

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 28, 1992

7:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Consider and Approve Appointments/Re-Appointments to the Following Positions:
  - a. Constables (7) Two Year Term (Exp. 1/8/94)
  - b. Planning & Zoning (1) Five Year Term (Exp. 1/8/97)
  - c. Planning & Zoning Alternate (1) Three Year Term (Exp. 1/8/95)
  - d. Zoning Board of Appeals (2) Five Year Term (Exp. 1/8/95 - vacancy & 1/8/97 re-appointment)
  - e. Board of Tax Review (1) Three Year Term (Exp. 1/8/95)
3. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the General Statutes Regarding Purchase of Real Property for Easements
4. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD - 7:30 P.M.
5. PUBLIC HEARING on an Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Appropriating \$20,658,000 for the Planning, Acquisition and Construction of a Water Treatment Plant - 7:45 P.M.
6. Update Concerning the Effects on Merchants Caused by the Beautification Project at Simpson Court and North Main Street as Requested by Vice Chairman David Doherty
7. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$77,186 to Medium Duty Rescue Truck - Department of Fire Services
8. Consider and Approve Transfers of Funds (7) Within the Department of Fire Services
  - a. \$1,400 to Gas & Diesel Acct. #0232-300-3000
  - b. \$55.00 to Gas & Oil Acct. #2033-300-3000
  - c. \$650. to Gas & Oil Acct. #2031-300-3000
  - d. \$650. to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2036-300-3000
  - e. \$800. to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2037-300-3000
  - f. \$400. to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2038-300-3000
  - g. \$460. to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #0239-300-3000
9. Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment Associated with the Credit Rider Approved by the P.U.C. at its January 21, 1992 Meeting
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Initiating a Payment Plan to the Town of Wallingford of Money Received Annually From the Town of Wallingford Electric Division as Requested by Councilor Geno J. Zandri, Jr.
11. Consider and Approve a Job Description for a Water & Wastewater Engineer/Planner for the Water & Sewer Division - Personnel

(OVER)

- 12a. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$25,779 to Professional Fees and General Necessities - Welfare Services
- b. Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$232,011 to Professional Fees and General Necessities - Welfare Services
13. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 to Utilities - Department of Public Works
14. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$2,578 to Various Capital Accounts Within the Recreation Department
15. Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#120-138) in the Amount of \$4,277.26 - Tax Collector
16. Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$155,000 to Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation - Risk Manager
17. SET A PUBLIC HEARING on an Ordinance to Provide Reserve Accounts for Workers' Compensation Awards
18. Consider Rejecting the Board of Education Contract
19. Consider and Approve a Lease Agreement with the Wallingford Housing Authority for Use of McKenna Court Gym - Mayor's Office
20. Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for State Grant Funds under the Work Zone Safety Program - Mayor's Office
21. Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for Hiring of Outside Counsel to Review Contracts with CMEEC and Northeast Utilities - Town Attorney
22. Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for Computerized Indexing and Microfilming as well as Approval of a Two Year Contract - Town Clerk's Office
23. Approve and Accept Minutes of 11/26/91, 12/10/91, 12/19/91 (5:30 & 7:00 P.M.) and 12/30/91 Town Council Meetings
24. Correspondence

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 28, 1992

7:00 P.M.

A meeting of the Wallingford Town Council was held on Tuesday, January 28, 1992 in the Robert Earley Auditorium of the Wallingford Town Hall and called to Order by Chairperson Iris F. Papale at 7:12 P.M. All Councilors answered present to the Roll called by Town Clerk Kathryn J. Wall. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr. and Attorney Gerald Farrell, Jr. were also present. Comptroller Thomas A. Myers arrived late.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed for Margaret Brown, Former Town Council Secretary; Philander Cook, State Senator and First Selectman of the Town of Wallingford; Howard K. Jones, Former Personnel Director of the Town of Wallingford.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Place the Following Items on the Consent Agenda to be Voted Upon by One Unanimous Vote of the Council;

ITEM #13 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$6,000 from Janitorial Service Acct. #001-230-600-6290 to Utilities Acct. #001-5031-200-2010 - Dept. of Public Works

ITEM #15 Consider and Approve Tax Refunds (#120-138) in the Amount of \$4,277.26 - Tax Collector

ITEM #22 Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for Computerized Indexing and Microfilming as well as Approval of a Two Year Contract - Town Clerk's Office

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #2 Consider and Approve Appointments/Re-appointments to the Following Positions:

Mr. Doherty made a motion to Re-appoint:

Anthony Giresi	Robert A. Jacques, Sr.
Harold Gehrke, Jr.	Ann Polanski
Michael DeNino, Jr.	Robert Allard
Al Gasser	

to the Positions of Constables for a Two Year Term to Expire 1/3/94, seconded by Mr. Solinsky.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Appoint Mr. James Vumbaco to the Position of Planning & Zoning Commissioner, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Killen & Zandri abstained; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

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Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Appoint Mr. Alfred J. Namnoun to the Position of Planning & Zoning Alternate, seconded by Mr. McDermott.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Re-appoint Richard Scott to the Position of Commissioner on the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Re-appoint Mr. Timothy Reardon to the Board of Tax Review, seconded by Mr. McDermott.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Appoint Mildred Dorsey to the Position of Commissioner on the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Waive the Two Week Waiting Period and Have the Town Clerk Swear All Appointees Present Into Their Respective Positions, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Killen questioned the necessity of waiving the two week waiting period, what was the reasoning behind it, what was the rush?

Ms. Papale responded that all but one of the individuals were present this evening, some waited patiently to be interviewed prior to the meeting and therefore, the Town Clerk should swear them in this evening while it is convenient for everyone (Ms. Polanski was the only absentee due to a previous commitment).

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Town Clerk, Kathryn J. Wall, performed the swearing in ceremony for all appointees.

ITEM #3 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(4) of the General Statutes Regarding the Purchase of Real Property for Easements.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Proceed Into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Exit the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #5 PUBLIC HEARING on an Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Appropriating \$20,658,000 for the Planning, Acquisition and Construction of a Water Treatment Plant - 7:45 P.M.

Motion was made by Mr. Holmes to Dispense with the Reading of the Ordinance and Append it to the Minutes of the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Doherty.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Mr. Doherty made a motion to open the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Doherty explained to the public that the purpose of the proposed amendment is to include the construction costs of the Ulbrich and McKenzie pump stations and raw and finish water transmission mains into the funding authorization. This requires an increase in the amount of \$7,252,000.00 which increases the total appropriation for all of the projects to \$27,900,000. The amount of the increase is based upon bids received for the pump stations and for transmission mains in December of 1991.

Mr. Roger Dann, General Manager of the Water & Sewer Division gave a brief overview of the three major components of the project, outlining them as follows:

- construction of the Water Treatment Plant
- construction of upgraded raw water pump stations
- upgraded raw water transmission mains and a new finish water transmission main

In February of 1991 construction began on the Water Treatment Plant. Bidding was completed in December of 1991 on the design of the raw water pump stations and transmission mains. On the basis of those bids the funding needs to be increased to reflect all of the costs of the various components of the project. When the ordinance and estimates were prepared, the Division was working with the second low bidder in one of the cases. Since then it has been determined that the low bidder is acceptable and, accordingly, it is recommended that the amount of the ordinance can be reduced by the differential which is approximately \$180,000.

Mr. Doherty made a motion to reduce the amount of the ordinance by \$180,000., arriving at a new figure of \$27,720,000., seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Mr. Peter Gouveia, 39 Lincoln Drive asked if it will be necessary for the town to purchase easements with this project and what will be done about it?

Attorney Farrell responded that the subject of the Executive Session dealt with those particular easements. During that session the Council was assured that there is a way of proceeding and if the easements are not obtained on a voluntary basis of what the procedure would be on obtaining those easements on an eminent domain basis.

Mr. Gouveia asked if the town is prepared to go out and borrow this money that the Council is being asked to approve today if we don't have the easements at hand?

Mr. Dann answered that we are not prepared to enter into a contract

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unless, in fact, the easements are in hand.

Mr. Gouveia asked if the permit has been received from the State for the diversion of....request made to D.E.P.?

Mr. Dann answered that that process began in the fall of 1989. Since that time we have gone through a number of discussions which ultimately led to a couple of significant facts. One is an agreement with the State as to what our existing "grandfathered" diversions are (the amount, capacity of diversion which we are allowed by right as a result of our existing facilities). On that basis the Division feels confident that they are able to proceed with the project.

Mr. Gouveia asked, if you are grandfathered, as long as you remain within the 4-5 MGDs then the D.E.P. will not have any problem with that?

Mr. Dann responded, the grandfathered amount is actually 12.29 MGD that we can withdraw from the McKenzie Reservoir. That is the number that the State is prepared to grant us.

Mr. Gouveia then asked, if you take 12 MGDs from the reservoir, how much water will be left downstream from the reservoir?

Mr. Dann answered that the point on that is that the existing facilities can take 12.29 MGD. The impacts that may occur are those that result from the increase demand of the town from the water supply but would not be a function of altering how that 12.29 withdrawal takes place. In fact, our feeling is by virtue of constructing the upgraded stations that we probably have at hand, better management tools to avoid the impacts of what we have utilizing the existing structures. Although the pump stations will have a capacity of 12.29 MGD, it is not projected that that is the amount that we will withdraw 365 days of the year. In fact, the actual withdrawal will be significantly less than that. The additional capacity allows us to take water when it is available so that we don't have to have some of the more negative impacts by drawing down the reservoir during the summer months, for example.

Mr. Gouveia suggested that the town consider looking into a dual distribution system for places like the trash plant, cyanamid and industrial parks.

Mr. Edward Bradley, 2 Hampton Trail asked if the treatment plant was on schedule, behind schedule or ahead of schedule?

Mr. Dann responded that the plant is currently on, to ahead of schedule with regards to critical activities and have fallen somewhat behind on the non-critical activities.

Mr. Bradley asked if we were currently under budget?

Mr. Dann answered that we are currently proceeding on budget and have, in fact, at this point not executed any change orders on the project.

Mr. Holmes asked Mr. Dann to notify the Council when the diversion

permit is granted by the State.

Mr. Dann agreed to.

Mr. Holmes asked what the contingency amounts would be used for?

Mr. Dann explained, in the case of the engineering that money would be used for any unexpected conditions that may require some form of change in the scope of the contract. If the contract were delayed for whatever reason we would have to re-negotiate with the engineer.

Mr. Solinsky asked if any contingency money has been used yet?

Mr. Dann responded that some of the engineering contingency money had to be used as a result of some of the considerations that were placed upon us by the State, i.e., sludge disposal study requirement.

Mr. Solinsky asked, when the transmission lines are installed on Center Street and Scard Road, will the road be closed?

Mr. Dann answered, yes, there will be detours. One of the requirements of the contractor is to submit, in advance, a traffic plan for review by the Police Department so the closures are properly coordinated, inconvenience is minimized and signage is properly located.

Mr. Solinsky asked if Roger will have people on sight for inspections?

Mr. Dan answered, project representation, day in and day out, will be provided by a project representative provided by the engineer. An assigned person within the Water Division will be responsible for coordination and interaction with the engineer's representative and for conducting routine site visits to look at the progress of work.

Mr. Solinsky asked if the Town Engineer is aware of all the work and extent of it, changes, etc.

Mr. Dann stated that Mr. Costello was consulted and asked for specific requirements with regards to paving, etc., he did participate with us on that portion of it.

Mr. Solinsky asked, would you say that he approved the pavement plans?

Mr. Dann, answered, I don't know if we sent him a specific contract to view.

Mr. Solinsky's main concern is that when finished, we should have a road of a specific quality. If it is disrupted have we taken this under consideration?

Mr. Costello, Town Engineer, responded, yes we have. I have discussed it with Roger and Vinny Mascia, Senior Engineer.

Mr. Solinsky: So all the roads will be brought up to what you would say are your specs and you basically approved the plans?

Mr. Costello: That is correct.

Mr. Zandri asked if the relocation of the lagoons are part of this project?

Mr. Dann answered that the relocations took place under the previous portion. It was incorporated within the treatment plant project, itself.

Mr. Zandri questioned the presentation of the motion and would like it restated for the purpose of clarity.

Mr. Doherty withdrew his motion, Mr. Holmes withdrew his second.

Mr. Doherty amended the motion to Reduce the Ordinance by \$180,000 and reflect the Changes in Section 1; 2,1; 3,2; and 4,5 and to Change the Engineering, Design and Construction amount to read, \$26,376,300, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Solinsky asked if the Debt Administration is reduced at a proportionate ratio? If the construction and engineering are reduced, is the debt administration reduced as well?

Mr. Myers responded, no, the \$180,000 reduction is due to the fact that the bidding came in lower than when the ordinance was first prepared. He did not recommend changing the debt because all of the debt administration is in fixed costs.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Holmes to Approve the Ordinance as Amended, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

#### PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road voiced his opposition to the Boys and Girls Club Grant from the State. He feels that once built, they will begin to expand and spread out all over the place.

Edward Bradley, 2 Hampton Trail asked the Mayor if there will be any review of the medical benefit rates and possible alternatives as far as rate reductions?

Mayor Dickinson responded that we will be looking for an audit, something that is being investigated now, an audit of bills and experience with Blue Cross. In addition, we will be looking at other types of programs, third party administrators to handle it rather than having the system as it now is with Blue Cross acting as administration as well as receiving all of the premiums.

Mr. Bradley addressed another subject when he referred to an article that appeared in the local paper dealing with the Police Chief's decision to change police vehicles due to the department's recent

experiences with various mechanical problems. Mr. Bradley pointed out that the Chief failed to identify the major problems they are experiencing, only minor ones. He then asked the Mayor for his thoughts on the matter.

Mayor Dickinson responded that he has not had conversation with the Police Chief on the issue. At this point he would not venture a guess as to what the outcome will be.

Mr. Bradley asked if it was the normal course of action for the Police Chief to take, bring his problems to light through the media before he discusses it with his C.E.O.?

Mayor Dickinson answered that he did not know what the background was, he did not see the article so there is no way for him to respond to Mr. Bradley's questions.

Mr. Bradley then asked, has the Police Chief approached you at all on this issue, Mayor?

Mayor Dickinson answered, no.

ITEM #6 Update Concerning the Effects on Merchants Caused by the Beautification Project at Simpson Court and North Main Street as Requested by Vice Chairman David Doherty.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mr. Doherty asked Mr. John Costello, Town Engineer, to provide the Council with an update on the project.

Mr. Doherty made a motion to hear the update on the project, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Costello explained that the project is approximately 70% complete. To date, approximately \$1.31 million has been expended on it. The major items that remain to be completed are the ornamental street lights which should be shipped by the end of February; the relocation and upgrade of the traffic signal at Center and Main Streets with equipment being delivered by the middle of February; and the bus passenger shelters which will be received by the middle of March. The landscaping will be done in March or April and the repaving of the streets will take place in June. The area to be paved will be from Prince Street to Academy Street and should take two to three days. The merchants will be notified in the immediate area to keep them advised of the work.

Mr. Doherty raised concerns because of the possibility that the town may be hindering the business activities of the merchants. He wanted to make the process easier on the merchants to avoid harm to their trades. He hoped that by getting everything out on the table the lines of communication would be kept open and everyone informed.

Mr. McDermott asked if the town would be performing the paving work?

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Mr. Costello responded that the town is not capable of a paving job of this magnitude. They do not possess the proper equipment.

Mr. Parisi asked if Mr. Costello has received any complaints from the merchants lately?

Mr. Costello responded that there were some when the sidewalk was being removed recently.

Mr. Parisi thought the issue of communication was resolved when this item came before the Council last fall.

Mr. Costello felt that the contractor was communicating with the merchants on a daily basis.

Mr. Killen felt the contractor was excellent and attributed the problems to lack of communication. People were being chased out of Simpson Court without being informed of alternate parking sites. He placed part of the blame on the town. He voiced his distaste of the large green electrical boxes located along the beautification route. It was not his idea of beautification.

Mr. Zandri asked if there has been any consideration given to the thought of paving off hours?

Mr. Costello responded, not at this time. He will check with the paving contractor for the cost differential.

Mr. Zandri felt it was worth looking into. It may be worthwhile to prevent any other disruptions to the businesses.

Nancy LaVoie, 41 Kondracki Lane, Proprietor of the Smart Shop, raised concerns over the parking issue. There are no parking limit signs posted and no enforcement by the Police Department. Many people working in establishments during the day park in front of her shop for eight hours of the day.

Mayor Dickinson stated that parking regulations for that area allow for two hours maximum. He will speak to the Police Chief regarding the problem. He did not think that it would be necessary to place an abundant amount of signs for parking.

Ms. LaVoie pointed out that, in renovating the area, the driveway between her shop and the old library has been blocked off. That served as a handicapped access ramp.

Mayor Dickinson questioned Mr. Costello on who blocked the area?

Mr. Costello responded that it was part of the plans.

Mayor Dickinson and Mr. Costello will research this complaint.

Mr. Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road stated that the bricks become slippery from the bad weather. He felt it was a dangerous situation.

Mr. Ron Lyons, 38 N. Main Street, Reliable Home & Hardware felt that the timing was terrible for this project. He received a lot of complaints from his customers about the rudeness of the individuals controlling the traffic flow during the project. His U.P.S. deliveries were hampered or forbidden by the same people. In essence, he felt that the work had a direct influence on the decrease of his business. He feels that he has not gained any of it back and hoped that the town could see its way clear to make some sort of restitution to the merchants whether it be in the form of tax relief or other alternative. He had called the Mayor's Office on many occasion and was treated kindly each time. They suggested contacting the Board of Tax Review as an avenue of restitution.

Pat Kenyon, 40 North Main Street, Proprietor, Library Hours Bookshop, stated that the contractor has been extremely inconsiderate of his placement of vehicles in Simpson Court. They have been parked horizontally, blocking off as many as twelve spaces at once to plant trees or unload bricks. It is the blatant ignorance of the customer's and proprietor's needs that upset the merchants, otherwise they were understanding of the necessary work and its impact.

Pat Kendall, 105 Prince Street echoed Ms. Kenyon's feelings. She stressed communication. She thanked the Council for improving the center district.

Mr. Doherty asked Mr. Costello if he would be willing to accept the responsibility of keeping the merchants informed of all that will happen?

Mr. Costello responded, yes.

Mr. Doherty read the list of meeting dates for the Board of Tax Review to the merchants for their information.

Mr. Timothy Reardon stated that an advertisement will appear in the newspapers on Friday with a number to call to schedule a hearing. He felt, however, that unless the merchants disputed their property assessments, there was nothing the board could do for them. It would be up to the Council to initiate an ordinance for tax relief.

Mr. Killen asked why the traffic signal post is located in such a way as to place the town at risk with a lawsuit?

Mr. Costello stated that the pole has to be within a certain distance of the handicap ramp.

Mr. Killen offered to get in touch with Wallingford Center, Inc., the Chamber of Commerce and A.W.A.R.D.S. to coordinate a meeting with the merchants to find out what the next steps will be and how to best inform them of the progress of the project so as not to disrupt their businesses any longer.

Edward Bradley, 2 Hampton Trail was on the Council when this project was voted on and he does not lay fault with the Council. He reminded everyone that back in October both Mr. Killen and himself brought this very issue forth on the Council Agenda for discussion. At that time several people appeared before the Council; Wallingford Center, Inc., Joe Cassista, of the Engineering Department, Don Roe, Program Planner,

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and the Mayor. Communication was stressed by the Council and all present agreed to keep the merchants informed. Here we are in January and nothing has gotten any better.

Ms. Papale wanted to know where the break was occurring in the chain of communication?

Mr. Costello accepted the responsibility for the lack of communication. He did not instruct his inspector to contact each merchant. That will not be the case in the future.

No action was taken.

ITEM #12a Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Move Agenda Items #12a & #12b Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12a Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$25,779 from Council Contingency Acct. #8050-800-3190 to Professional Fees Acct. #3060-700-7000, \$4,079.00 and to General Necessities Acct. #3060-700-7010, \$21,700.00 - Welfare Department

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Killen amended the motion to Transfer the Funds from the following accounts; \$12,000 from Administrative Salary; \$2,000 from Burial Expenses and \$11,779 from General Hospital in place of the \$25,779 transfer from Council Contingency, seconded by Mrs. Duryea.

Mr. Killen felt that the funds should come from within Welfare's department budget and not contingency.

VOTE: Parisi was absent; Zandri, passed; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #12b Consider and Approve an Appropriation of Funds in the Amount of \$232,011 from Revenue, Town Recovery of Welfare Acct. #1065-060-6250 to Professional Fees Acct. #3060-700-7000, \$36,711.00 and to General Necessities Acct. #3060-700-7010, \$195,300.00 - Welfare Department

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Doherty asked for a report on the welfare caseload increase over the past year.

Mrs. Mary Alice Petrucelli-Timek explained that from 1986 to 1991 the caseload jumped from 33 cases per month in 1986 to 157 cases per month in December of 1990.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

The Vice-Chairman declared a five minute recess.

ITEM #7 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$77,186 to Medium Duty Rescue Truck Acct. #2037-999-9902 from Fire

Chief's Wages Acct. #2037-999-9902 from Fire Chief's Wages Acct. #2032-100-1200, \$13,000.00; Council Contingency Acct. #8050-800-3190, \$57,186.00; and \$7,000 from Various Accounts Within the Fire Department

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Approve the Transfer and Append a Copy of the Transfer Form to the Minutes, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Chief Wayne LeFebvre & Chief Jay Warner approached the Council to update them on the progress of the quest to purchase a new rescue vehicle. Chief LeFebvre explained that through negotiations with the manufacturer of the vehicle he found out that they can accommodate some of the optional items that the volunteers feel they need by putting down "up front" money and the company will return 5% interest on that money thereby allowing the purchase of optional items. Approximately \$7,500 of interest will be gained on the \$150,000 "up front" money. In reviewing their budget they have cut \$20,000 from the salaries portion due to the restructuring of the department and early retirements. Through a successful bidding process during the year, approximately \$7,000 can be utilized from capital accounts.

Mr. Zandri asked if this vehicle was budgeted for in the current budget?

Chief LeFebvre responded that \$112,500.00 was budgeted this year.

Mr. Zandri asked if there was a cost savings?

Chief LeFebvre: Yes because the original figure of \$225,000, of which \$112,500 was half of, has been pared down.

Mr. Zandri: It is my understanding that when this was budgeted, it was originally budgeted over a three year period.

Chief LeFebvre: Yes.

Mrs. Duryea: I don't have a problem with the fire department getting a rescue truck. In the Mayor's letter to us it does address "that the hardships in the economy and concerns over the next fiscal year's budget are very real considerations.." I think that we are faced with those right now. As far as I am concerned the money for the entire truck was not budgeted in this year's budget, I would prefer with such a short time left before next year's budget that we wait a couple of months and then present it then. These are my feelings on this, it is not to begrudge the department what they do deserve.

Chief LeFebvre: If we were to do that we would lose the money available in my budget presently, \$27,000, and we would not need the cost increase of the industry either. We have an extension on the bid, they are holding the price for us and we will lose that at the end of this month.

Mr. Solinsky: Besides this truck what other vehicle needs do you foresee for the future?

Chief LeFebvre: We are going to distribute a status report and needs assessment right after this action this evening and in that package you

will see my five year and ten year long range vehicle replacement schedule. It will also site some of the other major capital items that we are going to be required to purchase in the near future.

Mr. Solinsky: What are you requesting in this year's budget for vehicles?

Chief LeFebvre: We have not put it all together yet but I am very interested in replacing the engine on Main Street next.

Mr. McDermott: How much of an increase will we incur if we wait?

Chief LeFebvre: I can't guess but it will be more than the \$27,000 in my budget available now.

Mr. McDermott: I have watched this come before the Council during budget last year and I've noticed how you have pinched the prices to come up with the best deal, I see no reason to hold it up any longer.

Mr. Zandri: Are the manufacturers of fire trucks selling that many of them during this economy that they will go up on the price?

Chief LeFebvre: The northeast may be in a recession but in Appleton, Wisconsin, they are not. Everything is going up. The cost of maintaining our equipment is going up.

Mr. Zandri: There are two reasons why I am voting against this, one is because it is a transfer from a wages account which is one of my pet peeves, and two, because it is not in this year's budget. The game plan when we started out was to purchase it over a two year period and I think that is the game plan that we should stay with.

Mr. Doherty asked for a history on the rescue truck currently in operation.

Chief LeFebvre: It is ten years old, originally accommodated four people, two in the cab and two on back, but that is no longer allowed for safety reasons (riding two on back) so it has become a two passenger vehicle. Additional equipment has been purchased over the past ten years to supply the vehicle which has resulted in a much more valuable rescue truck, service-wise. The objective is to move the company as a group to the scene. They are not allowed to use their personal vehicles as transportation to a limited access highway incident for safety reasons. This newer vehicle will carry more passengers thus allowing the team to arrive as a whole.

Mr. Doherty: Has the current truck been maintained and deemed safe?

Chief LeFebvre: It is safe and well-maintained and we have been offered \$12,000 towards a trade-in because of that aspect.

Mr. Doherty: If you look at the agenda items this evening, some are scary in terms of the amount of money that we are moving around, the workers' compensation figure, for example. And with the news in the paper and a 9.1% increase in the Board of Education Budget, which I think is extremely too high. United Technologies this week, Dime Savings

Bank this morning, the Welfare numbers before us this evening, I have become very uncomfortable with spending more money. We have revaluation facing us, we have a Grand List that is not increasing and it has really become uncomfortable for me to spend this money tonight. I am not going to do it.

Mr. Killen: How soon will the truck be delivered?

Chief LeFebvre: Approximately nine months away.

Mr. Killen: Did you solicit interest from other departments on the trade-in vehicle?

Chief LeFebvre: Yes, no one can compare to the price that Pierce is offering us for the truck. Many people don't want it.

Mr. Killen: Does the department require a heavy duty truck as originally requested?

Chief LeFebvre: It is somewhat a matter of semantics. The carrying capacity of this truck is on a frame which will accommodate the weight load of people plus equipment. The vehicle is classified as a medium duty rescue truck and it will accommodate without jeopardizing the units.

Mr. Killen: The point is that what you told me is when we put money in for a heavy duty vehicle, so if you wanted something medium duty at that time, why couldn't you have put in for a medium duty truck then?

Chief LeFebvre: We did not have the facts at hand now that we did then. I have learned a great deal through this process. In learning some of the ins and outs we were able to reduce the final costs of it.

Mr. Killen: The money is still in for a heavy duty rescue truck. Somewhere along the line it will have to be changed.

Mr. McDermott: How many rescue trucks are in the town now?

Chief LeFebvre: One, just that one at North Farms is classified as a true rescue truck.

Mr. McDermott: What is the advantage to buying this truck?

Chief LeFebvre: It will get the team there simultaneously. If they arrive together they begin to work as a team together. They can carry more equipment as well.

Mr. Parisi: Will the additional room allow for the team to suit up on the way to the fire?

Chief LeFebvre: That occurs prior to boarding the apparatus. With this truck they will have the room to place their air packs on during transportation, that is not the case with the existing truck.

Peter Gouveia, 39 Lincoln Drive: All of us have forgotten something

about this truck. The original request was for \$225,000 of which the Mayor slashed to \$112,500. During budget sessions the Council put back the money so that you could buy that truck. The point that I want to make is that the present and previous Fire Chief identified this as a need. The Mayor reduced it because of financial considerations. I remember the Mayor stating at that time that he was not totally convinced at that time that we needed the truck to begin with. Since then you have remained convinced that you need the truck and from the Mayor's letter to the Chairperson of the Council, he too now, is convinced that you need the truck. How different is this original request from the truck that you are now proposing? It appears as though the only difference is options, approximately \$13,000 worth.

Chief LeFebvre: It is a smaller, lighter vehicle with the same carrying capacity, classified as a medium duty vs. heavy duty. It does not have the same suspension, engine or transmission.

Mr. Gouveia: The base price of this truck is \$201,000 after you eliminated \$19,000 worth of options which brings the price back to \$220,000 which is pretty close to the original request. The only difference I see is \$13,000 in options. You still propose to get \$7,000 in options back with the "up front" money deal.

Chief LeFebvre: There have been industrial increases of \$4,000.

Mr. Gouveia: I was for this truck during budget sessions, if I were still on the Council I would still vote for it even though I firmly believe that we should have done this the way the Council did it originally which was to approve the entire thing from the beginning. I am not comfortable with the proposal today. I am not sure this is an emergency so I don't believe Council Contingency should be touched. I would much rather see the money used within your budget and if you run out it becomes a true emergency. Then you should come before the Council. In placing the \$150,000 "up front" money you are losing the use of the money for about a year to acquire \$7,000 worth of options. You are losing the leverage. If something goes wrong with that truck, they already have \$150,000 in their back pocket. We should invest that \$150,000.00, make the \$7,000 in interest order the options and pay when the truck is delivered.

Chief LeFebvre: It is not within my purview nor my ability to invest the town's money.

Edward Bradley, 2 Hampton Trail asked what type of emergencies does this truck respond to?

Chief LeFebvre: Vehicle accidents requiring extrication; building collapses, elevator entrapment, ice and water rescues, etc.

Mr. Bradley: How many men go out on a response?

Chief LeFebvre: Ten during the day, twenty at night.

Mr. Bradley: If an emergency arises on I-91, what other trucks respond besides this one?

Chief LeFebvre: We respond a truck from Main Street and one from Kondracki Lane.

Mr. Bradley: Any duplication of equipment?

Chief LeFebvre: No.

Mr. Bradley: How is this truck not doing the job today?

Chief LeFebvre: They are performing their task, it is not as efficient and cannot carry the men nor amount of equipment safely that they now possess. We are trying to update the fleet to keep it in better service.

Mr. Bradley: Is it correct to say that this vehicle that is currently in use today for rescue-type purposes is not hindering or jeopardizing the public's safety?

Chief LeFebvre: No, not at all. It is not safe for the people to use it and that is one of our main concerns also.

Mr. Bradley: I think it is time to take a hard look at items like this during budget. I have been a supporter of North Farms and their tanker three years ago, but I think it is time to hold the line on this one.

Mr. Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road did not believe the equipment is needed that badly. There is nothing wrong with the current equipment and it is not the time to spend money on a vehicle in this state of the economy.

Ms. Papale asked if the vehicle is dangerous to the firefighters?

Chief LeFebvre responded, no, the vehicle is maintained and safe but it is not adequate nor safe to carry people on the back which is now a standard no longer allowed.

Ms. Papale feels that the Council agreed that there was a necessity for this vehicle two years ago and that necessity still remains. It will save the town money if purchased now, not later.

VOTE: Doherty, Duryea, Killen & Zandri, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. McDermott to Amend the Budget by Changing the Title of the Capital Account from Heavy Duty Rescue Truck to Medium Duty Rescue Truck, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Zandri, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #8 Consider and Approve Transfers of Funds (7) Within the Department of Fire Services

- a. \$1,400 to Gas & Diesel Acct. #2032-300-3000 from no Sick Leave Incentive Acct. #2032-100-1620
- b. \$55.00 to Gas & Oil Acct. #2033-300-3000 from No Sick Leave

- Incentive Acct. #2032-100-1620
- c. \$650.00 to Gas & Oil Acct. #2031-300-3000 from Longevity Union Acct. #2032-100-1750
  - d. \$650.00 to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2036-300-3000 from Longevity Union Acct. #2032-100-1750
  - e. \$800.00 to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2037-300-3000 from Longevity Union Acct. #2032-100-1750
  - f. \$400.00 to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #20378-300-3000 from Longevity Union Acct. #2032-100-1750
  - g. \$460.00 to Gas, Oil & Diesel Acct. #2039-300-3000 from Longevity Union Acct. #2032-100-1750

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

VOTE: Holmes was absent; Zandri, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Move Agenda Item #14 Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

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

ITEM #14 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$2,578.00 from Recreational Supplies Acct. #001-4000-400-4680 to Capital - Foam Trapezoid Acct. #001-4000-999-9902, \$410.00; Capital Portable Ballet Stand Acct. #001-4000-999-9905, \$360.00; Capital Folding Mat Acct. #001-4000-999-9906, \$558.00; Capital Air Circulators Acct. #001-4000-999-9907, \$621.00; Capital Developmental Cart with Supplies Acct. #001-4000-999-9908, \$631.00 - Recreation Dept.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mr. Killen asked why these items had to come before the Council?

Mr. Stan Shepardson responded that any item over \$300 is considered a capital item and must have a capital account assigned to them.

Mr. Killen asked where this rule originated?

Mr. Myers stated that his department initiated it to control the inventory of items.

There was some debate over whether or not the practice was necessary but to no avail.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Move Agenda Item #18 Up to the Next Order of Business, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

ITEM #18 Consider Rejecting the Board of Education Contract

Motion was made by Mr. Parisi, seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Doherty abstained from this issue being an employee of the Board of Education.

Dale Wilson, Barbara Beecher and Donna Lange were on hand to answer any questions that the Council had.

Mr. Zandri asked if the percentage increases included any increments?

Ms. Beecher responded, yes, it includes all the increments.

Mr. Zandri: So that would be the total would be the maximum increase of any particular individual?

Ms. Beecher: No, the total increase for the entire salary account is 4.2%. There is a wage step system for the teachers and depending on what step they are on would depend on what percentage they would get.

Mr. Zandri: Is that an average?

Ms. Beecher: The people at the top step salary was 2.....

Mr. Wilson: That is not really an average. It is 4.2% of this year's contract in new money distributed throughout the salary schedule. The percentages are different on every single step. There is B.A., M.A. and sixth year degrees in each year of the three year contract. In each step it is a different percentage depending on where they are. There is a "bubble" in our teacher's contract and if you look at the salaries towards the end of the mid to upper part of the salary schedule those are much higher percentages. There is a history of that. One of the reasons, many years ago, at least ten, there were fifteen steps reduced down to eleven which caused part of that "bubble". The second reason is, when you keep adding to the maximum step, the gap gets larger there from steps 10 down. Money needs to be distributed throughout each of the 7,8,9 steps throughout each of the years to more evenly distribute the money. If you look at the salary schedule those increases are much higher than 4.2% because of that "bubble" that has occurred there.

Mr. Zandri: It would have to be an average.

Mr. Wilson: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. Zandri: There is a 5% medical benefit co-pay that is coming back?

Ms. Beecher: The teachers will be paying 5% of the cost of their medical insurance. This is the first time in the town that this has been offered.

Mr. Zandri: I definitely feel that this is a step in the right direction. Do you have the number of what would be the maximum that any individual would be getting this year?

Mr. Wilson: I believe that the highest in any of these is around 11% and the lowest is 2.97% and that is only in one of the steps.

Mr. Zandri asked what the base increase in pay would be (avg.) without the increments?

Mr. Wilson responded, 2.5%, 2.23% and 1.9% respectively.

Mr. Parisi asked what the 5% in medical benefit co-pay would be translated into dollars?

Mr. Wilson answered, it depends on what type of coverage and whether or not you have a family. The highest could be \$400 paid on an \$8,000 contract.

Mr. Parisi asked how many people are in the category of receiving 11% for an increase?

Mr. Wilson: Half.

Ms. Beecher: About 60% of our people are on the top step so they are only getting the percentage part, not the increment. People that have been with us seven or eight years that are moving to the next step up will be receiving the 11% increase which translates to about 20% of our staff.

Mr. Killen asked when the contract goes into effect?

Mr. Wilson responded, September.

Mr. Killen asked how much of an increase has the Board of Ed budgeted for salaries next year as opposed to this year's budget?

Mr. Wilson: 4.2%

Mr. Killen: That is the bottom line dollar?

Mr. Wilson nodded yes.

Mr. Solinsky asked if there are new positions in the budget?

Ms. Beecher: Yes, they are proposing new positions.

Mr. Solinsky: Then that comes to more than 4.2 %.

Ms. Beecher: There are retirements that may take place that lower.... because we can hire people at a lesser amount. The certified salary account is only 2. something if you look at it over last year's salary account. Am I right?

Mr. Wilson: We have the money in contingency which we have not moved out of there yet. The money was placed there because we were negotiating. We have reduced that contingency to reflect a 4.2% increase for the certified salaries.

Mr. Zandri asked what some of the awards have averaged for those towns who have gone to arbitration?

Mr. Wilson: They have been awarded as follows: Bethany, 5.25%, 5.25%; Middletown, 5.8% and 5.8%; Norwalk, 6.6% and 7.0%, etc.

Donna Lange: Susan Wright and I attended a negotiation session in Hartford and every arbitrator who spoke indicated 5% was the number they were considering.

Mr. McDermott asked that the medical insurance premium increase be explained to him.

Mr. Solinsky needed clarification on the major medical coverage.

Joe Ferrara urged the Council to reject the contract. He stated that the increase is, in fact, 12.7% and in these economic times it is the same as the 25% increase they received three years ago. The average person's salary has been frozen for maybe two years, in some cases, three years and in some cases people have had to take less money in salaries. The crucial measure is not the nominal increase in teacher's salaries but the difference between that increase and the level of salaries in private employment. Getting raises of 4% this year, the teacher's unions may still be gaining 8% or more on the people paying their salaries, who for those people are suffering reductions in their income of 4% or more. The most important question is, why are these unions, or any public employee union in Connecticut are getting any raises this year when jobs are hard to find? Do you think that the teachers would leave their jobs if they were not getting raises this year? I don't think so. Don't be misled by them telling you this is the best that they can do. Connecticut teachers are the highest paid teachers in the nation. Their salaries have gone up over 150% over the past ten years. Have any of your salaries gone up that much?, I don't think so. Consider that they work 180 days for \$44,000 vs. the average 240 days for most people. Consider also the fact that they virtually have a job for life. They cannot be fired unless they commit a felony and even then we are not sure, that is still pending. Their performance cannot be evaluated in direct proportion to the student's achievements, or at least the unions would have you believe that. Consider the highest salary with one of the lowest S.A.T. average scores in the nation. As evidenced tonight, our math scores in the nation average right now, in Connecticut, are 468 and our verbal is 429. They claim they are professionals yet they negotiate for whatever they will stay after school for an additional five minutes or whether or not they get time off to prepare for the next day's curriculum. This is professional? A real professional, doctor, dentist, accountant, etc., takes a standardized, national test to see if they can pursue their profession. Yet, teachers have no such accreditation. The teacher's unions have been against national accreditation for many years. He referred to headlines in local papers, Hartford Courant, Wall Street Journal, Record Journal, etc., which read, "When Will Educators Blame Themselves?", "Best Paid and Very Nearly the Least Worked in the Nation", "Taxpayer's Angered by Teacher's Rising Salaries", he offered to make copies for everyone asking them to take a moment to

read the articles before making a decision. He urged the Council to table the item. Currently, the legislative body in Connecticut, in session at this moment, is looking at the laws concerning arbitration. They are being challenged and, in all likelihood, they will be changed this session. Take a chance, reject the contract, let it go back, let them re-negotiate. The best thing you can do is to reject the contract.

Mr. Bradley questioned some of the higher percentages in various steps and asked how many people are in those particular steps and are they, in fact, receiving increases of 10% and better?

Mr. Wilson responded that the increases in the upper steps are high, as he mentioned before, because of the "bubble". There are some steps that have no employees in them. There is a problem with the "bubble" and the only plus out of it is that in the next contract negotiations during the second year of that contract the "bubble" would have moved out. The money will then be distributed more fairly through all eleven steps.

Mr. Bradley asked if the fifteen sick days that are granted each year can be accumulated across the years to a maximum amount?

Mr. Wilson responded, yes. Upon retirement they are paid up to ninety days. There was a "cap" placed on severance pay this contract. Anyone hired after 1987 has a "cap" of \$25,000 for severance pay, with this new contract there is a "cap" of \$40,000 for those people hired before 1987.

Mr. Bradley reminded everyone that sick days have an intended use, for the person to use them to get well and get back to the job. The philosophy in the private sector is, you are given a certain amount of days and either you use them or you lose them. I think it is about time that we start negotiating out of the contract, accumulation of sick days. They have an intended purpose, let's use them for that purpose, not to bolster retirement.

Peter Gouveia, 39 Lincoln Drive appealed to the Council's sense of fairness by reminding them that approximately nine months ago, five of the nine Councilors approved a contract that called for a 12% increase for about 40% of their employees. That was a 6% pay increase plus a 5% step increase, plus 1% longevity pay. You must strike a balance between how much the town can afford to pay and, at the same time, be fair to the employees. I think that you must treat all employees fairly.

Frank Wasilewski, 57 N. Orchard Street wanted to hear, in dollars amounts, how much of an increase the teachers will be getting. He felt that the teachers have been compensated very handsomely over the past few years and with the economy in the state that it is we cannot afford to give raises to every union in Wallingford at this time. He urged the Council to reject the contract.

Mr. Edward Musso, 56 Dibble Edge Road echoed Mr. Wasilewski's feelings.

Mr. Zandri stated that there is always the threat of binding arbitration by unions in this town and what will happen in the future is, when budget time comes around and if there is not enough dollars, there will be positions that will have to be cut. The unions will have to take a closer look in the future if and when the state laws change regarding binding arbitration. They will not have that leverage and the dollars will not be there as well, therefore, attitudes will have to change, not just on the local level but the state level as well.

Ms. Papale asked Ms. Beecher to explain the give back of staff days.

Ms. Beecher explained that, in year one, one of the days used by the staff to take staff development previously, will now be used to work with the children, a student contact day. In the second year an extra day was added to the calendar for a total working days of 187 for the teachers, 182 for the students.

VOTE: Doherty abstained; Holmes, Parisi & Solinsky, aye; Duryea, Killen, McDermott, Zandri and Papale, no. Motion duly carried.

ITEM #9 Consider and Approve a Budget Amendment Associated with the Credit Rider Approved by the P.U.C. at its January 21, 1992 Meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Solinsky.

Michael Holmes, General Manager of the Electric Division explained that the action by the P.U.C. at its January 21st meeting (approving a credit rider for electric billings during the 1992 calendar) was intended to reinforce development in the community. This will result in a reduction of Net Income to the Electric Division in the amount of \$3 million for calendar year 1992. The budget amendment before the Council this evening is a result of that action and is to amend the budget to allow for a \$1.5 million decrease in Net Income for the first six months of the calendar year, the last half of F.Y. '91-92. This is an attempt to re-align their budget to compensate for the reduction and to keep from going deeper into Retained Earnings.

The Council asked Mr. Holmes to give an overview of how the budget amendment will effect his budget.

Mr. Holmes detailed the particular areas of the budget that the P.U.C. and Division felt were known areas of excess after six months of operation as well as projects that were budgeted for but not deemed critical and can be deferred and re-budgeted next year.

Mr. Zandri stated that he attended the Public Hearing on this and will not support the transfers this evening because, when the Council went through this during budget session and used the Division's budget to come up with extra dollars, the Mayor felt that the Division could not withstand the changes being proposed and was so strongly opposed to it, vetoed the entire budget because of it. Now, all of a sudden, he can come up with \$1.5 million and it is no problem. I also questioned at the Public Hearing, why the residents of Northford are receiving a

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reduction in their rates as well? This is one of the issues that was brought out by the Electric Division Study by Camp Dresser & McKee. There should be a differential between what Wallingford pays and Northford. Here is an opportunity to incorporate that.

Ms. Papale asked why the Northford customers are being given a break as well?

Mr. Holmes responded that a ratepayer is a ratepayer. The P.U.C. chose to adopt this rider as a credit against kilowatt hours sales.

Mr. Gessert explained that there are potential legal arguments about whether you can or cannot discriminate against one customer over another unless you can categorically substantiate the fact that it cost more to do business with that customer.

Mr. Zandri pointed out that we currently discriminate against residential, industrial and commercial. They do not all pay the same rate.

Mr. Parisi found it hard to believe that Mr. Holmes could not supply him with the figure of what it costs the Division to supply power to Northford. He was amazed at how a business could run when that business doesn't know how much it cost to run. He felt that charging Northford residents a different rate could be justified very easily.

Mr. Solinsky referred to #578 - Environmental and asked how the Division could defer Substation PCB Detoxification?

Mr. Holmes responded that a number of their major apparatus is contaminated with levels of PCB. They have been that way for some time and they are not imminent danger or a hazard unless we have a spill. It is a liability that he would like to rid themselves of so they had allocated funds for detoxification of several units over a period of years. It is not critical, there are no leaks, spills, it is just a longer term protection.

Mr. Solinsky asked if any were done this year?

Mr. Holmes answered, a minor amount

Mr. Killen reprimanded the individuals before him for not having answers to questions such as how much it costs the town to supply Northford with electricity? He feels that the questions are ignored.

Mr. Gessert answered that it is difficult to pull a figure out of the air. Do they measure the individual's time in the Pierce Plant, line crew man hours, every function and take an automatic 12%? He is not sure how to go about it. He was not sure Mr. Smith may have an answer either but he will check with him when he returns from his trip.

Mr. Killen stated that he will not vote in favor of this package and if it were the end of April instead of February and he had those figures in front of him, then he would be able to vote on it.

Mr. Doherty asked if Northford forwards a bill taxing Wallingford for

its facility in that town?

Mr. Holmes responded, yes.

Mr. Doherty asked if Wallingford sends the Division a bill similar to Northford's?

Mr. Gessert: No.

Mr. Doherty: I would think that would be a cost of doing business in Northford that you don't have in Wallingford.

Mr. Gessert: No question about it.

Mr. Doherty: Then that would be the cost that I would like to recover.

Mr. Zandri: That is about \$38,000.

Mr. Doherty: I would like to get that back at the very least. We are giving them cheaper rates, cutting 5% off besides and we are paying them \$38,000. That bothers me.

Mr. Kovacs: Mr. Smith has had correspondence with Northford's Town Attorney at the request of several of the Councilors. He requested relief from that \$38,000 that we are currently paying them. As of four weeks ago their Town Attorney was researching it. That is the very least that Northford could do for us, relieve us of that \$38,000 to \$40,000 tax.

Mr. Zandri did not think Northford would look favorable upon that request only because a small percentage of their residents receive service from Wallingford. He suggested just singling out all the individual costs that can easily be identified as being directly related to supplying Northford with electricity.

Mr. Holmes left at 11:00 P.M.

Mayor Dickinson left at 11:00 P.M.

Mr. McDermott stated that it is as simple as finding out what the income from Northford is, what the expense is and then you will end up with what the profit is.

Mr. McDermott asked what will happen to the credit if the Council does not approve the rider this evening?

Mr. Holmes pointed out that the item before the Council this evening is a bookkeeping measure to bring his budget into line, not to seek approval of the credit, the P.U.C. has already approved that.

VOTE: Holmes was absent; Duryea, Killen & Zandri, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #10 Discussion and Possible Action on Initiating a Payment Plan to the Town of Wallingford of Money Received Annually from the Town of Wallingford Electric Division as Requested by Councilor Geno J. Zandri, Jr.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Motion was amended by Mr. Zandri to Have Payments Made to the Town of Wallingford From the Electric Division Made on a Monthly Basis Instead of Semi-Annually, seconded by Mr. Killen.

Mr. Zandri explained that he discussed this issue at a previous P.U.C. meeting and in a phone conversation with Mr. Myers, Comptroller and no one objected to the suggestion. One of the advantages of this payment plan is that the town would be getting their money sooner and earning interest on this money instead of the Electric Division.

Mr. Gessert explained that the P.U.C. is more than willing to support this suggestion and are in total agreement with it.

Mr. Killen asked if 5% of the interest on the \$18 million in Retained Earnings is paid to the State of Connecticut in the form of a Gross Earnings Tax?

Mr. Holmes did not know the answer.

Mr. Myers stated that it may take a period of two to three months to place the monthly payment plan into effect.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #11 Consider and Approve a Job Description for a Water & Wastewater Engineer/Planner for the Water & Sewer Division - Personnel

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Stanley Seadale, Personnel Director explained that the job description before the Council this evening is a result of a request by the Water Division for this position. It fits in with the pattern of job descriptions for the town, it has reasonable knowledge, skill, abilities and qualifications and meets Personnel's standards in terms of a job description.

Mr. Roger Dann, General Manager provided background for the job description to the Council. It stems from the RMI report that was done several years ago when they reviewed the utilities. One of the weaknesses identified within that report was inadequacy to perform long term planning. It is the Division's desire to perform long term planning but it cannot be accomplished without dedicating the manpower.

Mr. McDermott asked, if the Council approves this position then a sewer moratorium should not ever occur again because we will have great planning down there?

Mr. Dann could not respond to that. He did say that he feels long range planning to be a pertinent part of the operation of the utility and to wait until a problem evidences itself through impacts to customers and

the environment is a real failure in the planning process. Can I tell you that will never happen, no, can I tell you that we want to do a better job, yes. I perceive this as being a step in that direction.

Mr. McDermott felt that the individual who will occupy this position should work closely with the Planning & Zoning Commission to keep them up to date on potential water/sewer projects, concerns.

Mr. Dann explained that Vincent Mascia, Senior Engineer attends those meetings regularly.

Mr. Parisi asked if the Council approved this position at budget time?

Mr. Dann answered that the dollars were placed in contingency because they knew it was a position that they would be seeking to fill during the year. He was not sure if it shows in the budget at all.

Mr. Parisi referred to the qualifications on page two and asked that the following be eliminated from the list, "...or an equivalent combination of education and qualifying experience substituting on a year-for-year basis." He felt that if it is to be a professional position the qualifications should not be compromised.

Mr. Dann explained that they did not want to rule out or preclude a qualified candidate on the basis of degree alone.

Mr. Parisi responded that with his experience in sitting on the Merit Review Committee, some of the problems that arise and some of the situations that are encountered could very well be because of the compromising of the hiring qualifications. He suggested adding the catch all phrase of "works under the direction of the Senior Engineer".

Mr. Zandri felt that planning is an on-going process of the Water and Sewer Division. The South Elm Street situation recently encountered is a good example of a need for planning in the Division.

Mr. Dann agreed.

Mr. Seadale explained that if you take equivalency out of the job description totally, then you must be prepared to be faced with an affirmative action problem. You have to prove that there is no one possibly who could do the job without that specific requirement.

Mr. Solinsky left at 12:20 a.m.

Mr. Killen asked if Bienstock and Luchesi are under contract with the town at this time?

Mr. Dann responded yes, the only area they are working at the moment is in finalizing the last bits and pieces relative to the Sewer Treatment Plant. That is the last item that they are contracted with us for.

Mr. Killen asked if the planner position was granted, would that diminish the need to work with Bienstock and Luchesi?

Mr. Dann hoped that by filling this position we would have to go to Bienstock and Luchesi less.

Mr. Philip Wright, Sr., 160 Cedar Street pointed out that we have the new filter plant, waste treatment plant and Elm Street project going without the addition of this new employee. Most of the big jobs are done and by approving the job description tonight it opens the door for the foot to get in and additional employees on the payroll that we do not need at this particular time. Come back in a year and try again.

VOTE: Holmes and Solinsky were absent; McDermott, Zandri and Papale, aye; all others, no; motion failed.

ITEM #16 Consider and Approve a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$155,000 to Self-Insurance Worker's Compensation Acct. #001-8040-800-8350 from Contingency Reserve for Emergency Acct. #001-8050-800-3190, \$106,000; Property and Casualty Education Acct. #001-8040-800-8260, \$20,000; Heart & Hypertension Police Acct. #001-8040-800-8400, \$19,000 and from Heart & Hypertension Fire Acct. #001-8040-800-8410, \$10,000 - Risk Manager

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

Mr. Mark Wilson, Risk Manager explained that, in order to provide what is estimated as sufficient funds for the Workers' Compensation Expenditures from 1/24/92 to 4/17/92 he will need a transfer of \$155,000. He pointed out that we are spending more money in the Specific and Scarring Account which is a non-budgetary account. Last year two transfers were made to cover the expenditures and so far this year one transfer of \$113,000 has been made. The number of claims have gone down and the overall claim costs, as far as severity of the claims, have gone down but we are paying old claims.

Mr. Zandri asked if there is one specific department where more claims originate than others?

Mr. Wilson responded, no. One claim can cost up to \$200,000 from one department, yet, other departments can have numerous claims but never of that magnitude. The Electric Department has an excellent record but that one claim was very expensive.

Mr. Zandri asked, if a log is kept of each department regarding the number of claims filed?

Mr. Wilson: Yes.

Mr. Zandri: Which one is the most frequent?

Mr. Wilson: Number-wise, Public Works. Severity-wise, Police and Fire Departments.

Mr. Zandri: Is there an on-going program to emphasize safety in the workplace for departments experiencing a problem with claims?

Mr. Wilson: Yes, that is why we can say the trend has dropped.

Mr. Zandri: Do we have any kind of award program for departments that

## MAYOR'S APPROVAL

I hereby certify that the following ordinance was enacted by the Town Council of the Town of Wallingford, on the 28th day of January, 1992, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Town of Wallingford.

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$20,658,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF A WATER TREATMENT FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$20,658,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUE OF BONDS THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Section 1. An ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Appropriating \$20,658,000 For The Planning, Acquisition And Construction Of A Water Treatment Facility And Associated System Improvements And Authorizing The Issue Of \$20,658,000 Bonds Or Notes Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issue Of Bonds The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose", adopted by the Town Council on May 24, 1988 and approved by the Mayor on May 27, 1988, as amended by an ordinance adopted by the Town Council on November 27, 1990 and approved by the Mayor on November 27, 1990, is further amended to increase the appropriation and bond authorization therein by \$7,062,000, from \$20,658,000 to \$27,720,000, and to provide that the appropriation may be expended for costs of construction of the MacKenzie and Ulbrich pump stations, transmission lines and related appurtenances, thereby making the title of said ordinance read as follows:

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$27,720,000 FOR THE PLANNING, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF A WATER TREATMENT FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$27,720,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUE OF BONDS THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE"

Section 2. Section 1 of said ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

\*Section 1. The sum of \$27,720,000 is appropriated for the planning, acquisition and construction of a water treatment facility and associated system improvements, including MacKenzie and Ulbrich pump stations, transmission mains, and related appurtenances, site work, land acquisition, easements, equipment, engineering and architects' fees and services necessary and incidental thereto, and for costs of marketing temporary notes pending the sale of bonds, legal expenses and all other expenses customary and incidental thereto, said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State and Federal grants-in-aid thereof, in accordance with the following:

Engineering, design, construction, and related expenses	\$26,376,300
Debt administration expenses	<u>1,343,700</u>
Total	<u>\$27,720,000</u>

The amount authorized to be expended for each purpose shall not exceed the amount set forth opposite each purpose, provided that, the Town Council may by resolution transfer unexpended funds among purposes, so long as the aggregate amount of the appropriation and bond authorization shall not be increased."

Section 3. The first sentence of Section 2 of said ordinance is amended by substituting the figure \$27,720,000 for the figure \$20,658,000 therein, thereby making said sentence read as follows:

\*Section 2. To meet said appropriation \$27,720,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the twentieth year after their date, in the amount necessary to meet the Town's share of the cost of the project determined after considering the estimated amount of the State and Federal grants-in-aid of the project, or the actual amount thereof if this be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof."

Section 4. The first and third sentences of Section 5 of said ordinance are amended by substituting the figure \$27,720,000 for the figure \$20,658,000 therein, thereby making said sentences read as follows:

\*Section 5. In addition to the authorization to issue the aforesaid bonds and notes, not more than \$27,720,000 of temporary notes of the Town are authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of

have remained claim-free for one year?

Mr. Wilson: No, not in the general town departments but the Electric Division does.

Mr. Zandri explained that the utility company that he works for does have such a program which serves as an incentive for emphasizing safety. He suggested Mr. Wilson look into it.

Mr. Parisi asked if there is any way to plan for this expenditure?

Mr. Wilson responded, yes, if we had a mechanism to budget for these monies. The ordinance currently in effect has a ceiling of \$100,000. The ordinance needs to be amended to allow for a higher ceiling.

Mr. Parisi requested a monthly report be forwarded to him on the Worker's Compensation claims filed with Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was happy to oblige.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; Killen, no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #17 SET A PUBLIC HEARING on an Ordinance Providing Reserve Accounts for Worker's Compensation Awards

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Hold a Public Hearing on February 11, 1992 at 7:45 P.M., seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #19 Consider and Approve a Lease Agreement with the Wallingford Housing Authority for Use of McKenna Court Gym - Mayor's Office

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Approve the Lease Agreement only to Cover the Gym Area, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #20 Consider and Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for State Grant Funds Under the Work Zone Safety Program - Mayor's Office

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #21 Consider and Approve a Waiver of Bid for Hiring Outside Counsel to Review Contracts with CMEEC and Northeast Utilities - Town Attorney

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

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Atty. Farrell explained that this issue arises because the Electric Division is in the process of reviewing its options of how it will handle wholesale power acquisition in the future. One of the things it is strongly considering is entering into "spice of life" contracts with Northeast Utilities where it will take a mix of certain things like gas turbines, oil, nuclear, hydropower, etc., and buy parts of certain plants the production capacity from Northeast Utilities. Certain specimen contracts have been forwarded to the town and the Town Attorney's Office felt that there were too many sensitive issues that they had little expertise with, and knowledge of, to handle themselves. The Electric Division has been working with the law firm of Balis & O'Neil on several issues of which have produced favorable results for the town. They are recommending a "cap" of \$20,000 on the services.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; Zandri abstained, all others, aye; motion duly carried.

ITEM #23 Approve and Accept the Minutes of the 11/26/91, 12/10/91, 12/19/91 (5:30 & 7:00 P.M.) and 12/30/91 Town Council Meetings

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; Doherty abstained; Killen and McDermott passed; all others, aye; motion failed.

Motion was made by Mr. Doherty to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Parisi.

VOTE: Holmes & Solinsky were absent; all others, aye; motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:32 A.M.

Meeting recorded & transcribed by:

*Kathryn F. Milano*

Kathryn F. Milano, Town Council Secretary

Approved by:

*Iris F. Papale*

Iris F. Papale, Chairperson

*February 25, 1992*

Date

*Kathryn J. Wall*

Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

*February 25, 1992*

Date

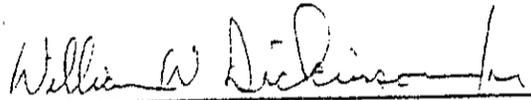
Chapter 102 of the General Statutes.... In no event shall the total of outstanding temporary notes authorized by Section 5 herein plus the outstanding obligations authorized by Sections 2 and 4 of this ordinance exceed the total authorized appropriation of \$27,720,000."

Section 5. Section 6 of said ordinance is deleted, and the following is substituted therefor:

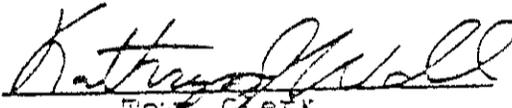
"Section 6. In order to enable the Town to proceed with the projects described in Section 1 pending the issuance of tax exempt bonds and notes authorized herein, the payment of expenses incurred for the purposes authorized by this ordinance may be advanced by the Comptroller from the general, capital and non-recurring, or enterprise funds of the Town. Such advances shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of such bonds or notes."

I, WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR., Mayor of the Town of Wallingford, hereby certify that within ten days after the 28th January, 1992, Town Council adoption of the foregoing ordinance, I hereby approve such ordinance.

Dated 1/30, 1992.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William W. Dickinson, Jr.  
Mayor

Received for record  
January 31, 1992:  
@ 9:35 AM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk