for AFSCME 1183 Pay Raises**

**MADE BY:                      FARRELL**

**SECONDED BY:              RASCATI**

James Bowes, Comptroller, stated that this is Phase II and that there are no job cuts in this transaction.

**VOTE:                              UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9**

**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

**MOTION WAS MADE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §1-200 (6)(B) to discuss pending litigation involving the matter of Town of Wallingford v. Zapp**

**MADE BY:                      FARRELL**

**SECONDED BY:              RASCATI**

**VOTE:                              UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9**

**MOTION PASSED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTENDANCE: Cervoni, Economopoulos, Farrell, Fishbein, LeTourneau, Rascati, Sullivan, Testa, Chairman Parisi, Mayor Dickinson, Town Attorney Janis Small**

**TIME OF ITEM 11 EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:25 P.M. – 8:40 p.m.**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MADE BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

**MADE BY:                      FARRELL**

**SECONDED BY:              RASCATI**

**VOTE:                              UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9**

**MOTION PASSED**

12. Executive Session pursuant to §1-200 (6)(B) to discuss pending litigation involving the matter of Town of Wallingford v. Zapp– Town Attorney

**MOTION WAS MADE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §1-200 (6)(B) to discuss pending litigation involving the matter of Town of Wallingford v. Zapp**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9  
**MOTION PASSED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTENDANCE:** Cervoni, Economopoulos, Farrell, Fishbein, LeTourneau, Rascati, Sullivan, Testa, Chairman Parisi, Mayor Dickinson, Town Attorney Janis Small

**TIME OF ITEM 12 EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:40 P.M. – 8:47 P.M.**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9  
**MOTION PASSED**

13. Motion to Authorize action involving pending litigation as discussed in Executive Session – Town Attorney

**MOTION WAS MADE TO Authorize action involving pending litigation as discussed in Executive Session.**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9

**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN**

**MADE BY:** FARRELL  
**SECONDED BY:** RASCATI  
**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS - ALL AYE/9

**MOTION PASSED**

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 8:50 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Weekes  
Town Council Secretary  
Meeting digitally recorded

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Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

Date

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Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date