

Town Clerk

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 24, 2008

Public Hearing

TOWN'S BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

The following is a record of the minutes of the Wallingford Town Council at a Special Public Hearing Meeting for the Budget of Fiscal Year 2008-2009 held on Thursday, April 24, 2008 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall. Town Council Chairman Mike Brodinsky Called the Meeting to Order at 6:22 P.M. Responding present to the Roll Call given by Town Council Secretary Sandra Weekes were Councilors Michael Brodinsky, Nick Economopoulos, John LeTourneau, Robert F. Parisi, Rosemary Rascati, Michael Spiteri and Vincent F. Testa. Councilor Gerald E. Farrell, Jr. arrived at 6:25 P.M. and Councilor Vincenzo M. DiNatale arrived at 7:35 P.M. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Janis Small and Comptroller James Bowes were also present.

A Moment of Silence began the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and the Roll Call taken.

Chairman Brodinsky thanked everyone in attendance and explained how the evening would proceed. He asked the public to keep their comments and questions in the context and about the department's budget for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

The Public spoke with the following departments concerning the budget

BOARD OF EDUCATION

*In attendance: Superintendent Dale Wilson
Business Manger Linda Winters
Board of Education, Chairman Mike Votto
Board Member Roxanne McKay
Daryl Novak, Buildings and Grounds*

Lucille Trzcinski, 25 Turnberry Road, discussed with Superintendent Wilson the Board of Education's budget process, his process with the Mayor, how cuts are determined. Mr. Wilson said that he could accept the Mayor's cut to the Board of Education budget.

Wes Lube, Montowese Trail, commented that the town's budget is largely Board of Education's budget. He talked about salary schedules and new salary schedules as it relates to "top level" and in his opinion the need for 13 steps.

Bill Comerford, 5 Broadview Drive, asked about "pre-buy", equipment age and equipment replacement, roofs DEP requirements in the context of fuel tanks, maintenance plans, tree trimming, Rock Hill School curb repairs, "real numbers", snow removal and sub-contractors and repair of their damages, drain spouts, fire hydrants, Sheehan carpet in the chorus room, air quality control, digital copiers and finally the school renovation project,

Patty Jennings, 42 Thorpe Avenue, paraprofessional, asked that the surplus be applied to health insurance for paraprofessionals.

WEA President, asked about staff cuts, salary reductions, reduction of student-teacher ratio in light of additional duties and programs that the teachers have.

Ms. McDonald, 175 North Branford Road, paraprofessional, supported health insurance for paraprofessionals.

Lynn Landry, 5 Trailside, thanked the town for the opportunity to speak to the community about their perception that teachers only teach.

Beth Raccio, 10 Franks Court, addresser her continued participation in the whole budget process beginning with the Board of Education. She also expressed her views on the budget as a parent and as a taxpayer.

TOWN CLERK

In attendance: Barbara Kapi

Bob Gross, 114 Long Hill Drive, asked about the election.

PUBLIC WORKS

In attendance: Henry McCully

Ben Martin, Ward Street, commented on equipment, ball fields, the number of lines in the Public Works budget

Debbie Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, commented on materials and supplies and sand and salt.

Bob Gross, 114 Long Hill Drive, asked about municipal parking lots.

Bill Comerford, 5 Broadview Drive, talked about sand usage.

Wes Lube, Montowese Trail, asked about Public Works services to other departments.

ENGINEERING

In attendance: John Thompson

Bill Comerford, 5 Broadview Drive, commented on sidewalks in regard to an ordinance, funds from fines and where are they in the budget.

Ben Martin, Ward Street, asked about sidewalks and repairs

CAPITAL & NON-RECURRING

No questions

VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

Patricia Kohl remarked on the number of inquiries of the office and population increases or not.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Bob Gross, 114 Long Hill Drive, asked when it occurred that unofficial checkers' pay was discontinued.

PERSONNEL

*In attendance: Terence Sullivan, Personnel Director
James Hutt, Assistant Personnel Director
Kurt Treiber, Risk Manager*

Bill Comerford, 5 Broadview Drive, asked about fully insured v. self-insurance and the premium change with Anthem from last year to this year.

Wes Lube, Montowese Trail, asked about 6 week vacations.

Lucille Trzcinski, 25 Turnberry Road, asked about Line 9034 for \$75,000 and that stop-loss should be shopped.

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE

Wes Lube, Montowese Trail, asked when the Segal study was ordered and the 20% reserves for self insurance.

Bob Hogan, Grieb Road, read from the Charter as it regards Purchasing and bids

INSURANCE -- PROPERTY & CASUALTY

No questions

POLICE - Chief Douglas Dortenzio

Ben Martin, Ward Street, remarked about street signs, live-scan fingerprinting on a three-year plan and about posting an officer at Center and Main

GOVERNMENT TELEVISION

No questions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -- Don Roe, Program Planner

Ben Martin, Ward Street, asked about promotional expenses on Line 6020

LAW

No questions

FINANCE -- James Bowes, Comptroller

Debbie Gross, 114 Long Hill Road, inquired about general purposes, disaster recovery plan for the computer system.

MAYOR -- William W. Dickinson, Jr., Mayor

Bill Comerford, 5 Broadview Drive, inquired about membership in the Conference of Connecticut Municipalities

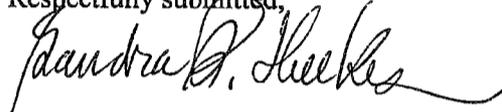
Bob Hogan, Grieb Road, asked for tax relief for seniors and vets.

Ben Martin, Ward Street, asked about the cost of gas line in the Mayor's budget.

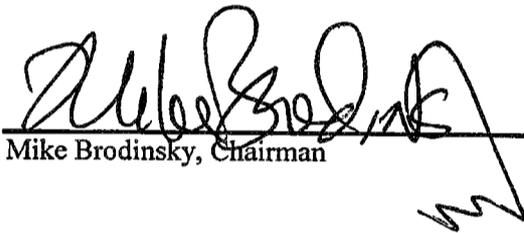
At 9:07 P.M., Mr. Farrell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Parisi seconded the motion. All nine (9) Councilors present voted Aye.

The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned with no further business to conduct.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Weekes
Town Council Secretary
Meeting recorded by Sandra Weekes



Mike Brodinsky, Chairman

8/25/08

Date



Barbara Kapi, Town Clerk

8/25/08

Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD May 27 2008
AT 11 H 18M PM AND RECORDED BY
Barbara a Kapi TOWN CLERK