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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**AUGUST 12, 2003**

**6:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, August 12, 2003 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairman Robert F. Parisi at 6:35 P.M. Answering present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Rosemary A. Rascati were Councilors Brodinsky, Doherty, Farrell, Knight, Parisi, Rys, Toman & Vumbaco. Councilor Papale was convalescing at home from an injury. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Asst. Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller Joseph Swetcky, Jr.

A blessing was bestowed upon the Council by Rev. Dean Warburton, First Congregational Church of Wallingford.

A Moment of Silence was observed for Board of Education Member, Carmen Arisco, Jr., the victim of an automobile accident on Thursday, August 7, 2003 resulting in his untimely death.

**ITEM #2** Presentation of Jackets to Lyman Hall Girls Softball CT. Class L State Champions – Mayor

Assistant Coach Frank Coppola and Athletic Director Elaine Piazza were called to stage to assist the Mayor and Vice Chairman Knight with distributing jackets to those members present.

It was noted by the Mayor that Chief Coach Peter Zoppi, Coaches Peter Capone and Jen Piazza were unable to attend the meeting this evening due to prior commitments.

Asst. Coach Coppola thanked the Town Council for their warm generosity and support of the team and spoke very highly of the character and integrity of the Lyman Hall Girls Softball players.

Director Elaine Piazza also thanked the Town Council, Mayor, community, Board of Education and Administration at the school for their support and generosity, but especially the parents who have made sacrifices for the children. Ms. Piazza credited the team's success to the student's fine character and work ethic. She stated that they are exemplary students.

(Applause)

**ITEM #3** No items of correspondence were presented for reading into the record.

**ITEM #4** Consent Agenda

**ITEM #4a** Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#16 - 68) Totaling \$18,704.75 - Asst. to the Tax Collector

**ITEM #4b** Approve and Accept the Minutes of the July 15, 2003 Town Council Meeting

**ITEM #4c** SET A PUBLIC HEARING for September 9, 2003 at 8:00 P.M. to Repeal Article II, "Dog Leashing" of Chapter 71, "Animals" of the Code of the Town of Wallingford and Substitute in its place a revised Article II Entitled, "Dog Leashing"

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**ITEM #4d** SET A PUBLIC HEARING for September 9, 2003 at 7:45 P.M. to Repeal Chapter 221 of the Code of the Town of Wallingford Entitled, "Vendors, Hawkers, and Peddlers" and Substitute in its place a revised Chapter 221 Entitled, "Vendors, Hawkers and Peddlers"

**ITEM #4e** Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000 to State Grant Acct. #217-1040-050-5000 and to Grant Expenditures Acct. #217-3010-605-6000 in the PSA Bioterrorism Grant Budget of the Health Department

**ITEM #4f** Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$3,606.27 to Project Graduation – Contributions Acct. #232-3070-608-9061 and to Appropriation from 2002-03 Fund Balance Acct. #232-1043-900-1001 – Youth & Social Services

**ITEM #4g** Approve and Accept a Block Grant Donation of \$2,500 from Wallingford Stop and Shop and a Corresponding Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$2,500 to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct. #1075-070-7040 and to Purchased Services Entertainment Acct. #4001-901-9017 – Parks & Recreation

**ITEM #4h** Approve and Accept a Donation of Funds in the Amount of \$300 from Allegheny Ludlum Steel and a Corresponding Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$300 to Miscellaneous Revenue Acct. #1075-070-7040 and to Park Beautification Acct. #4001-901-9018 – Parks & Recreation

**ITEM #4i** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$3,720.00 from Materials & Supplies Acct. #001-5015-401-4100 to Utilities Acct. #001-5015-201-2010 in the F.Y. 2002-03 Budget of the Public Works Department

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Approve and Accept the Consent Agenda as Presented, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

**ITEM #5** Withdrawn

**PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

Ted Curran, 26 Knollwood Drive asked, is it true that the Charter states that only 20 minutes be allowed for Public Question and Answer Period?

Chairman Parisi replied that it is a Council rule, not the Charter which addresses the subject.

Mr. Curran asked, since it is an election year and there are so many important issues that face the Town, would the Council consider extending the period so that more questions may be asked?

Chairman Parisi replied, I don't control the Council, I am just one of the members.

Mr. Curran then made the same inquiry of the entire Council and the Mayor.

Chairman Parisi replied, the Mayor doesn't control the Council but Mr. Curran can ask the Council.

Mr. Curran then placed the question before the Council.

Chairman Parisi interjected stating that this is a Public Question and Answer Period and that is his question; that the Public Question and Answer Period be extended.

Chairman Parisi replied, this isn't the forum for public debate, sir, it is a question and answer period and we try to be as brief as possible with the answers, yet satisfy the questioner.

Mr. Curran asked, you would prefer that I pose my request in the form of a question?

Chairman Parisi replied, no, you misunderstood me. It is the protocol of the Council meetings that this is the Public Question and Answer Period. If you would really like to talk about it, we can talk about it after the meeting or on the phone or I can meet with you but we are wasting that very time which you value so much right now.

Mr. Curran answered, I don't consider it wasted.

Chairman Parisi replied, but you are concerned about having enough time to ask questions. I would be happy to discuss it with you at any point.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated that he was distressed about the conditions he read about in the newspaper about the "project" as it was referred to years ago. Many employees of American Cyanamid came from the coal mining area of Pennsylvania or a potato growing area of Maine and at one time made their homes in the "projects". It was a place to get started; a stopping place before buying a home. I am sure you know that there are many people who were renters there who are now homeowners in this Town. My children had school mates and good friends who resided in the area. It was a respectable place to get started. Is it any wonder why people are distressed when they read about the conditions that prevail there. These people are citizens of the Town as everyone else here and should not be the first to endure unfavorable conditions. I realize that you, as a Council, do not have direct jurisdiction over the Housing Authority but you are responsible for the approval of the appointments, sort of like the parent/child relationship. You don't absolutely control, but do have responsibility. Not very long ago you gave the same organization the Simpson School for development. As I recall, it was basically a gift of Town-owned property. Is there a Councilperson who is a liaison to this very important organization? Does any one of you ever attend their meetings?

Chairman Parisi replied, I have called them several times, yes, to ask what progress is being made on their program.

Mr. Wright asked, does anyone ever attend the meetings to see what happens down there? Is there recognition in that authority that there are some problems or is the newspaper article totally incorrect?

Chairman Parisi stated, I don't know. I can't say that I have received any call from the Housing Authority tenants. I have in the past, but have not recently. It was news to me as it was to you when I read the article.

Mr. Wright stated, I, personally, accept that the newspaper wrote it as probably correct. I don't say that that is always true and I suspect that the occupants of that area are a little bit afraid to speak up too loudly less their rents go up so they are probably taking it on the chin and not raising the issues as they probably should.

Chairman Parisi replied, I called up after the article. I don't know if anyone else did and I had a conversation with one of the people down there at the....

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Mr. Wright asked, "one of the people down there?" A person on the (Wallingford Housing) Commission? The Authority?

Chairman Parisi replied, it was the Director that I spoke to and I have not been able to do anything since.

Mr. Wright answered, I glad to hear that. I am glad that you are exercising your responsibility.

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue stated that he, too, read the article and was deeply disturbed. He has heard from people, "if you have a complaint, who do you complain to?" and, "who does that person answer to?" Who appoints the head of the Housing Authority?

Mayor Dickinson answered, the Director of the Housing Authority is hired by the Commission. Ultimately they report to the State of CT., Dept. of Economic Development. It is a quasi-state agency. The commissioners are appointed by the Town Council but the Housing Authority follows state regulations and rules.

Mr. Sheehan asked, he is supposed to answer to the Commissioners? It appears that the majority of people that I talk to about this is that he does not answer to anybody. I have never seen him here.

Chairman Parisi replied, he has been here.

Mr. Sheehan answered, maybe he has been here, you want to say at budget time or whatever but he has been here once since you gave him Simpson School. I hear complaints and I don't like to hear complaints and no one is getting satisfied and I am sure this situation is not as bad as it is portrayed in the (news)paper but, then again, there definitely seems to be a problem down there and nobody is getting an answer and it didn't happen over night. Someone has to be held responsible and it is your (Council's) responsibility to...if you get enough complaints, that person belongs in the chair, here, in front of you and he should be questioned on it. Not just say that "I made a phone call and he gave me an answer and it satisfies me." It may satisfy you; it may not satisfy the majority of the people.

Chairman Parisi replied, I didn't say...I said I made a call.

Mr. Sheehan stated, since this happened I am sure it will generate a lot of talk. Maybe it is an idea that you should have him here for discussion. It doesn't have to be antagonistic or any other way, just an update. It might settle a lot of people's minds and concerns.

Chairman Parisi stated, I want to clarify that no one gave them anything. That's the second time I heard the phrase that they were "given"; the Housing Authority. They weren't given anything. I want to make it very clear; they were not given anything.

Mr. Sheehan stated, it appears to me and a lot of people in this town that you have a director down there that answers to no one. I don't believe anyone in this town that has the name "Wallingford" on it has been appointed by a commission of Wallingford and runs their own little kingdom.

Chairman Parisi answers, he does have a little different structure than many of our departments. He answers to the Commission primarily.

Mayor Dickinson stated, the Housing Authority does not answer to the Town Council. The Housing Authority answers to the State of CT. That's the structure. Certainly inquiries can be made and questions should be asked where there are problems or perceived problems but the Housing Authority does not

report to local government for its authority, financing, its operational issues. They report to the State of CT.

Mr. Sheehan stated, the political authority appoints the Commission after that they have no say over the Commissioners or ask for a report from them? It doesn't make too much sense to me.

Mayor Dickinson answered, a report can be requested, I am just saying that there is not authority to order the Housing Authority to accomplish any purpose or do any specific thing. Certainly there could be inquiries and requests for information but, to my knowledge, there is no authority to order the Housing Authority to do something, by local government.

Mr. Sheehan stated, are you telling me that you can't ask them to come here and give you an update?

Mayor Dickinson replied, as I said, we can request information, ask for questions to be answered, they can answer those questions, but that is a voluntary act. They do not have to respond to orders.

Mr. Sheehan asked, in other words, if they don't feel like answering the questions, they don't have to.

Mayor Dickinson replied, I don't believe they have to, no.

Mr. Sheehan answered, hell of a system. I wish I was the head of that.

Chairman Parisi stated, they do have a tenant Commission who is a resident of the Authority that is a member of the Commission.

Mr. Sheehan stated, and if you ask him a question he doesn't have to answer.

Chairman Parisi replied, I don't know. I would hope that he would answer. He was supposedly elected by the people that live there.

Mr. Sheehan stated, that boggles me. The only people he has to answer to, maybe, maybe is somebody from the State of CT. and that's maybe if they catch them on the right day?

Chairman Parisi replied, Mr. Sheehan, that's the Legislature. They are the ones who drew this thing up. We didn't do it. You are fighting a battle in the wrong place. Yes, it is true. It is. It is the Legislature.

Mr. Sheehan answered, if it is, we had better start changing it fast because that is about the worst system I have ever heard of.

Chairman Parisi answered, it has been around for a long time.

Wes Lube, 15 Montowese Trail stated, I think you should put that subject on your agenda for your next meeting. Those who have appointed powers, unless you're appointing them for life, you have a heavy stick. I want to talk about a different subject; our liability claims and the liability insurance that the Town carries. Are we in an insurance pool or do we have separate coverage?

Mayor Dickinson answered, we have coverage through an insurance company, we are not in a pool.

Mr. Lube asked, we have direct coverage?

Mayor Dickinson answered, yes.

Mr. Lube stated, is this insurance company selected by the Risk Manager or by the Purchasing Department?

Mayor Dickinson replied, the coverage is publicly bid by the Risk Manager and ultimately is awarded and placed through the Purchasing Office. But it is a publicly-bid insurance package.

Mr. Lube stated, according to an article in the local paper, Legion and Villanova Insurance Company was declared insolvent in April of last year and the Town of Wallingford, two months later, cancelled the coverage in July. If they were declared insolvent in April, why did our Purchasing Department, the year before, in 2001, when that coverage was given to Legion; when an insurance company is declared insolvent, it doesn't happen overnight. It is a long deterioration of assets in relation to liabilities which, anybody knowledgeable in our Purchasing Department should have caught before that policy was granted to that so-called low bidder. I have always been under the impression that we carried insurance because we have a certain liability if anyone is injured on our sidewalks and so forth, the Town is subject to lawsuit and we therefore want this coverage. In its absence, we provide the coverage. We become self-insured if we don't have an alternative insurer. I don't understand why these people who have been injured have been waiting and waiting and waiting to receive their settlements because of the "dissolution" of the insurance company. No one, including the Risk Manager who was quoted as saying, he has no idea whether or not they are going to get their full settlement, I don't understand why the Town is not paying the full settlement and then whatever comes from the insurance company, belongs to the Town. Why is there an 85 year-old woman waiting for her settlement. It is crazy. Does anyone have an answer? Does anybody care?

Mayor Dickinson replied, there are a number of claims that I believe have been settled through the Town Attorney's Office and the efforts of the Risk Manager and the company will be reimbursing the Town later on. For some of the claims, I believe, that that point has not been reached. We need to preserve our rights against the insurance company. We have made efforts to settle claims where we could, where they could be settled. But we need to protect our claims against the insurance company as well. I don't know the status of the particular claim that you are referring to in the newspaper, but I do know that several have been dealt with through the Town Attorney and Risk Manager.

Mr. Lube replied, one of the claimants was quoted as saying that when her son was significantly injured, she was given assurances by the administration, "don't worry, everything will be taken care of, we will have the attorney draw up the papers." Then she said that nothing ever happened. She never heard from any attorney. It just died and she is just calmly sitting there wondering if she is ever going to receive the money. That doesn't sound like the attorney is making an effort to resolve these claims.

Mayor Dickinson asked, when was this article in the paper?

Mr. Lube answered, about a week ago; "Liability claims may be filed."

Mayor Dickinson stated, I haven't seen the article. You can share with me; I don't know the name.

Chairman Parisi stated, why don't you go over and talk to the Mayor about that individual. I think you have made your point.

Pasquale Melillo, 15 Haller Place, Yalesville referred to an article stating that Ford Motor Company will offer fire suppression technology as an option on Crown Victoria police cars which have been linked to numerous deaths in rear end collisions that cause gas tank explosions. The technology will be available for vehicles in 2005. Police cars on the road now cannot be retro-fitted because the system uses advanced

electronics and onboard sensors that must be integrated into a new computer system. How does the Town view this information?

Mayor Dickinson answered, I reported at a previous meeting quite a while ago that that issue has been corrected and fixed.

Mr. Melillo stated, you (Mayor) said that the cars were being retro-fitted. Do you recall that?

Mayor Dickinson replied, I believe so, yes.

Mr. Melillo commented, the second paragraph I read said that the technology will be available for vehicles in 2005. "Police cars on the road now cannot be retro-fitted because the system uses advanced electronics and onboard sensors that must be integrated into a new computer system." Are our police in danger now relative to the situation I just described?

Mayor Dickinson asked, is this safety equipment? What is the equipment they are installing?

Mr. Melillo answered, they did not specifically identify the type of system. They said it uses "advanced electronics and onboard sensors that must be integrated." They have not been integrating yet into a new computer system.

Mayor Dickinson asked, what does this new system do?

Mr. Melillo replied, the way I interpret this is that these cars are vulnerable simply because they cannot be retro-fitted because of the way the situation stands right now.

Chairman Parisi asked Mr. Melillo to give the article to the Mayor.

Mr. Melillo read an additional sentence, "Critics say that behind the axle design of the tanks makes them vulnerable. If the cars are struck the tank can wrap around the axle, be punctured by sharp bolts and explode." He then presented the article to the Mayor.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated, the rumor on the street is that the Building Department has been winking at the code violations. I assume that the Building Inspector reports to the Mayor. He is not one like the Director (of Housing Authority). I think before the Town of Wallingford gets dragged through the mud again, as we did with the Martin Luther King thing, that somebody better start to take a good look at what's happening at the rental properties.

Mayor Dickinson answered, I did check with the Building Inspector toward the end of July. We had received a complaint regarding, there not being inspections and he verified for me that, unless there is a failure to get a permit, if they don't know that work is being performed, they can't inspect. They inspect everything and he spoke with the Housing Code Enforcement Officer and they are fully on line to be doing the work that has to be done and ensure that there's safe quarters. He is not familiar with what had been stated, he was going to be in touch with him, but we don't wink at any violations.

Public Question and Answer Period was declared closed at this time.

**ITEM #7 Consider and Approve One (1) Appointment/Re-Appointment to the Historic Properties Commission for a Term of Five (5) Years to Expire 3/27/08**

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Re-Appoint Linka Lewis for a Term of Five (5) Years to Expire 3/27/08, seconded by Ms. Doherty.

VOTE: Papale was absent; Farrell abstained; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #13 Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Move Agenda Item #13 Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Farrell.

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ADDENDUM ITEM #13 Consider and Approve One (1) Appointment/Re-Appointment to the Position of Alternate on the Inland Wetlands Watercourses Commission for a Term of Three (3) Years to Expire 3/01/06

Motion was made by Mr. Brodinsky to Re-Appoint James Heilman to the Position, seconded Mr. Vumbaco.

Mr. Heilman stated, I am truly honored to serve on the Wetlands Commission. I truly feel it is of vital importance to the future of this community to protect the wetlands. I am there for that and for the future of this town in that regard and I thank you very much for the opportunity to serve another three years.

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Town Clerk Rosemary A. Rascati performed the Swearing-In Ceremony at this time.

ITEM #8 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$18,200 from Contingency – Gen. Purpose Acct. #001-7060-800-3190-0 to Traffic Signal Modifications Acct. #001-5010-999-0002 – Town Engineer

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Approve the Transfer, seconded by Ms. Doherty.

Correspondence from Town Engineer, John Thompson, was read into the record at this time. (Appendix I)

Mr. Thompson distributed a reduced version of a map displayed in Council Chambers to all Councilors explaining, the request is specifically for traffic signal modifications for the traffic signal at the intersection of Center Street and North/South Orchard Street to accommodate a change in traffic flow patterns on North Orchard Street. Currently, North Orchard Street is one-way away from the intersection and the proposal is to make it one way towards the intersection and, as such, we need traffic signal modifications. The other changes being proposed as part of this traffic circulation changes which initiated as a result of poor operational issues at the intersection of North & South Whittlesey and Center Street. If any of you go out on Whittlesey Street, you will know it because of cars parked along the curb line on either side that you have very limited site distance on Center Street. After evaluating what might be done and what could be done in terms of improving traffic and safety operations, we looked at turn prohibitions, turn restrictions, various other options. It was concluded that the best way to deal with the traffic safety issues at the intersection of Whittlesey and Center Street was to have traffic flow away from the intersection. Traffic on North Whittlesey would be one-way northbound; traffic on South Whittlesey would be one-way southbound away from the intersection. As part of this proposal, we undertook a series of traffic counts on the streets that were impacted. We reassigned those volumes based on the proposed changes and evaluated whether the streets had the capacity to make those changes. With the conclusion that these appeared to be desirable and in the interest of public safety, we are here before you tonight to make the request for the financial resources to carry out those changes.

Mr. Farrell stated, I have told you this before; as a long time resident of South Whittlesey, I don't live there currently but I lived there for over thirty years, I don't think that this is correct. Making South Whittlesey one way between Center and Prince Street actually causes people to enter what I would perceive to be two more difficult and more dangerous intersections than the intersection of Center and Whittlesey. I am sure you have come out Prince Street onto South Main Street, that has become a very blind intersection of late that you really cannot see to the left if you are going to the top of Prince Street and looking left or right, you really can't see very well to your left because of all the cars that are there. You are also causing people to head down to the intersection of Ward and South Whittlesey which must be one of the worst intersections in the entire Town of Wallingford. It is absolutely blind because there are cars all over the place there that you can't see very well left or right at that intersection. The net result of this is to cause people to go to those two other intersections. I said to you at the time that if you perceive there to be a problem, much better if you had made it one-way headed out onto Center Street with a right turn only. That would serve the public interest better. I know from living in that area, if you want to go left down Center Street, you don't go out to Center, you go down Prince Street and across Orchard to the light. I don't agree with this. I don't get it. I think it is actually going to cause a more dangerous situation for all the people on South Whittlesey. Have we bothered talking to the people on South Whittlesey? The issues that you raise are clearly legitimate. The Chief can speak to the issues of enforcement of turn prohibitions. To get to the question of South Whittlesey Street as it comes into Center Street, the difficult movement coming out of that is making a left turn from South Whittlesey, westbound on Center Street. Our belief was that the vehicles that currently make that maneuver are coming from Prince Street or to the south of that area and would most likely now continue down Prince Street to go to South Orchard Street and enter Center Street under traffic signal control which we believe is always far more preferable because the traffic signal sign is a right of way. I don't disagree with anything you are saying regarding the site lines at the intersection of Prince Street and South Main Street, but we don't believe the changes that are being proposed as part of this are going to inherently increase the amount of traffic at that intersection. In terms of, have we solicited the neighbors' or business' concerns about what is being proposed, that's the next step in the process. The preliminary discussions with Wallingford Center, Inc. (WCI) and some of the other businesses have been very favorable in terms of these changes. The next step would be a formal public hearing administered by the legal traffic authority who is the only one who can actually authorize these changes if they are, in fact, a desirable change.

Mr. Farrell continued, why can't we make the change the way that I suggested? Instead of making it that South Whittlesey becomes one-way in the direction of south, that it become one-way in the direction of north with just a right turn only headed east on Center? What is logistically wrong with that?

Chief of Police Services, Doug Dortenzio answered, there is nothing inherently wrong in that you're looking at a holistic solution for the center of town, not just that particular issue. Trying to enforce right turn only would be next to impossible. People are going to make left turns if there is no one standing there to prohibit it. They are also going to try and cross Center Street and continue up North Whittlesey apart from making left turns to head westbound on Center, a right turn only would also prohibit them from going straight across. It is not likely people trying to go to the school are going to obey that. We have difficulties with school buses there, kids crossing, problems with the site lines, as John has already pointed out. This was carefully studied over a long period of time. The solution arrived at was one of several that was considered including the right turn only concept that you discussed. In the end we have had businesses on Center Street promote this. They want it to occur. WCI is in agreement. We have had residents on South Whittlesey also indicate that they prefer it. It actually winds up with a net increase in a number of park spaces in the area, not by very much but clearly more than is there right now. So it was the best of all of the solutions that was considered for a multitude of reasons.

Mr. Farrell stated, I don't quite see what WCI has to do with it. If anyone has a situation where they don't have to use any of these intersections, WCI's location is perfect, they just take a right out of their driveway.

Chief Dortenzio answered, I think they have a constituency base there that they are concerned about representing. They certainly don't control the ultimate decision but they are certainly interested if the solution is going to create a reduction in parking spaces because we would need to improve site lines in order to make the intersection safer in the configuration that currently exists.

Mr. Farrell replied, I really don't think that I can vote for this and I guess I feel bad that nothing has been done about the intersection of Prince and South Main and Ward and South Whittlesey. I mean, if there is an intersection that is crying out for a major tragic accident, it is that intersection.

Chief Dortenzio answered, none of these intersections are accident-free but the speeds on Center Street are clearly higher than they are on the other streets that you discussed so the collisions that occur at this particular intersection certainly come to the forefront as perhaps one of the more problematic when we have accidents at that intersection.

Mr. Farrell replied, I have seen some very bad accidents at South Whittlesey and Ward. Calls have been made over the years about that and nothing has been done. There should be some type of traffic control coming down Ward because, as you say, speed becomes a factor and some poor person pulling out of South Whittlesey can't see someone going fifty miles per hour down that hill.

Mr. Thompson commented, the solution is so painfully clear and so painful to implement. The only way to achieve site lines at the two intersections that you are referring to is to further eliminate on-street parking and I can tell you in my professional career of far too many years, the most difficult thing that I have to deal with is a suggestion or recommendation to remove on-street parking. It is one of the most distasteful things that any engineer... I am sure the Chief faces the same dilemma of taking away what is viewed as absolute necessary parking and the basis for what we are doing is to take away the necessity of removing on-street parking where it is really needed. There really is some thought that has gone into it and it is not something that has been taken casually or carefree to change traffic patterns. It is done with a lot of thought over the past several years to come up with a plan that really addresses the underlying concerns without taking away parking.

Mr. Farrell asked, is there something on the table about Ward and Whittlesey? Is there something in the works?

Mr. Thompson answered, not that I am aware of.

Mayor Dickinson stated, if there is an accident history there, that can be looked at either through stop signs or through another traffic light. Without looking at the accident history, it is impossible to say whether that is a situation that requires remedy or not. But if it does reach that level, there are means that can be taken to protect those who are trying to make it turn from Whittlesey. Where are we talking about?

Mr. Farrell answered, Ward and S. Whittlesey.

Mayor Dickinson asked, what was the other intersection?

Mr. Farrell answered, Prince Street and South Main. If you come out of the Town Hall and you want to head towards the Post Office.

Chairman Parisi added, if the bus is not parked in the yellow marked curb, you can see. That site line is not bad. It is when one of our buses pulls in there, it blocks the view. I have called up the P.D. a couple of times.

Mayor Dickinson replied, when the bus is there but it really is a temporary period of time that the bus is there. I don't think there is anything we can do about that. It is like a delivery truck. If a delivery truck were parked there, that would block it, too. It is just one of those things that does occur. Certainly regarding Ward Street, we should take a look at the statistics and if there is a problem then look to address it.

Mr. Farrell stated, my point on all of this is that by making these changes you are only going to worsen problems that exist out there already. I guess it is a request that you look at those intersections and see if there is something that can be done. I go that way all the time and I won't forget.

Chief Dortenzio stated, there is not a public hearing required for this. There was an article written in December, quite a fair size article published in the local paper about this very issue and as a result of that article being published we did not receive any dissenting calls. We actually received all the calls to the contrary, perhaps with the exception of yours.

Mr. Rys stated, after listening to Mr. Farrell discuss the alternatives, I kind of tend to agree with him. Most of the time if I leave Town Hall I don't even bother going down North (South) Whittlesey towards Center. I just go right down North (South) Orchard where the traffic signal is and take a left. Have you looked at signalization for Center and South Whittlesey? Is this a major artery? If it is a major problem as far as accidents, then maybe you need a signal. I don't encourage signals because I go through Middletown and they have one after another.

Mr. Thompson answered, there is another person who doesn't encourage traffic signals and he has just left the room.

Chief Dortenzio stated, you asked the question of whether it is an arterial roadway. It is and also state highway which also brings them into the process. They have a financial responsibility for half of the light and if we are looking for any kind of a solution in the foreseeable future, I don't think that's going to be it.

Mr. Rys stated, I tend to agree with Mr. Farrell as far as a right turn heading towards North and South Main and perhaps a right turn off of North Whittlesey near Sprafke's going down the hill. But I don't like the idea of these one-ways. The other thing is, Chief, you mentioned something about an article in December?

Chief Dortenzio answered, yes.

Mr. Rys asked, why is this being taken from Council Contingency? I am not asking you because I don't know if this deals with your budget or his budget but I would assume that we were discussing this prior to budget maybe and it never got in the budget?

Mr. Thompson answered, yes. Mr. Vumbaco asked the same question out in the hallway; why didn't it get into the budget? The reason or part of the reason why it was not in the budget request from my department or the Police Department was we did not have the final costs to do this work. We were still continuing to evaluate some of the alternatives. We hadn't made a request to our traffic signal contractor who has bid this sort of work and we just got the prices to complete the traffic signal modifications in late

June it was transferred to the Chief and then subsequently put on the Council agenda for the transfer. There was an evolving situation where we didn't have the numbers during the budget process.

Mr. Rys replied, I would hope that it could be planned a little better than this. I have seen other departments use ballpark figures and, of course, at budget time the Council does not feel those ballpark figures are right, they are not going to give you the money. But if they feel that it's going to be used wisely down the road and you cannot give us an exact figure, then that's two months into the budget and we are going into Council Contingency, I can't support this.

Mr. Vumbaco asked, even though the Chief said that a public hearing is not necessary you, John, said you were going to hold one. Are you going to solicit people and let them know?

Chief Dortenzio commented, unless he (Mr. Thompson) is running it, he might be speaking on behalf of an agency he doesn't represent.

Mr. Vumbaco stated, I thought I heard that there was going to be a public hearing.

Chief Dortenzio answered, there is no requirement.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, I realize there is no requirement, Chief. I understand that. I am asking the question, will there be a voluntary public hearing or at least solicitation of comments from the individuals on South Whittlesey that are going to be affected by this change?

Chief Dortenzio answered, there is no public hearing. Historically, what we have done is contact the residents in the block that is affected. In this case, what I have represented is, those people are already weighing in; they weighed in six months ago when they saw this article appear in the local paper and they called our Traffic Office as have some of the businesses and the representatives of some of those businesses all promoting this and wanting to know when it is going to occur.

Mr. Vumbaco asked, how many of the residents called in?

Chief Dortenzio answered, I did not bring any statistics.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, you are making a comment; is it two people; ten people?

Chief Dortenzio answered, I don't think there is a great many residents on that street to begin with.

Mr. Vumbaco answered, it doesn't matter. I think everyone should be contacted by letter to tell them you are making this major change and you should solicit their comments. Then come back to this Council asking for the money to make the change. I know how this town works. Once this vote goes tonight, that is going to happen, regardless.

Chief Dortenzio asked, what is going to happen?

Mr. Vumbaco answered, what ever is being proposed. Once the money is voted tonight, this plan will be in effect. You can have every citizen on South Whittlesey send a letter tomorrow saying they don't want this to happen because, and this will happen. My suggestion would be to solicit them and then come back to this Council and ask for the money, because I won't support this either.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, do we have an accident history record for that intersection, South Whittlesey and Center Street?

Chief Dortenzio answered, we have had nine accidents at that intersection, I believe, from 1996 through 1999, which is the period that was undertaken in the beginning of the study.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, is there a way of breaking it down as to how many of those were serious? I know it is not a very bright line, to divide serious from non-serious.

Chief Dortenzio answered, people frequently complain of injuries. I don't know to what extent they were actually injured.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, how does that compare with some of the other intersections around town? Is it about average for that period of time? Every intersection has an accident sooner or later?

Chief Dortenzio answered, we have accidents at all of them. Because of the speed at this particular intersection, because of the slope of the ground, when we have them there, they are usually pretty significant as opposed to some of our secondary roads where the speeds are much slower and the collision not as severe.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, would this be in the top five; top ten; top twenty, or you are not prepared to say right now?

Chief Dortenzio answered, I wouldn't venture a guess. I can think of intersections that are worse but some of them are at state roads and need to be corrected by the state and we have already passed that information on to them.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, so at least for tonight we cannot be definitive as to whether this is one of the top twenty problem intersections based on statistics? I am not looking for recollection or speculation, just hard data.

Chief Dortenzio answered, it is a statistical answer and I just don't know the answer to that.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, there is some reference to Wallingford Center, Inc. and a suggestion that it represented the interest of the merchants. Not everyone accepts that conclusion. What merchants were contacted and what, specifically, were their responses and how many responded? Or was it just a spokesperson for Wallingford Center, Inc.

Chief Dortenzio answered, I know that Wallingford Center Inc. has been supportive. I know that Monitor Controls has promoted this as well. I am not the point person on all of this contact. I have somebody on staff that does it so I am not prepared to tell you an itemized list of who all those people are. The individual who has done this work for me has done it at other intersections; other roads that we have changed the traffic direction on. He is pretty good at synthesizing the information as he produces it for me.

Mr. Brodinsky commented, I guess when I get a representation that the whole neighborhood is in favor or all the merchants are in favor, I kind of like to drill down below the surface of those conclusions and see exactly the methodology. Who was contacted? What questions were they asked? Who responded? Maybe a majority of one out of many, many non-responders.

Chief Dortenzio answered, fair question. I can't, I am no prepared to give you that answer.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, why is time of the essence? It is not in the budget. Mr. Rys made an excellent point; it is not in the budget this year and Mr. Vumbaco is saying the same thing. Why not wait until next year? We have been living with this intersection very many, many years, why now?

Mr. Thompson answered, the reason we are here is that we finally have assembled all of the cost data and it appeared a prudent thing to make the request of the Council. Obviously the decision whether to approve the transfer rests with you. If you support the transfer, we will proceed. If you think otherwise, we could defer it until the next budget year. I don't want to speak for the Chief in terms of the accidents but in terms of actually carrying this out, we have been at it since July of 1999.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, so this is not an emergency situation. If it has been, we have been living with this emergency situation for many, many years. This does not have to be done this year by any standard, would that be right?

Mayor Dickinson answered, we are here as a public safety issue. If we didn't come forward with it and a serious accident occurs there, someone would be saying, "Gee, you did a study, you arrived at a conclusion, why didn't we act on it, we could have saved someone property damage or perhaps physical injury?" The public safety issue is being brought forward. If there is reason not to do it right now, we can deal with additional steps or those factors. AS a public safety issue, the entity in charge of that, the Police Department, has reached a conclusion given the analysis, the studies, that there should be a modification in traffic patterns at that intersection. If they didn't come forward, then they are open to someone saying, "why did you sit back on this?" So we are coming forward with it.

Mr. Brodinsky stated, once we paint a situation as a public safety issue, doesn't necessarily mean it is either an emergency or a crisis or that we have to abandon our orderly procedures of budgeting, that's why I was asking some of the questions I was asking. To say it is a public safety issue shouldn't foreclose debate. That's why I was asking some of the questions I was getting at. I also share the concern that the time to ask the neighbors is not after this vote, but before this vote. In my view this is a serious enough change in their lives. There should be a specific outreach to every single one on those blocks affected at every opportunity to give some sort of reply. In the end that reply may be ignored by the Traffic Authority and it may be difficult to ignore in view of what may be community views. I don't think we are ready. In my view, we don't have some of the data on the accidents; we don't have the sentiments of the merchants; we don't have the sentiment of the community. We have this change creating other problems as Mr. Farrell pointed out. We have some budget procedures that are being side-stepped as Mr. Rys pointed out. I am not comfortable with this, so I am not going to support it either.

Mr. Parisi stated, quite frankly, I am going to speak in favor of this project. I am going to commend the Engineering Department and the Police Department for wrapping this up after what I consider far too long a period of time. I know it was difficult to get the pricing and what ever together but I agree with the Mayor, it is definitely a safety issue. I, for one, would not want it on my conscious that God forbid there be a problem with the school or some child coming out of the school. I think that that's my primary concern with this. I have heard a lot of people, as you have. I have not interviewed them all and I am not going to say that I have. But it has been represented to me that this is a favorable move for a very, very serious situation. All you have to do is go down there when school is in session and just see it. It is mayhem down there. Forget it, the merchants can close for an hour and there are cars wheeling all over the place. Talk about site lines; there aren't any site lines down there are the right time. It is just something that I think, it's time has long passed that this be dealt with.

Mr. Knight stated, I would like to speak to something that might not occur to everybody, but does to me with regard to Center Street. Center Street is a major truck route in this town and most of you might not

notice that, but it is my business, too, and I do. When they crest that hill at Main Street and start down, they are really not expecting an intersection that close. Believe me, most of them come through from I91 and they are loaded and they are heavy and you are right next to an elementary school. I think we have spent four years on it and should defer it to the experts that we have in our community that have worked on this project. Most of the complaints are, most of the time, that municipal government works way too slowly. This may even speak to that. The time for action, it seems to me, to be now. That the experts have come to their conclusions and the prices have been determined.

Mr. Vumbaco stated, I agree that this is a public safety issue. There is no question that I was saying that it is not needed; I am not saying that maybe this is not needed but I don't think anyone at this table is questioning the fact that they want to have an unsafe intersection. All I am looking for is the fact that every citizen that is going to be affected by it, and the businesses, be contacted and notified. See, if in fact, a response can be solicited. IF they choose not to respond, that is fine. If they choose to support it 100%, that's fine, too. That is all I am looking for. I could support this with no problem as long as I am assured that the people who live in the neighborhood, which I think any of us in any neighborhood that we live, would like to be able to have the opportunity to talk about something that is going to affect us.

With that in mind, I would like to move that we table this until next month, one or two meetings from now for that information to be gathered and John or the Chief, or both, can come back with that to the Council and then we can take it up and vote for it. I think that would be a fair solution to the problem. I is not deferring it that much longer. We have lived with it for I don't know how many years so what is another month or so?

Motion to table by Mr. Vumbaco was seconded by Mr. Brodinsky.

VOTE TO TABLE: Papale was absent; Brodinsky, Farrell, Vumbaco & Rys, aye; all others, no; motion failed.

Ms. Doherty stated, I am a little confused. Yes, it is nice to let the residents know this is going to take place. As far as their response, it is still a public safety issue so we are back to square one. That's why I voted the way I did.

Mr. Rys stated, I did want to add something else. Obviously, I am not one to overlook public safety. My only question was the budgetary procedure. I think that the way the budget is set up, perhaps if they do come back in the near future, September, maybe Mr. Thompson can look at his budget and perhaps come up with the money in his own budget, come back to us and if it becomes a problem later on in the budget, that's when we have the process in the last quarter of the year of transferring funds from other departments. I would be more for that than I would be for going into contingency. Especially knowing that we are going to do something. Just to come up with an arbitrary figure of \$20,000 would not have hurt us at budget time. I think we need to practice that and I think the public expects that, too.

Chairman Parisi stated, in light of the current economic situation, I don't know that anybody wanted to make any guesses, Councilor, and perhaps that's the reason. When we say "just another two months", I think it would be nice to be able to have this thing set for the first day of school so that there is no more; there is one less worry and one less concern for all of us. Let everyone vote their conscience, that's really where we are at.

Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street stated that he was not in the position to argue with statistics but he failed to be aware of a serious situation. When he is going north, he drops down Prince Street and crosses South Whittlesey and crosses at the school. He does not see this as being a terrible situation. He reads the newspapers every day and does not recall hearing about a lot of accidents in that area. He

questioned that the people in the town really feel that it is that serious. He stated, you can bring out public safety and what will happen and whip it all up, but I don't think that is the way such a problem should be solved. In addition to that, I think it is totally wrong to have changing traffic patterns Center Street, not be specifically mentioned in the agenda. I think it is just; I looked at this item and asked, what is that? Tell the people in this town that you are really going to change the traffic pattern in the whole center of town by this and then let them have their say as to whether they think it is the right and proper thing. It's sneaky. I don't like it. I think that if you are going to do something as major as this, you better get it out for all the public to hear it.

Chairman Parisi replied, I think you should talk to some of the people who are in business right around that intersection if you would like some back up information on accidents, seriously.

Mr. Wright commented, I don't think there has ever been a fatality there. We certainly are not having the Town tied up day after day with accident control there. I know South Whittlesey and Holy Trinity Church School, people are aware of it and because they know what is there, they are careful.

Chairman Parisi answered, for that there are a lot of places, but it doesn't always work.

Mr. Farrell asked, where did the impotence for this originally come from?

Chief Dortenzio answered, a car accident and subsequent phone calls for us to correct the problem.

Mr. Farrell asked, from residents or businesses?

Chief Dortenzio answered, residents. People who traverse that intersection and found it dangerous. We undertook the study as a result of that accident and subsequent call by another person who was unrelated to the accident but had observed it and also felt the intersection was dangerous. That is what started the review of the intersection.

Mr. Farrell asked, the other thing I hadn't quite caught onto until I was looking a little bit better at this map is that you are doing the same thing to North Whittlesey that you are doing to South Whittlesey in like you push people into that Ward and South Whittlesey intersection, you're pushing people into the Church Street and North Whittlesey intersection again, one of the most dangerous intersections in town. There have been several near-fatal accidents at that very intersection. People, again, barreling down the hill. So we are sending people off to more dangerous places, I guess.

Chairman Parisi asked, do we have statistics on that?

Mr. Farrell answered, I can tell you that my mother was in a very bad accident at Church Street and North Whittlesey when I was in second grade, yes.

Robert Sheehan, 11 Cooper Avenue stated, one of my favorite subjects lately is intersections. We are in a unique situation with Center Street because most of the streets on Center Street are one-way, either going off of Center Street or one-way coming on to Center Street. That extends as far up as Fair Street. Everyone seems to enjoy the way things are now and Mr. Farrell makes a very good point about Church Street where the line of site is not as clear as it is on Center Street because of houses and trees, bushes, etc., and the road is not as wide or level. It's been going on for four years and all of a sudden it is something that has got to be done. If you want a real public safety issue, look at the intersection of Christian and North Elm Streets. That's foot traffic and a matter of life or death or serious injury. It is not going to be a little fender bender at times. I have been asking what's going to be done there about putting up a sign there that the pedestrians have the right of way. That could look good in an obituary.

That's about the only good place it looks. If you want to talk about need, I would rather solve that situation. It is very easy with a crossing guard or whatever. On Center Street just this past Friday, there was a bad accident and Center Street was closed down for three hours from Pomeroy Avenue to the intersection of Elm and Center Streets. There were just two cars that happened to get tangled up with one another and one car wound up on its roof. Accidents happen and it doesn't matter if it is at an intersection. It can happen anywhere. Unfortunately we just lost a valued member of our Board of Education in a one-car accident on a highway when the car ran off the road. Circumstance it is most of the time. I am not against this, if it happens, it happens, but I think there is a better way, not necessarily a traffic light but I think you are going to create more of, I don't want to say, hardship. You are going to reroute traffic onto a street or streets that really can't handle the traffic that is going to be produced and that basically is Church Street.

Jack Agosta, 505 Church Street, Yalesville asked, for the homes that are on Whittlesey Avenue, there are no houses on the right-hand side as you go up Center Street, they are all on the left-hand side. Where would they park their cars on the street?

Mr. Thompson answered, South Whittlesey is currently two-way with parking on one side. By making it a one-way southbound street, we are actually able to increase the amount of on-street parking on some of the streets within the area that we are talking about changing and South Whittlesey would be one of them.

Chief Dortenzio stated, there are a number of residents who don't have driveways and the addition of parking spaces is particularly attractive to them.

Mr. Toman asked, was it your intent to get this done before school starts?

Chief Dortenzio answered, I don't think that could have been achieved but I will defer to John...the vendor with the traffic light.

Mr. Toman answered, as soon as you can because it does make sense given the mixed use of population and the feeder potential of these roads.

Mr. Thompson added, Center Street is a state highway and we would have to modify the existing traffic signal plan, submit it to the State Traffic Commission for their review. We have drawn a state agency into the review process even though it is a town signal, we still have to go to them. So to suggest or represent to the Town Council that we can have that done before school began would clearly be a misrepresentation. What we would do if the transfer is approved, we would immediately start on the traffic signal revisions for submission to the State and, as you all know, once you get to the State level, we cannot offer any guarantees.

Mr. Toman stated, to me the most important thing is safety. This.....the school areas that are in there too; good sized school areas. I hope we can get this done as soon as possible.

Ms. Doherty asked, if we are increasing parking on North and South Whittlesey on both sides, is there going to be a reset limit as to how far up parking is going to be to increase the site line at Prince Street?

Mr. Thompson answered, as we contemplated these changes, we actually did go out and measure and locate how many additional parking spaces, bearing in mind that we wanted to keep the cars away from the intersection to maintain site lines. We did reflect that in our preliminary planning but as we went further along, the police department would actually establish the parking limits which is part of the plan.

Mr. Farrell asked, you talked about parking on both sides of North Whittlesey?

Mr. Thompson answered, South Whittlesey. Currently, North Whittlesey has parking on the west side. We could possibly and I would have to go back to Lt. Zakrzewski's comments...to see whether or not we could possibly get parking on both sides on North Whittlesey. I don't recall off hand what his assessment was on that.

Chief Dortenzio added, if you do, it is going to be further up because we will need to; it would be beyond the school if it is possible to fit the school buses. We need to look at the road width.

Mr. Farrell stated, I don't think there can be additional parking on North Whittlesey. You've got the school buses.

Mr. Thompson answered, I believe that when we looked at this, past the Rectory on the east side of North Whittlesey, there was an opportunity for some additional on-street parking. I don't want to say definitively that it is "X" number of spaces but I believe our field assessment indicated that there was an opportunity past the rectory for some parking.

Mr. Farrell asked, part of this is to solve that interior parking lot situation off of North Whittlesey?

Mr. Thompson answered, I believe the impact of providing additional parking is a side benefit. That was not the underlying intent of starting out; it was always motivated by providing a safer operation at Whittlesey and Center Street. The additional parking is simply a side benefit of making the streets one-way.

Mr. Farrell replied, that seems to benefit the merchants at the expense of the residents. It sounds like this is where that is coming from, the merchants. The residents are being walked all over, here.

Chairman Parisi replied, no they are not.

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Papale was absent; Brodinsky, Farrell, Rys & Vumbaco, no; all others, aye; motion failed.

ITEM #9 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$13,051 from Salaries Acct. #1401-101-1000 to Independent Auditors F.Y. 2002-03 Acct. #1401-901-9004 – Comptroller

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Approve the Transfer, seconded by Ms. Doherty.

Correspondence from Comptroller Joseph Swetcky, Jr. to the Mayor was read into the record at this time (Appendix II).

Mr. Brodinsky asked Mr. Swetcky, Scully & Wolfe started their work when?

Mr. Swetcky answered, Scully & Wolfe came in in June for about two weeks' worth of work. They will be back in late September to do the remainder.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, so just a sliver of their work was done in the past fiscal year?

Mr. Swetcky answered, that is correct.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, when do we expect to get a bill for their services?

Mr. Swetcky answered, we have received their first bill. It is progress payments as they go along. We have already received a bill for a portion of their work.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, was there a choice to be made here about paying for it out of the past fiscal year's budget or the current fiscal year? Is there a choice under accounting principles? Is it sort of a judgment call?

Mr. Swetcky answered, it is really the practice of the community. This, to be honest, is the first community that I have been in where you have paid for the audit out of the year that is being audited, but the money is set aside, it was budgeted in the F.Y. '02-'03 budget for the audit.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, so it could have been done either way as far as you are concerned?

Mr. Swetcky answered, it could be done either way.

Mr. Brodinsky asked, what you are saying is, the bottom line is that there is money left over in last year's budget so you are electing to use that money left over from last year, rather than bring it into this year?

Mr. Swetcky answered, I am electing to continue the practice that the Town has had of using the majority of the money for the audit for the F.Y. '02-03 is in the '02-'03 budget so I am electing to continue that practice therefore I need to move monies from that year to add to what is already budgeted.

Mayor Dickinson interjected, Mr. Myers' at some point in the past determined that the cost of the audit for a fiscal year should be in that fiscal year. So that each fiscal year stands on its own as far as what the costs are associated with that year. The cost of the audit for that year would be in that year.

Mr. Brodinsky asked Mr. Swetcky, did you say something like, this was sort of an exception to the general rule to pay for it this way? You started to say that this was somewhat of an unusual practice I thought that's where you were going?

Mr. Swetcky answered, no, I said it was the first time in my experience that it is done this way. I know of other communities that do it this same way but it is the first time that I am being exposed to it.

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

**ITEM #10** Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$14,351 from Salaries Acct. #1401-101-1000 to Independent Auditor F.Y. 2003-04 Acct. #1401-901-9004 – Comptroller

Motion was made by Mr. Knight to Approve the Transfer, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Correspondence from Comptroller Joseph Swetcky, Jr. was read into the record at this time (Appendix III).

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

**ITEM #11** Consider and Approve Confirming the Town Council Finance Committee as the Audit Committee to Oversee the F.Y. 2002-03 Audit of the Town and Schedule a Date and Time to Meet with the Town's Auditors, Scully & Wolfe, and the Comptroller as Requested by Councilor Jim Vumbaco

Mr. Vumbaco apologized to the Council and public stating that the last time this issue was brought up on the agenda he was unable to attend due to a personal issue.

He stated, my reason for bringing this forth now is, as the Comptroller stated, as the new auditors began some very preliminary work and the majority of their work is going to be done in late September, I am of a strong belief that we should be having a meeting with that auditing firm, Scully & Wolfe, in order for them to let us know how they will be conducting the audit going forward. During the interview process for all the auditors, all the firms we talked to indicated that they felt there was a need for an audit committee. I believe that this will be a good avenue of communication between the audit committee and the Town Council who is ultimately responsible for this audit in conjunction with the auditing firm. Obviously, being in the business myself and going through numerous audits and dealing with audit committees, I am not advocating at all and I don't think anyone on this Council would advocate at all that there should be any attempt to control the audit, dictates how it is to be done. There should be absolutely no interference from the audit committee or any Council personnel when it comes to the auditors performing their need. However, I think a discussion with the auditor needs to be set up prior to the major commencement of the audit in September specifically for us to establish some milestones that might occur during the audit that we could check on to see how it is progressing, if there are any issues. I am not saying it has to be done at a meeting. It can be done after the initial meeting, once these milestones are established, it could be just a courtesy phone call by the Chairman of the Audit Committee or Finance Committee just checking and seeing where we stand as we progress. As you all know we had a little bit of an issue last year where the delivery of the audit final results was somewhat delayed due to an accounting issue. If there was an audit committee in place we would have at least been informed of that and know where we stand and what the reason was behind that. I also believe that at the end of the audit there should be a second meeting with the audit committee which would give the audit committee the opportunity to review the draft of the audit report and for them to present or answer any questions that might occur either from the auditor or from the Council, itself. I believe probably would be the most important of the second meeting. But, prior to last month's meeting, I had asked Kathy Zandri, the Council Secretary to call around to a few communities that I felt were approximately the size and nature of Wallingford to see if, in fact, they had audit committees and what they might suggest and she talked to East Hartford, Windsor, Manchester, West Hartford, Fairfield, Windsor and a few others. The Town of Windsor was nice enough to fax over a copy of what standards might be established for an audit committee based on the Government Finance Officers Association. If you want to do some additional work on this, you can visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) and it has a complete listing of everything and anything that you want to know about government auditing. There are a couple of key points and I will make a copy of this and pass this out to all the council people or have Kathy put it in your mailbox, the recommendations made from the Finance Officers Committee. Their first recommendation says, "Every government should establish an audit committee or its equivalent. The audit committee is a practical tool that a government can use to enhance the independence of the external auditor and, hence, the reliability of the financial statement audit." I thought that was a key point raised. Another issue they raise is, "members of the audit committee collectively should possess the expertise and experience in accounting, auditing, financial reporting and finance needed to understand and resolve issues raised by the independent audit of the financial statements." That is a key element; to have people on the audit committee that understand the financial issues. Our Finance Committee has people like that to a certain degree and by inviting the Comptroller to be there, obviously his expertise would be greatly used. There are a few other points but the last one that I would like to stress to you is, "the primary responsibility of the audit committee should be to oversee the independent audit of the government's financial statements" they say, "from the selection of the independent auditor to the resolution of the audit findings." That, to me, is the key issue of what we should be, an overseeing and being the communication venue between the auditor and the Council. Ultimately it is our responsibility to pay for and to approve the audit.

Motion was made by Mr. Vumbaco for the Town Council to Confirm the Town Council Finance Committee as the Audit Committee to Oversee the Fiscal Year 2002-03 Audit of the Town, seconded by Mr. Brodinsky.

Mr. Toman stated, this was one of a couple of ideas that were discussed at our nine or ten meetings that we had during the Audit Search Committee and I think it is important to have somehow an apparatus set up for the Council to have an oversight function with the auditor. I also think it is important, I know this is a Freudian slip on Mr. Vumbaco's part when he first started to talk; I don't think we should dictate or direct so what ever we set up has to be innocuous enough for oversight, not intimidating the auditor, especially a new auditor. I would like to say though, I would like to see what ever is set up, perhaps broader. I think it is very educational for the whole Council to be involved and not just a committee. I, personally, would like to see the whole Council involved in this when we do meet with the auditor and talk about the audit process and perhaps even some of the findings.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, also within the recommendations, I didn't read it because I was under the impression in my motion that we were going to go with three, but in their recommendations it says, "an audit committee should be sufficiently large to ensure that its members possess all the skills needed to realize the committee's objectives, at the same time the audit committee should be small enough to operate efficiently. Therefore, as a general rule an audit committee should be composed of no less than five and no more than seven members." I think adding the entire Town Council to it is just going to be more confusion than it will be beneficial. The committee should be set with people who understand the process, who understand accounting, who understand the final results, understand what's going on and they, in turn, should be able to present to the Town Council what is necessary. I don't particularly agree with Mr. Toman's choice or suggestion that we go with the full nine Council members. The motion stands to vote for the Finance Committee which I believe is three (members).

Mr. Brodinsky stated, the auditors that we interviewed recommended an audit committee to be comprised of members less than the full membership of the Town Council. That was their recommendation; have an audit committee rather than have the entire Town Council so of assume that role and using the benefit of their experience and their wisdom, I think the motion has been well put. If, down the line, we want to make some midstream corrections or we want to make some changes and expand the membership or shrink it, then we can do it but we need a place to start and I think the appropriate place to start would be the recommendation of the auditor that we have hired who suggests an audit committee rather than the full Town Council so I am going to support the motion.

Chairman Parisi stated, I would make one brief observation. During the last item we didn't seem to want to listen to the experts, but now we....

Mr. Brodinsky replied, as long as you bring it up, the experts didn't have a lot of information to give us. We asked for information in detail and they didn't have it. We wanted to have it tabled and the information could have been brought back then we would have had it then the questions would have been answered.

Mr. Knight stated, the first thing you said, Jim, and I respect your expertise in this because you have gone through so many of these. One of the things that your remarks emphasize was the independence of the audit and one of the things that I think that we have all experienced, some of us financially, first hand all of us second-hand is how some audits conducted in private corporations have come under political and I mean this within the corporation, there's politics in any organization, who come under political sway and that some of the information that has been solicited has been for purposes other than conducting an independent audit. I am pleased to hear you emphasize that this has to be a truly independent audit where neither the Council, who is the hiring agent, or the Administration who is the subject of the audit, have any control whatsoever of the outcome or the direction. It was Jerry's thought... that we are, as all of us will admit, are coming to a season of the year where a lot of politics is going to be discussed and a lot of our thrusts of our arguments and discussions are going to be political in nature and I would like to see us

completely divorce this process from that. It would be my suggestion then to the Chairman of the Finance Committee that we conduct our first meetings some time after the election in November so that it avoids the appearance of some political pressure being brought on the brand new auditing firm. We have a new comptroller, we have a brand new auditing firm and, frankly, we have a brand new procedure that you are suggesting. I would hope that all of us could agree that perhaps to keep this as above board as we all want it to be, that we would postpone not necessarily the Finance Committee meeting but certainly meeting in a formal setting with the auditors until after the election in November.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, I have no problem with that. I just, myself, they are starting the major piece of the audit in September. That is the only reason why I was looking to see if we could have a meeting then because they would be bringing up issues that they are going to be looking at so that we, as an audit committee, would be able to have a beginning understanding of what they are doing. I have no problem postponing it until November but I would request that at least a copy of their audit schedule be sent to each member of the Finance Committee so that when they do have their first meeting and I am sure as auditors always go, we just wrapped our year-end audit in my government on last day possible they had to do it so I am sure this is going to be way laid back anyway so it is not really going to be a big difference so I have no problem with setting a time and date after November elections.

Mr. Toman stated, I didn't read every minute of every meeting we had but Mr. Brodinsky gave the impression that there was an overwhelming recommendation on the part of all the people we interviewed that we have this smaller audit committee. Maybe my memory is salty here but I don't remember that at all. I remember a wide variety of ways the towns whom these seven firms serviced conducted an oversight and one of them was, more than once we heard, the entire town council body was the apparatus, the vehicle. I personally think, Mr. Chairman, that given the fact that this is a new direction, we haven't done a lot of this before, that this is a tremendous educational opportunity for the other members of the Council and especially for the newer members of the Council in January to get involved in the audit process. That's why I still recommend that the entire Town Council be brought into this. If it means a couple of more meetings, so be it. We can work around that. If it means a few extra hours at these meetings, so be it, we can work around that. I don't think the efficiency that would be lost is equal to what would be gained by the entire Council being exposed to this, especially since it is sort of a new direction here. That's why I would still maintain that the Chairman have the whole Council get involved with this after the election. I think the town would be better served that way, so would the Council.

Chairman Parisi stated, I am inclined to agree with you. I think it is important enough for the entire Council to be included. I agree with everything else you presented, Jim. I just think that for those of us who don't have your expertise in the financial field, it would certainly be a learning experience for us and I am sure we would gain some knowledge in the process which might serve us as budget time. I am inclined to agree with that suggestion by Mr. Toman.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, I would just like to follow up with what you always say, "all the meetings are open to all Councilors." If we have this formalized finance committee as the audit committee, that doesn't mean that the rest of the Council cannot show up.

Chairman Parisi replied, the rest of the Council wouldn't have any vote on it either. They would be sitting there and not have any real say.

Mr. Vumbaco stated, I don't believe that the audit committee is going to be taking any votes anyway.

Chairman Parisi answered, I don't know. I don't know what it is going to do.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, vote it down and do what you guys want, it doesn't matter to me.

Ted Curran, 26 Knollwood Drive stated, I think about a year ago before this group I gave my credentials as having been with Price Waterhouse in New York City for ten years. I was also allowed to attend one of the first selection meetings when the auditor was being selected. If I may share a little of my experience in public accounting, I find that it is difficult for a new auditor coming in which I had been several times to deal with a large group. As a citizen I would recommend that there be a smaller group which would then pass on to the full Council what has gone on in those meetings. One of the most important things that the finance or audit committee would like to ascertain is the scope of the audit, the timeframe in which the audit is to be done and I feel it would be better starting off to have a small group. The last time I asked who was on the audit committee, there was a little hesitation and now it is known as the finance committee. I was wondering who is on the finance committee?

Chairman Parisi replied, it is on the Council stationary. It is Mr. Toman, Mr. Knight and Mr. Vumbaco.

Mr. Curran stated, I think at one point at the last meeting it was asked if Mr. Brodinsky was and he said he was not.

Mr. Toman stated, I am sorry for that. I have a hearing problem, sir, and I have to wear this in my ear and I don't get everything people's voices say so it is possible when you asked that question that I didn't have this turned up, I am sorry.

Mr. Curran replied, Mr. Parisi is the one that I asked the question of.

Chairman Parisi replied, I have a hearing problem. Mine isn't working.

Mr. Toman added, I am sorry. I remember at one point I started to give you the members of the audit committee, not the finance committee, because that's what I thought you asked.

Mr. Curran asked, is the finance committee, in effect, the audit committee?

Chairman Parisi answered, no. There is a finance committee, there is not an audit committee. That's the item on the agenda but it has not been adopted yet. Would you please read back the motion so that everyone remembers it?

Town Clerk Rosemary Rascati repeated the motion; Mr. Vumbaco moved to Confirm the Town Council Finance Committee as the Audit Committee to Oversee the F.Y. 2002-03 Audit of the Town, seconded by Mr. Brodinsky.

VOTE: Papale was absent; Brodinsky, Farrell & Vumbaco, aye; all others, no; motion failed.

Motion was made by Mr. Toman to Approve the Entire Town Membership as the Oversight Committee for our Town Auditors for F.Y. 2002-03 and Subsequent Years, seconded by Mr. Rys.

Mr. Vumbaco stated, right out of the box you are going against the suggestion of the new auditors because they suggested a small, three member audit committee in the minutes. I will bring them in and show you if you don't believe me. The second comment I would like to make is that I am not surprised that the motion went down because we just happen to make it and, obviously, the part that rules, rules the floor. I won't support this motion at all. It is ridiculous and against almost every accounting firm that you talk to, it is against any accounting recommendation that's out there in the filed. This is absolutely a ridiculous format. It is only because you want to counteract the motion that was made by myself.

Chairman Parisi replied, not at all.

Mr. Vumbaco continued, history dictates and is showing itself and let's just leave it at that.

Chairman Parisi answered, no, no. In my case I feel a responsibility to be able to be involved in the process and that is why I am supporting this.

Mr. Vumbaco replied, no one said you weren't going to be able to be involved, Mr. Chairman. If you don't have enough faith in your finance committee to make the proper recommendation to you, then maybe you don't have the right people on the finance committee.

Mr. Toman stated, I am a bit appalled. There is no personal animosity here. I just really feel that the more people involved considering the lack of knowledge that we all, except for Mr. Vumbaco because that has been his field, but the lack of knowledge in the auditing process that the rest of us didn't bring to these audit search committee meetings, convince me that an education process had to be part of this. I just think that for at least a while, the whole Town Council should be involved in this. There is no personal animosity here. It is not because you say left and we say right, no. That's not it at all. Secondly, maybe, again, I don't have the minutes in front of me but maybe the current auditor that we chose recommended a small committee, but I distinctly remember other auditor firms say that they talk to large committees and the whole town council. I don't think it is an unusual thing to do.

Mr. Knight added, in my comments previously, I think I made it very clear that I support very much what you said and everything that you said with regard to establishing a committee. The other thing I would say is that this is new for this Town Council and previous Town Councils. The Town Councils for the past twenty years had not taken any kind of active role in the oversight of the audit process. This is new and I think it is relevant to involve the entire Town Council in something where we are departing from long-established practice. As Bob referred to, it is an education. I can speak only for myself but I certainly thought that the committee we had to choose the auditor was unbelievably educational and I think bringing that kind of interaction between the auditor and the entire Town Council can be very valuable. In subsequent years, subsequent councils can choose to go on a different path but I really believe that we are very much in the spirit of the motion that you made.

Chairman Parisi commented, there is an election coming up and we obviously don't know the outcome so I would think that the involvement initially would be very important. After the first of the year, what ever the new Council chooses to do, so be it, they can do it.

Mr. Brodinsky stated, I remember the comments from at least some of the auditors that said that its good to have an audit committee because the committee collects those people that have particular expertise and interest in finance and the audit committee meetings were intended to be more technical in nature than educational in nature but that wasn't to foreclose another meeting with the entire Council. That is how I remember the thrust of the recommendations and that is certainly the recommendation of our current auditor. Another reason for the smaller group is, as I remember it, with a smaller group there would be less opportunity for sensationalizing the audit and the audit process. Not to say it isn't open to the public, etc., certainly all the members of the Town Council who are interested would and should go but there was that thinking and it was part of that thinking that I based my recommendation on that we go with an audit committee. Also, observe that the Finance Committee hasn't really done anything since I have been on the Council in the year 2000 that I can recall. This is a good opportunity to breathe some life into the committee system to make the Finance Committee the audit committee but that is not to be but it is at least very good progress that, for the very first time, we are going to have at least one, two or maybe more meetings as a body with the auditor. That is certainly a move in the right direction.

VOTE: Papale was absent; Brodinsky & Vumbaco, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12 Not addressed.

Motion was made by Mr. Farrell to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rys.

VOTE: Papale was absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Meeting transcribed by:

*Kathryn F. Zandri*  
Kathryn F. Zandri  
Town Council Secretary

Approved by:

*Robert F. Parisi (by RR)*  
Robert F. Parisi, Chairman

9-9-03  
Date

*Rosemary A. Rascati*  
Rosemary A. Rascati, Town Clerk

9-9-03  
Date

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 8-19-03  
AT 3 H 25 M P M AND RECORDED BY  
Rosemary A. Rascati TOWN CLERK

## Interdepartmental Memorandum

To: Lt. Alan Zakrzewski, Traffic Division  
Wallingford Police Department

From: John P. Thompson, PE ✓  
Town Engineer

Re: Traffic Signal Modifications  
Center Street at North & South Orchard Street

Date: July 2, 2003

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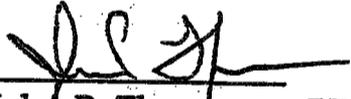
Lieutenant Zakrzewski:

As a follow-up to our earlier conversations on the conversion of South Whittlesey Avenue, to become one-way southbound, the associated change to North Orchard Street and the necessary traffic signal control modifications to the signal at Center Street at North and South Orchard Street, I am transmitting herewith the "cost estimate" for this work, from Marlin Controls, Inc.

Recognizing that this "proposed" work has not been budgeted by either of our Department, following your review, please let me know (if) how you want to proceed.

If you have any questions or if you want to discuss further, please feel free to give us a call at any time.

Respectfully submitted:

  
John P. Thompson, PE  
Town Engineer

CC: Mr. Robert Parisi, Chairman, Town Council (with enclosure)  
Robert V. Baltramaitis, Assistant Town Engineer (with enclosure)

*J. Council Rec'd. from Mayor's office on 8/6/03 as part of agenda PK1.*

(KE)



*Town of Wallingford, Connecticut*  
*Department of Police Services*

RECEIVED  
MAYOR'S OFFICE  
03 AUG 15 PM 12:00

DOUGLAS L. DORTENZIO  
CHIEF OF POLICE

1435 NORTH MAIN STREET  
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT 06492-3711  
TELEPHONE (203) 294-2828

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO: MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.

FROM: CHIEF DOUGLAS L. DORTENZIO

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION  
PROPOSED WHITTLESEY AVENUE & ORCHARD STREET TRAFFIC PATTERN CHANGES

DATE: 8/4/2003

CC: LIEUTENANT ALAN ZAKRZEWSKI  
MR. JOHN THOMPSON

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This memorandum is written in support of a financial transfer being independently sought by our Engineering Department to fulfill sign and signal changes needed in conjunction with this project.

The intersection of North/South Whittlesey Avenue and Center Street (CT Rt. 150) is an unsignaled intersection with bi-directional traffic on both legs of Whittlesey Avenue. Both the traffic volumes and the on street parking along Center Street results in a variety of sight line difficulties for motorists crossing Center Street or making turns onto Center Street across traffic. Historically we have had a few significant accidents as well as a number of near accidents at this intersection. The presence of a school at the same intersection along with the associated bus and parental vehicle traffic only serves to complicate the situation.

In an effort to remedy this public safety concern, this agency, in tandem with the Engineering Department, reviewed a number of potential solutions. Without enumerating them all, many would have been very costly and/or reduced the availability of critical on street parking. To capsulate the outcome, the following proposal was made to my office as the Legal Traffic Authority (LTA) for the town:

1. North Whittlesey Avenue, between the intersections of Center Street and Church Street, would become a one-way roadway for traffic traveling north on North Whittlesey Avenue.
  2. South Whittlesey Avenue, between the intersections of Center Street and Prince Street, would become a one-way roadway for traffic traveling south on South Whittlesey Avenue.
  3. North Orchard Street, between the intersections of Center Street and Church Street, would remain a one-way roadway but the direction of travel would be changed to allow traffic to travel south on North Orchard Street. The traffic control signal at the intersection of Center Street and South Orchard Street would be modified to allow for traffic signal control for vehicles traveling south on North Orchard Street.
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The plan, as proposed, would not eliminate the number of available on street parking spaces on any of the streets. In fact, the number of available on-street parking spaces will increase on some portions of North Whittlesey Avenue and South Whittlesey Avenue. On street parking on North Orchard Street would be switched to the other side of the road.

This proposal was the subject of a December newspaper article that outlined the recommendation as stated above.

In order to implement the proposal, modifications must be made to the traffic signal at Center Street and North/South Orchard Street. Our Engineering Department brokers the completion of such work by means of a specialized vendor. This department makes all traffic sign changes though the requisite signs must first be acquired.

I thought it appropriate to supply this memorandum in the event any question arises as to whether the LTA is in support of this proposal. I am. I believe it will resolve a public safety concern while supplying additional parking in the immediate area. I am prepared to implement the necessary regulatory changes but the signal and signage changes are a prerequisite to my doing so. Funding for such changes are the subject of Mr. Thompson's transfer request.

Appendix II



*Town of Wallingford, Connecticut*

JOSEPH J. SWETCKY, JR.  
COMPTROLLER

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
P.O. BOX 67  
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT 0641  
TELEPHONE (203) 294-2040

August 4, 2003

The Honorable William W. Dickinson, Jr.  
Mayor, Town of Wallingford  
45 South Main Street  
Wallingford, CT 06492

RE: FY02/03 Transfer Request

Dear Mayor Dickinson:

During May of 2002 when the FY02-03 general fund budget was prepared, funds in the amount of \$37,449 were included for the independent audit that would take place after the close of the FY02/03 fiscal year. The amount of \$37,449 was based upon data received from the independent accounting firm, Levitsky and Berney, who were at the time performing the audit of the town's financial records.

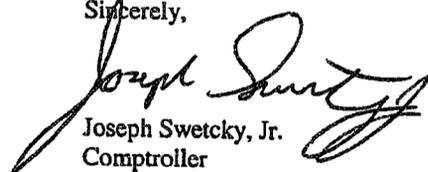
Since that time, the Town Council has undertaken a formal request for proposals for auditing services process. A special committee of the Council reviewed the submitted proposals, interviewed proposing firms and recommended that the accounting firm of Scully and Wolf be hired to undertake the FY02/03 audit of town accounts. The full Town Council concurred with this recommendation and made the appointment on May 13, 2003. As a result of the appointment of Scully and Wolf, the town's operating agencies share of the cost of the FY02/03 audit will be \$50,500 or \$13,051 more than the amount included in the FY02/03 budget. This can be summarized as follows:

Amount in FY02/03 Budget for Town's share of FY02/03 Audit:	\$37,449
Actual Amount Town must pay Scully & Wolf for operating agencies Share of FY02/03 audit:	<u>50,500</u>
Shortfall	\$13,051

To address this shortfall for FY02/03, I respectfully request approval from you and the Town Council of the attached transfer which moves \$13,051 from the Finance Department salary account to the "Purchased Professional Services: Independent Auditor" account. Funds are available in the FY02/03 Finance Department salary account due to several vacancies that occurred during the year.

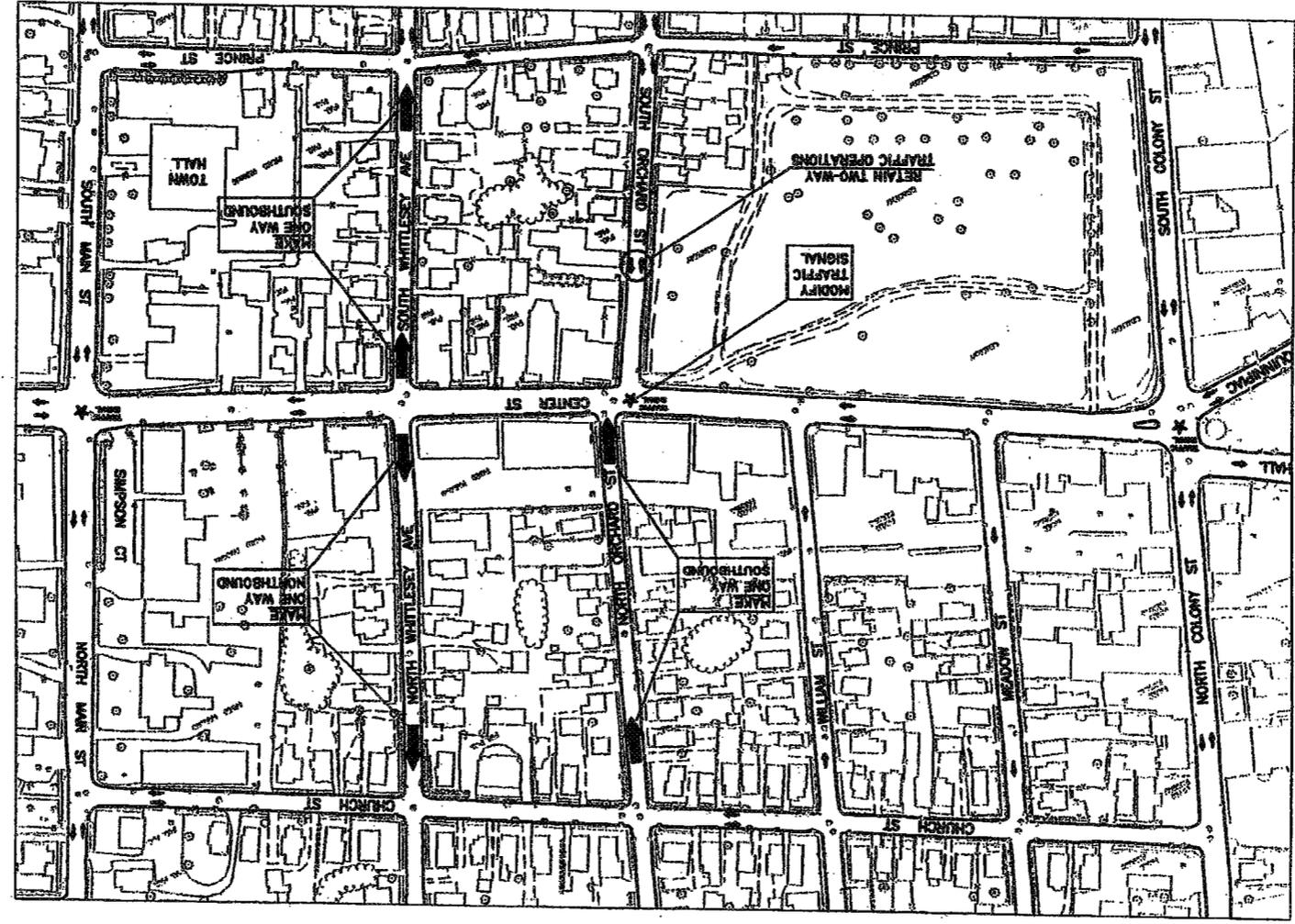
Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter. Your and the Town Council's favorable review of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Swetcky, Jr.  
Comptroller

JS/mgn  
Attachment

**PROPOSED TRAFFIC FLOW CHANGES**  
**WHITNEY AVE & ORCHARD ST.**  
 POLICE DEPARTMENT & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
 1955





*Town of Wallingford, Connecticut*

JOSEPH J. SWETCKY, JR.  
COMPTROLLER

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
P.O. BOX 67  
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT 06492  
TELEPHONE (203) 294-2040

August 4, 2003

The Honorable William W. Dickinson, Jr.  
Mayor, Town of Wallingford  
45 South Main Street  
Wallingford, CT 06492

RE: FY03/04 Transfer Request

Dear Mayor Dickinson:

When the FY03-04 general fund budget was prepared during the spring of 2003, the amount of \$37,449 was included as the Town's share for the annual independent audit that will take place after the close of the FY03/04 fiscal year. The amount of \$37,449 was based upon the cost of the FY01/02 audit which was undertaken by the accounting firm, Levitsky and Berney.

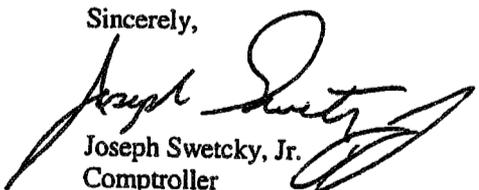
As you are aware, during the spring of 2003, the Town Council undertook a formal request for proposals for auditing services process. A special committee of the Council reviewed the submitted proposals, interviewed proposing firms and recommended that the accounting firm of Scully and Wolf be hired to undertake the audits for FY02/03, FY03/04 and FY04/05. The full Town Council concurred with this recommendation and made the appointment on May 13, 2003. As a result of the appointment of Scully and Wolf, the town's operating agencies share of the cost of the FY03/04 audit will be \$51,800 or \$14,351 more than the amount included in the FY03/04 budget. This can be summarized as follows:

Amount in FY03/04 Budget for Town's share of FY03/04 Audit:	\$37,449
Actual Amount Town must pay Scully and Wolf for operating agencies share of FY03/04 audit:	<u>51,800</u>
Shortfall	\$14,351

To address this shortfall for FY03/04, I respectfully request approval from you and the Town Council of the attached transfer which moves \$14,351 from the Finance Department salary account to the "Purchased Professional Services: Independent Auditor" account. Funds are available in the FY03/04 Finance Department salary account due to a vacancy.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter. Your and the Town Council's favorable review of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Swetcky, Jr.  
Comptroller

JS/mgn  
Attachment

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**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2003**

**\*\*\*6:00 P.M.\*\*\***

**AGENDA**

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call
2. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(E) and 1-210(b)(9) of the CT. General Statutes for the Purpose of Discussing Records, Reports and/or Statements of Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Collective Bargaining
  - Education Administrators' Assoc. of Wlfd. (EAAW)
  - Bd. of Ed. Local 1303-60 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (Custodians & Maint.)
  - Bd. of Ed. Local #75 of CILU (Paraprofessionals)
  - Police Local 1570 of Council #15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

**\*\*\*Note start time and content of meeting – no public attendance/participation\*\*\***

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