

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 15, 1994

5:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000.00 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Salt Acct. #001-5040-400-4550 - Dept. of Public Works
3. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$60,000.00 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Overtime Acct. #001-5040-100-1400 - Dept. of Public Works
4. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$15,000.00 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Sand Acct. #001-5040-400-4580 - Dept. of Public Works

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FEBRUARY 15, 1994

5:30 P.M.

A Special Meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, February 15, 1994 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairman Thomas D. Solinsky at 5:40 P.M. Answering present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Kathryn J. Wall were Councilors Duryea, Gouveia, Knight, Rys, Solinsky and Zappala. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. was also present; Town Attorney Janis M. Small and Comptroller Thomas A. Myers were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

ITEM #2 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Salt Acct. #001-5040-400-4550 - Dept. of Public Works

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea, seconded by Mr. Zappala.

Mr. Gouveia asked, how much money will be left in the Contingency account after these transfers?

Mayor Dickinson responded, the balance in the account is presently \$195,710. After these transfers the balance will be \$110,710.

Mrs. Duryea asked, is this just to cover the past snowstorms or will it give us reserves for future storms?

Henry McCully, Director of Public Works responded, this will give us a stockpile of close to 700 tons of salt. That should take us well into March and possibly the end of the season if the weather is not too bad.

Mr. Solinsky asked, will it be a problem to store any remaining salt not used this season?

Mr. McCully answered, no.

Mrs. Duryea asked if the Town can purchase larger quantities of salt?

Mr. McCully stated that the initial order was 1,400 tons. We mixed it with sand giving us 6,000 yards of salt and sand mixed for the season. With each truck taking out seven yards of the mix, it does not take long to go through the supply. It is not due solely to the snowstorms. It is subsequent freezing, rain, supplying the sand barrels located throughout the Town, Electric Division sanding trucks, etc. that also draws down the supply.

Mr. Gouveia asked, at what temperature does the salt no longer become effective?

Mr. McCully responded, below seventeen degrees the salt will merely

sit on the ice.

Mr. Gouveia asked if Mr. McCully considered using calcium?

Mr. McCully responded, a one-hundred pound bag of calcium is \$100. It is a lot more effective but also more expensive.

Mr. Gouveia asked if the salt is stored away from the elements?

Mr. McCully stated that they store small amounts of it, they mix it with the sand. The sand is exposed to the elements but the salt is already mixed with it. We lose very little to dissolution from the rain and so forth.

Mr. Rys was sympathetic to the hours that the Public Works crew have been working and asked if there are any plans to schedule a crew to take down some of the large snow piles located at busy intersections?

Mr. McCully responded that a crew is scheduled for early Wednesday to finish the center of Town and work on some of the blind spots.

VOTE: Killen, Papale and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #3 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$60,000 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Overtime Acct. #001-5040-100-1400 - Dept. of Public Works

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea, seconded by Mr. Knight.

Mr. Solinsky asked how the account stands at this moment?

Mr. McCully answered, the department has used approximately \$35,000 of the \$60,000 being requested this evening. Prior to the meeting that was cancelled on Friday, the department was almost \$4,000 overdrawn on the account from the storm last Tuesday. Once we were hit with the storm on Friday the crews had to be paid double time due to the holiday, time and one-half past the eight hours and overtime for Saturday and Sunday besides.

Mr. Solinsky asked, is everyone called in and, if so, is everyone needed?

Mr. McCully responded, yes, everyone is called in and, yes, everyone is needed. Whenever we experience town-wide freezing we need everyone available. We cannot accomplish the job with half a crew. According to the labor agreement they are guaranteed four hours as soon as they make an appearance. We have close to one-hundred ninety miles of road and there is no way to get the job done with partial crews.

Mr. Solinsky asked, what do they end up being paid for working on a paid holiday?

Mr. McCully answered, triple time.

Mrs. Duryea asked if there are any vacant positions in the department?

Mr. McCully stated that there is one vacancy in the laborer position that is currently being handled by the Personnel Department.

Mrs. Duryea asked if some of the overtime funds being requested this evening can be drawn from the funds set aside in the budget for that vacant position?

Mr. McCully answered, he has already drawn \$20,000 out of it and he was not sure how much was left. He felt that it was a small amount that would not suffice what is required this evening.

VOTE: Killen, Papale and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #4 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$15,000 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190 to Sand Acct. #001-5040-400-4580 - Dept. of Public Works

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Killen, Papale and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Prior to adjourning Mr. Solinsky wanted the Council to be aware that on Monday the Town Clerk, along with the entire first floor of the Town Hall, were without heat. The staff of the Town Clerk's Office, along with other first floor staff, were dismissed from work due to those conditions. He did want everyone to know that Ms. Wall did remain in the office herself to keep it open to the public. He felt it was above and beyond the call of duty and was much appreciated.

Mr. McCully stated that he was out due to illness last week and wanted to take the opportunity to commend Foreman Joseph DaCunto, Superintendent Ed Niland and the entire crew of the Public Works Department for the time and effort put in during this hard winter. They have performed an outstanding job and deserve credit for it.

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Zappala.

VOTE: Killen, Papale and Zandri were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

*Kathryn F. Milano*  
Kathryn F. Milano  
Town Council Secretary

Approved by: *Thomas D. Solinsky*  
Thomas D. Solinsky, Chairman

March 22, 1994  
Date

*Kathryn J. Wall*  
Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

March 22, 1994  
Date