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TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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MAYOR'S OFFICE
16 APR 32 AM 9: 35

Thursday
APRIL 21, 2016
6:30 p.m.
ROBERT F. PARISI COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FY 2016 – 2017 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Minutes

The Special meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was called to order at 6:43 P.M. It began with a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph Marrone, John Sullivan, Councilor Jason Zandri arrived at 6:45 PM . Councilor Shortell was attending Funeral services and Vincent F. Testa, Jr. was unavailable. Mayor Dickinson and Comptroller Bowes were also in attendance.

3. BUDGET WORKSHOP

LAW DEPARTMENT WITHDRAWN

EMPLOYEE INS/BENEFITS
INSURANCE

In attendance: James Hutt, Personnel Director and Kurt Treiber, Risk Manager

Councilor Marrone asked about the PPO plan, do we pay per member or per month. Mr. Hutt responded per member. He also inquired about the claim cost, and why we weren't using an HSA; it would be a cost savings. Mr. Hutt said it would take 18 months of claims to see savings. Council Marrone also asked how often we meet with our agent. Mr. Hutt said about 3 – 4 times a year we receive updates on claims. Mr. Hutt said we just went out to bid for a new provider and Anthem won the bid, the contract starts in July.

Councilor Fishbein asked why we were staying with Anthem, and Mr. Hutt responded they were the lowest bidder. Councilor Fishbein wanted to know about improper claims activity and how does that line item for Health Insurance gets affected. Mr. Hutt responded that it won't affect the Insurance line; he also stated that we will receive restitution from the individual, because it was awarded by the Judge and payment to the town will start once he receives his Pension in September. The amount will be \$1,000 dollars a month.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

In attendance: Chief William Wright, Deputy Chief Marc Mikulski, Beth Dighello, Executive Secretary

Chief Wright said that wages are flat, there are some step increases, and their maintenance line has decreased due to fuel costs. And there is an 18% increase in Capital Items due to electronic devices. The Chief also noted that they are now fully staffed since the reduction in 2008, they are not back to those levels, but the Chief wanted to stress that the town has enough officers to keep the town safe and that no one should feel we are at a disadvantage. It was discussed about the school resource officers, and we just do not have the funding at this time, the Chief noted with the current economy he as well as all department heads were asked by the Mayor to be as fiscally conservative as possible. But Chief Wright wanted to note that we have officers sometimes daily in our schools, for one thing or another.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - AMBULANCE/EMS ENT FUND

In attendance: Chief Richard Heidgerd, Deputy Chief Stephen Alsup and Fire Marshall Michael Gudelski

Chief Heidgerd wanted the Council to know that the Fire Marshall's budget is now incorporated into their budget. They have a 1.8% decrease, the Training Tower is complete and the North Farms facility is a little behind schedule but right on budget. Deputy Chief Alsup spoke about the Ambulance fund, and how it is doing it is somewhat successful but it could be better. We are cross training firefighters to be EMT's but we are not 24 hours with EMT's. The rate of reimbursement is not rising and Medicare reimbursement is much lower and 48% of the calls are Medicare. He also spoke about the MRC emergency management station and that it is now housed at the Yalesville volunteer station.

TOWN COUNCIL

In attendance: Chairman Vincent Cervoni

Chairman Cervoni noted that the budget is cut more than in half, with the council office now being run out of the Town Clerk's office.

TOWN CLERK

In attendance: Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk


Barbara spoke about the increase in the overtime line and the election line, all stemming from the upcoming November Presidential election, the Clerk's office will become a polling place on November 8th and will only be open for Election Day Registration which will be a very busy process, also noted was the extra work load that the Clerk's office has taken on now that the Town Clerk is running the Council office.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MADE BY: FISHBEIN
SECONDED BY: MARRONE
ALL AYES
MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

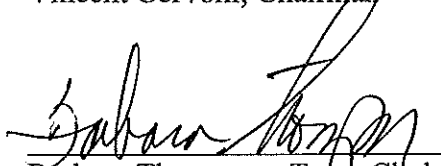
Respectfully submitted by Town Clerk, Barbara Thompson



Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

10 May 2016

Date



Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

5-10-16

Date

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.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 4-29-16
AT 5:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Mark Stogler TOWN CLERK