

**TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF PUBLIC BOARD OR COMMISSION	Town Council
DATE MEETING AGENDA POSTED	November 13,2008
LOCATION	Silas Deane Middle School Auditorium
DATE OF MEETING	November 17, 2008
TIME MEETING STARTED	7:30 p.m.
PERSON PREPARING MEETING MINUTES	Dolores G. Sassano
NOTES TAKEN	Yes
AUDIO, VIDEO OR LIVE TRANSMISSION OF MEETING	Yes audio & video

MEMBERS PRESENT AT MEETING

1. Councilor Cascio	2. Councilor Console
3. Councilor Forrest	4. Councilor Hemmann
5. Councilor Kotkin	6. Councilor Roberts
7. Councilor Walsh	8. Deputy Mayor Montinieri
9. Chairperson Adil	Also: Town Manager Bonnie L. Therrien and Town Clerk Dolores G. Sassano

NUMBER REQUIRED FOR QUORUM 5 QUORUM PRESENT Yes

Chairperson Adil welcomed the scouts of Charles Wright to the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION FOR HOMELAND SECURITY AGREEMENTS

No one spoke at the public hearing. The Chairperson declared it closed.

The following members of the public spoke: Rene Gagnon, 52 Springdale Rd. Drainage on his street, particularly in his yard, an ongoing problem not yet addressed to his satisfaction; Jim Woodworth, 5 River Rd. spoke on behalf of the Conservation Committee, Rocky Hill and the dredging project surrounding ferry landing and the new owners for the Rocky Hill landfill; because work area does not border Wethersfield we would not receive notices; meeting of Rocky Hill P&Z Wednesday; Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd, agrees with decision on postponing school renovations; not a lot of trust in the entertaining discussion from Webster Bank; economy continues with layoffs to big companies in CT keep the taxes and budget in Town down as the economy calls for it; Gus Colantonio, 16 Morrison Avenue, retired engineer of roadway design, in Town 1973, no curbing on Morrison after they replaced the road, rain water drains down resurfaces at Tifton, perhaps an underground drainage area is needed. Wolcott Hill Rd, concrete

sideways repair does not look like it meets requirements as they use incorrect frame size; requests a legal opinion from the town attorney on Morrison Ave problem. Cole, a young scout, wants to get the message out that people should not throw trash into the Cove or the Town should give a warning to those you do.

Councilor Meetings:

Councilor Walsh attended the Redevelopment underground drainage for Tifton Rd; forum. The agency was please with the turnout; it was taped and is broadcast on Channel 14. He asked that people watch it to see how redevelopment can help; they are looking at redevelopment in planning & zoning; P&Z will be taking up the plan.

Councilor Kotkin commented on the Millwood's Building Committee meeting, there is great progress on the Little League Field, the next project most likely the soccer field. Also the Budget committee met earlier, there is a spending freeze for current fiscal year, so far we seem to be in good shape but it could change depending on what the State finds it can and cannot fund; they are also working with the Board of Education and will continue budget in January. The Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce is currently on Silas Deane for the last 5 years and they are looking at finding office space at the Keeney Center. It will be discussed later.

Councilor comments:

Councilor Console asked about the flag pole and Old Wethersfield and why it was not illuminated at night.

Chairperson Adil asked about the missing flag on the newly installed light posts in front of Town Hall.

Town Manager Therrien said she would find out about the flag pole on Main Street and respond in the Manager's Report. The flag from in front of Town Hall was handed to Gale and it will be returned to Physical Services.

Councilor Roberts attended the opening of a 50 year time capsule at the Silas Deane Middle School. There were things people thought were important at that time in Town. The teachers are using it in various classes as an active way to learn history lessons. They are speaking of doing another time capsule for the 375th Town celebration, the committee is looking into it.

Councilor Forrest wanted to mention that between 1100-1300 people attended the 2nd Energy Summit. And there were several discussions on technologies held for residents and interested parties. People are interested in green technologies and economics. He also attended the first football game under lights. He recommends that people go to see how different it is to witness it at night. There was tailgating and, even though the Eagles lost, it was tremendously well attended, the gate receipts were good and it was a great time.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri passed on compliments to Councilor Forrest for the huge success of the green summit. It was fun to attend. He also wanted to congratulate the wonderful win in Soccer for winning the State Championship. The Dance Team also performed to a great reception.

Councilor Cascio commented on the Friday night football game. He was a supporter of lights for the field and they were able to provide a taste of what it would be like to have a game under the lights. Some of the attendees were from the Athletes Hall of Fame and were identified the next day. Councilor Cascio said they are working toward their goal of having lights installed. He has attended various events under lights and it is for great for the students, players and everyone in the audience.

Chairperson Adil was very proud of Wethersfield Boys Soccer, 15th State title. He noted that their coach recognized the great chemistry the boys had and told them, that is how to win games. They should not worry about their talent but how well they play together. They played as a team with tremendous grit and determination. They received a police escort when they came into Wethersfield all the way to the high school.

Chairperson Adil read some announcements.

Core Services Meeting of the Town Council, November 18, at 6 p.m. S1, Pitkin Community Center;

Comstock, Ferre & Co. is presenting a workshop of Garden Inspiration Lecture & Workshop Series, call to find out and register; EDIC Salute to Business, December 3, at the Wethersfield Country Club;

Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Carol Sing Monday, December 8, 2008 at 6:30, Solomon Welles House.

EDIC will hold a Ribbon Cutting for the Silas Deane Highway, Dec 10th at 4 p.m.

Fire Marshal is retiring effective January 9, 2009, his last day will be December 12, 2008

TEXT MOTIONS AND RESULTS VOTES

1st MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Deputy Mayor Montinieri made a **“MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF ELIZABETH C. DUNNE FROM THE SOLOMON-WELLES HOUSE COMMITTEE”**, seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Chairperson Adil asked the Town Clerk to send a letter thanking her for her service to Wethersfield

All Councilors voted AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

2nd MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Kotkin **“MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER, BONNIE L THERRIEN, TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY, THE WETHERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, AND AND AND AND AND DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

Town Manager Therrien stated that this is a blanket authorization but is specifically for the STOC’S Box grant application. She found out the towns could issue it in this format to meet the needs of Homeland Security grant applications.

All Councilors voted AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

3rd MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Deputy Mayor “**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE ABBREVIATED MINUTE’S FORMAT WITH WORKING NOTES WHEN INDICATED, FOR TOWN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW,**”

Seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Town Manager Therrien stated that the clerk had introduced this format to help everyone comply with the new law affecting the FOIA. She stated that some communities had already been using this format, it has already been a court case and FOIA has ruled it meets all the qualification for minutes. She asked the Town Clerk to explain them. Town Clerk Dolores Sassano said minutes reflect the actions of the appropriate authority. The other information leading to the decision is good to know for future Councils and residents. Council will still approve the minutes and working notes at the following council meeting. Working notes will have all of the backup information and comments but no actions.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri stated that allowing the abbreviated minutes for FOIA does not mean the other information will not be available; it will be in working notes attached.

Councilor Forrest stated that sub-committee has already reviewed the new template and is encouraged by its use with notes deemed appropriate.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

4th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

B3b

Councilor Kotkin “**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE, UPON FULL PAYMENT, THE SALE OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTY BETWEEN 74 AND 82 GOODWIN PARK ROAD TO MR. PHILIP SANTEVENERE FOR \$2500 PLUS TOWN ATTONEY’S FEES WITH THE STIPULATION THAT THE PROPERTY E USED FOR ACCESS ONLY AND THAT NO STRUCTURES ARE ALLOSED ON THE PROPERTY AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE THE PAYMENT TERMS**” seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Town Manager Therrien stated the resident wanted the ability to access his driveway from Goodwin Park Rd rather than Jordan Lane. It received a positive referral for P&Z, 8-24,

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

5th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

B3c

Councilor Kotkin moved to remove **“GUIDELINES FOR 2009-2010 Budget Deliberations from the agenda”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Chairperson Adil felt this was not necessary at this time. They have already begun discussions on Core Services.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

6th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Walsh **“MOTION TO SUPPORT CONNPIRG’S 21ST CENTURY TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGNS THREE* REFORM PRINCIPLES”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

Town Manager Therrien stated she received a letter requesting support. The Town, through CCM and CCROG had already decided to send a letter requesting tax dollars be spent on programs ready to be worked on with 90 days.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

*The three point reform platform requests that the federal government: 1. prioritize new capital funds for light rail, commuter rail, rapid bus service, high-speed intercity rail, and other forms of modern public transportation. 2. Dedicate more federal highway money to fixing crumbling roads and bridges, rather than building massive new highway projects. And 3. Spend taxpayers’ money more wisely by focusing transportation dollars on projects that produce real results, such as reducing dependence on oil, curbing global warming pollution, alleviating congestion, and improving public safety.

7th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Kotkin **“MOTION TO REFER THE REQUEST FROM YOUGHIOGHENY COMMUNICATIONS—NORTHEAST LLC TO CO-LOCATE ON THE RADIO TOWER AT 23 KELLEHER COURT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A REVIEW AND REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH §8-24 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES,”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Town Manager Therrien said that Y Company contract goes to automatic §8-24, they have indicated that they do not need a separate structure it will mean between \$18-2000 of monthly revenue to the Town.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the Fire Department has enough parking spaces to allow this. Town Manager Therrien said it will be incorporated into enclosed area.

Councilor Hemmann was also concerned because she thought there was a Town Ordinance stating no more carriers on the tower. Also, she wondered why they would not require a structure when everyone else needed a separate area.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

8th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Walsh, “**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, STEAP FUNDING FOR COMPLETION OF THE TOWN CENTER IMPROVEMENTS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY MASTER PLAN**” seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Town Manager Therrien stated that another round of grant funds is coming up. They are going for the maximum for \$500,000 for the area in front of Town Hall.

Chairperson Adil also asked to have the bond and Silas Deane work incorporated and used with any funds from the State if the STEAP comes through.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

There were no bids.

There were no Ordinances, Resolutions and Appointments for Introduction.

9th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Walsh “**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 5, 2008**,” seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Approved with Councilor Walsh request to have his comments entered completely,

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 8-0-1[Councilor Hemmann abstained]

10th MOTION X Passed Failed Tabled

Councilor Forrest, “**MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**”, seconded by Councilor Kotkin at 8:38 p.m.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

Councilor Hemmann, “**MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION, AT 8:57 P.M.**”, seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

Councilor Kotkin made a “**MOTION TO APPROVE THE 3 YEAR CONTRACT FOR LOCAL 1303-408 AS PRESENTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER**” seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0

Councilor Cascio made a “**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:59 P.M**” seconded by John Console. Councilors present voted, AYE, including the Chairperson. 9-0-0
