

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 7, 2007**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, May 7, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Room of the Pitkin Community Center.

Present: Councilors Drake, Forrest, Kirsche, Kotkin, Montinieri, Deputy Mayor Fortunato and Chairperson Adil.

Absent: Councilors Cascio and Walsh.

Also present: Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager and Amy Bello, Assistant Town Clerk.

All stood for the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was led by Councilor Kotkin.

Councilor Kotkin moved "**TO ADD TO THE AGENDA A PRESENTATION BY THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

#### SALUTE TO SENIORS

Chairperson Adil read the Proclamation

MaryAnn Shinn, Home School Liaison, said that the Silas Deane Middle School has held a Salute to Seniors for the past fifteen years. She said that the middle school is a wonderful place where parents, teachers and students all work together.

Lisa Leonard, Intergenerational Committee Chairperson, said that every seventh grader wrote an essay about his or her favorite senior. A committee of fifteen senior citizens read the essays and selected five winners and ten honorable mentions. She invited the five essay winners with their favorite seniors to read their essays.

The essay winners were:

Amy Alasso, with her Senior Henrietta DiLorenzo

Kristin Ciampi, with her Senior Vincenza Ciampi

Kevin Hickey, with his Senior Joe Hickey

Lydia Livaich, with her Senior Clarence Brown

Patrick Vittner, with his Senior Roderick Cyr

#### HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM - STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Chairperson Adil said that this would be held for the next meeting.

#### PROCLAMATION - MARTY COURNEEN

Chairperson Adil presented Marty Courneen with a Proclamation from the State of Connecticut Governor's office thanking him for his service on the METROPOLITAN DISRICT COMMISSION.

## **PRESENTATION BY THE WETHERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Chairperson Adil welcomed Doug Shipman, Director of the Historical Society, and Board members Lyle Fulton, President; Dorene Ciarcia, Vice President; and Judy Parker, Past President.

Doug Shipman, Director of the Historical Society presented the Mayor with one rope of red onions, a symbolic payment for the Cove Warehouse. He said that the Historical Society is home to thousands of artifacts, cares for six buildings, operates the only 7 day a week information center for tourists, and runs numerous children's programs.

Chairperson Adil thanked the Historical Society for the valuable work it does for the Town of Wethersfield.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Peter Gillespie, Town Planner, presented his monthly report. He said that:

- On April 13th Rocky's Ace Hardware had a ribbon cutting ceremony.
- Projects Under Construction: 312 Silas Deane Highway is being converted to a small insurance firm, 5th Avenue Motel is expanding, and TD BankNorth is remodeling the building.
- Other Projects: the Comstocke Ferre Proposal is before the Historic District Commission, the Harris Property on Old Reservoir Road is discussing permit plans, 86 Maple Street is before Planning and Zoning for an automotive shop, 1260 Silas Deane Highway is looking to expand, 7 Railroad Place is under new ownership and has an application before the Historic District Commission and is also interested in a façade grant, Brook's Pharmacy is becoming a RiteAid, and Pelton's Home Healthcare is looking at the former Porch and Patio building.
- The Planning and Zoning Commission received a preliminary plan for a zone change to residential on Progress Drive.
- He has talked with the owners of the Goff Brook Shops about building a freestanding restaurant, a potential tenant for CVS in the Wethersfield Shopping Center, a potential occupant for the Siperstein's paint store, Firehouse Grill, and Porter and Chester Institute.
- The Redevelopment Agency is trying to plan a meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission and Economic Development Improvement Commission.
- He was part of a well attended Preserve America meeting last week.
- EDIC will be meeting next Thursday.

Councilor Drake asked if the Town Planner could clarify the application on Progress Drive as it may impact the way he votes on the road bid for Progress Drive.

Peter Gillespie, Town Planner said that the developer wants to get an idea from the Planning and Zoning Committee to see if this is something that the Town is interested in. He said that he feels a multi-family project at that location is a long shot since there is so little retail space available in Town.

Councilor Drake said that if the project is for a multi-family building he is not in favor of it.

Chairperson Adil said that this can be discussed in more detail during the Executive Session.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato asked if it was the same developer that is interested in property on the Berlin Turnpike.

Peter Gillespie, Town Planner, said that he would rather not discuss the property publicly, yet.

Councilor Forrest asked if the TD BankNorth project has gone through the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Peter Gillespie, Town Planner, said that it has. The proposal is to increase the square footage and make both interior and exterior improvements as well as landscape changes.

Chairperson Adil thanked the Town Planner for his presentation.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO TAKE ITEM B.3.A. - VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER PENSION OUT OF ORDER"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the Firefighters' Pension Committee has been requesting these changes for several years. Some of the changes will help to retain volunteers.

James Shugrue, Pension Plan Administrator and Volunteer Firefighters, said that some of the changes were requested by the Finance Department. The biggest change is in the vesting of firefighters. Currently, it is 11 good years for 10 percent of the pension. The change is to make it 6 good years for 10 percent of the pension, and full pension after 15 good years. He said that it is harder to receive a good year. Only 70 percent have attained it this year. The firefighters can contribute their Town stipend to the Pension Plan but if they don't get the 11 good years, they lose their stipend money. Less and less people are making it to the 11 good years.

Councilor Kotkin asked if adopting this change would allow the participants to receive the funds.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director said that when an individual leaves the Department and is not eligible to receive the pension, the funds deposited are split between existing plan members. Nothing goes back to the Town.

James Shugrue, Pension Plan Administrator, said that these proposed changes will not impact the Town.

Councilor Kotkin asked who keeps the records for the Plan.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director said that the Finance Department keeps the records.

Councilor Kotkin asked how much the Town contributes annually to the pension.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director said that the Town contributes \$500 annually per qualified firefighter. The Pension is limited in how it can be invested by State Statute. She said that the Town needs to move the Pension into a different type of fund so it can earn more interest.

Councilor Kotkin said that the Town needs to push for that so that it can be invested like any other pension plan.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that she is aiming for January 2008 as the date to send it to the IRS.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said that the firefighter earns a set amount of money each year and the funds are put into the individual's name in the group pension plan.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the stipend amount could be lost if the firefighter doesn't achieve 11 good years.

James Shugrue, Pension Plan Administrator, said that the stipend would be lost if the firefighter chose to put it in the pension plan and he/she does not reach the 11 years.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the firefighters are able to come back to the Town Fire Department.

James Shugrue, Pension Plan Administrator, said that the individual's money is still available if that person comes back.

Councilor Forrest said that the change to the vesting years is substantial. He asked what the change would cost the Town.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director said that the way the plan is now, there is no cost impact to the Town. The Town is just getting the funds to the right person earlier.

Councilor Forrest said that if the Town lowers the years needed to become vested, there will be more people eligible

for the pension so it will cost the Town more money.

James Shugrue, Pension Plan Administrator, said that if the individual is not vested and leaves the Department, eligible firefighters will get the money instead.

Councilor Kotkin said that the pension is subject to creditors.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director said that the Town needs to get this pension into a better position.

Councilor Kotkin moved "**TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S PENSION PLAN**" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### HEARING

#### **ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND CONNECTION TO STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS**

No one wished to speak for or against the Ordinance, so the Chairperson declared the hearing closed.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

Michael Cuddigan, 49 Westlook Drive, said that the Town needs to have updated minutes on the website as well as complete agendas and budgets for the public to view. He said that the Library should re-open.

James Woodworth, 5 River Road, spoke about a Preserve America meeting that was held last week. He said that the Comstock Barn should not be demolished. The Town should require a professional survey on the demolition of any historic building. A focus group should be created to look at the reuse of historic buildings. The Town also needs to have an economic investment to preserve these buildings. He said another focus group is needed to discuss pedestrian safety in Old Wethersfield.

Ballou Tooker, 65 Harmond Place, said that at the Preserve America meeting residents had misgivings because the Town's consultant was leaning towards economic development and not historical preservation of the Comstock Barn. Traffic flow is also an issue on Main Street. Motorists drive too fast and don't come to a complete stop at the stop signs.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that there was a lot of intentional misinformation at the Preserve America meeting. The Town asked the Town Consultant for a consultation on the Comstock Barn and Standish House. She said that she will have a full report on Thursday.

Chairperson Adil said that economic development has to occur all over Town.

### COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS

No one had any reports to make.

Councilor Forrest said that he had environmental concerns with disposing of fluorescent and energy efficient light bulbs because of the small amount of mercury in them. He was glad to hear that the transfer station will accept them at no charge.

Chairperson Adil said that:

- The 2007 Regional Special Olympics Games will be held on May 12th.
- The State of the Town breakfast will be on May 23rd.
- The 2007 Chamber of Commerce Awards dinner will be on May 17th.
- Dollars for Scholars Awards will be on May 23rd.
- A Heritage Trail Walk will be held on June 2nd and 3rd.

## **COUNCIL ACTION**

Chairperson Adil said that the Town Council accepted the resignation of Maria A. Calleri from the Youth Advisory Board and asked that the Town Clerk send a letter of thanks.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND CONNECTION TO STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that this ordinance is to comply with the Federal Government's Storm Water Phase II requirements.

Councilor Drake asked why the fines are not stipulated.

Mike Turner, Director of Public Works, said that the ordinance states that the fines are the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission's fines.

Councilor Kirsche asked if the Police Department will enforce this Ordinance.

Mike Turner, Director of Public Works, said that the first concern of the Town is to stop the discharge. If a homeowner doesn't comply, then they would be fined.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that there should be a cross reference to the Inland Wetlands Watercourses Commission. She asked if the Metropolitan District Commission disconnecting ordinance would grow out of this ordinance.

Mike Turner, Director of Public Works, said that this ordinance is for storm water and clean water. The METROPOLITAN DISRICT COMMISSION is responsible for the sewers and sewage.

Councilor Forrest moved **"TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE TO CROSS REFERENCE THE FINES"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Fortunato.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE to the amendment and main motion. The motions passed 7-0-0.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPROVE THE MOVE OF THE TOWN HALL STAFF ON THE MAIN AND TOP FLOORS OF TOWN HALL TO THE LIBRARY DURING THE RENOVATIONS OF TOWN HALL FOR PHASE II AS NEEDED"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that this is Phase II of the Town Hall Renovation under the direction of Kronenberg and Sons. The biggest concern that the Building Committee has had is the coordination of the Phase I and Phase II projects. The new contractor said that without moving Town offices, the project will require more money and time and the safety of the employees and the public will be an issue. There will be asbestos removal and heat and air conditioning will be unavailable. Phase II work will be more extensive than the Phase I work. She said that she is

aware of how important it is to reopen the Library. Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, did a cost benefit analysis of relocating employees using various options. The best way to relocate the first and second floor employees is to move them temporarily to the Library. Both the new Library and new Town Hall can open together in about a year. The Town has received a letter from the State Librarian saying that he would not approve the Town moving offices into the Library space. The Town Attorney is reviewing the letter. The Building Committee unanimously recommends moving the Town staff to the Library space.

Joe Coombs, Chairperson of the Town Hall/Library Building Committee, said that the May 4th memo from the Committee summarizes what the Town Manager has said. There is no other place to move all of the first and second floor Town offices. Prior to moving the Town offices, the roof and drains need to be replaced. The Library ceiling and lights also still need to be changed out.

Councilor Montinieri said that the Library Board is up to date on the reality of Phase II. Ray Tribuzio, Project Manager of Kronenberger and Sons Restoration, Inc. has been a very positive force in the renovation process. He said that he would love to be able to move ahead with the Library but this proposal brings everyone up to speed on what is needed. He said that Mike Turner, Director of Public Works has begun work on a timeline for moving Town offices. The Building Committee is hoping to stagger the movement which will allow the Library to use additional space for programs. This is a doable plan and is reasonable. He said that the Town needs to communicate with the public so that they know the correct timeline for the project. He said that he supports this recommendation.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that she too is pleased with the new contracting firm. She said that she would like to recognize the Library staff for the work they have accomplished in their smaller space. She also wanted to mention the impact that the closing of the Wethersfield Library has had on other neighboring Towns. She said that she hoped Wethersfield Library staff could be a resource for them. She said that the advocates for the Library have been working hard and the Town needs to get the right information out to the Public. The Public also needs to be updated as the project gets underway. She said that at the end of Phase II, the Town will have an excellent building. She said that the Library needs to become creative with other space in Town especially with all of the summer Library programs. She suggested the Senior Center and Silas Deane Middle School as options. She said that she fully supports this recommendation.

Councilor Drake asked if the Building Committee looked at using the second gymnasium at the Silas Deane Middle School for swing space. He said that the space was wired for phones and a schematic was done for partitioning it off into smaller rooms.

Joe Coombs, Chairperson of the Town Hall/Library Building Committee, said that the Committee discussed spreading offices out throughout Town but didn't feel the public would be served well. Parking will also be an issue since some of the parking lot will be fenced in to house the contractor's office and equipment.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that the most important issue tonight is to decide if Town staff will be moved. There is time to decide where to relocate them.

Councilor Drake said that he supports the plan but would like staff to look into the use of that space.

Councilor Montinieri said that the roof replacement will take three months so there is time to decide where to relocate the offices.

Councilor Kirsche asked if some administrative offices of the Library can be moved upstairs to allow the Library to have more ground floor space.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that she doesn't think there will be a problem with the State Librarian with the Town using the Library as temporary space for Town offices. The Town Attorney will review the letter from the State Librarian and respond to it.

Joe Coombs, Chairperson of the Town Hall/Library Building Committee, said that he doesn't think the case was presented properly to the State Librarian. He doesn't see it as an issue.

Chairperson Adil asked the Town Manager to look at Councilor Drake's idea but said he was concerned with the safety of the children at the Middle School if the building was open to the public.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO ADOPT ALTERNATIVE 8 AND REDUCE THE COST BY \$20,000 AND THE NUMBER OF DAYS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPOINT CHRIS MUNROE AND SAVINO, STURROCK, AND SULLIVAN AS THE HEALTH AGENT OF RECORD FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that every three years the Town goes out for proposals for the Insurance Agents of Record. The Insurance Committee recommended two firms for each type of insurance. Those firms were then interviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee and one was selected.

Chairperson Adil introduced Chris Munroe, Health Insurance Agent of Record and Polly Moon Chairperson of the Insurance Committee.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato thanked the Insurance Committee for all of the time it spent interviewing the candidates. She said that Savino, Sturrock and Sullivan has served the Town for the past nine years. The principals are Town residents. The firm was the low bidder. The Town has received savings over the years through the efforts of Chris Munroe.

Councilor Kotkin complimented the Insurance Committee on their work and long hours. He recommends this appointment.

Councilor Kirsche echoed Councilor Kotkin's comments. He said that Chris Munroe has shown his expertise. The difference in fees couldn't be ignored.

Chairperson Adil thanked the Insurance Committee and Chris Munroe.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPOINT TD BANKNORTH AGENCY AS THE PROPERTY/CASUALTY AGENT OF RECORD FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that this is a very similar process. The Insurance Committee recommended two agents to the Budget and Finance Committee. The Budget and Finance Committee interviewed the two agencies and selected TD BankNorth.

Councilor Kotkin said that he fully supports this reappointment. TD BankNorth was the lowest bidder without giving the local low bidder preference. He said that the Town has had some adverse worker's compensation claims lately and TD BankNorth has done a good job keeping the costs down.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that Councilor Kotkin summed up all of the reasons why she supports this reappointment. She is pleased with the service. TD BankNorth is the low bidder and a local bidder.

Councilor Kirsche said, "My position on the appointment remains unchanged. I do not by any means challenge the competency of Banknorth which they have proven, but there are some clear disadvantages when choosing them over H.D. Segur as evidenced by the screening process. In the interest of moving forward, I've chosen not to take the time to itemize these differences, though I would refer anyone interested in knowing them to the Budget Committee meeting minutes of April 9th. If anyone on Council does wish to debate these differences tonight, I am fully prepared

to do so. I would also like to say that I was profoundly surprised and disappointed by the way that the Budget Committee handled this issue, and for this I would again defer to the minutes of the April 9th Budget Committee meeting."

Chairperson Adil said that there were differences on this issue but he endorses this appointment. He is pleased with TD BankNorth's performance and dedication to the Town. It is the low bidder and a local bidder. TD BankNorth also has a good relationship with CIRMA.

Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Kirsche voted NAY. The motion passed 6-1-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO RENEW THE HEALTH CARE INSURANCE WITH ANTHEM BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the plans expire on June 30th. Seven insurers were brought in. ConnectiCare dropped its plan with the Town. She said that she recommends that the Town continue with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. She explained that the Insurance Committee usually approves insurance renewals but because of the large impact on the budget, she thought that the Town Council should authorize it.

Councilor Kotkin thanked Chris Munroe, Town Agent of Record for his work with the insurance carriers. He said that there were four bidders. The Insurance Committee recommends the Town continue with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Chairperson Adil said that there is an anticipated cost savings. He said that he would like the Town to look into a State pool for administrative employees' insurance.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that the Bill for this has been stalled in the Legislature.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$20,000 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ACCOUNT; TO AUTHORIZE AWARDED A CONTRACT TO FRIAR AND ASSOCIATES TO DESIGN ADA IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STANDISH HOUSE; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AN ADA GRANT FROM THE SMALL CITIES PROGRAM FOR THE ADA IMPROVEMENTS"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that the restaurant is already out of the Standish House. The building needs some ADA improvements. This is a pre-application for grant money. Friar and Associates will complete designs that will then be sent to the Historic District Commission for its approval. She said that there is a lot of money available in the Small Cities Grant that the Town can apply for.

Councilor Drake asked if the Town should wait and see who will move into the space.

Doug Shipman, President of the Historical Society said that with the Standish House, there are three goals: to preserve the Standish House, to have a restaurant in the building, and to receive rental income for the Historical Society. The Historical Society has a lease with the Town that states that a restaurant has to be in the Standish House. The Town is not required to retrofit the building with an elevator but it will make it more attractive to prospective tenants. The grant will pay for the elevator.

Councilor Kirsche said that the Friar's bid was much lower than the other two bids. Is the Town comfortable with this?

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that Friar Associates will abide by the price.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPROVE THE COTTONE FIELD RENTAL POLICY AND FEE"**

**SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS-**

- PRIORITY 1 - BOARD OF EDUCATION - NO RENTAL CHARGES -0 MAINTENANCE COSTS IF NEEDED ON WEEKEND GAMES (TOWN BUDGET)
- PRIORITY 2 - RECREATION DEPARTMENT - NO RENTAL CHARGES - MAINTENANCE COSTS IF NEEDED FOR SPECIAL EVENTS (TOWN BUDGET)
- PRIORITY 3 - INDEPENDENT TOWN SPORT LEAGUES - NO RENTAL CHARGES - MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR WEEKEND GAMES (TOWN BUDGET)
- PRIORITY 4 - NON-PROFIT RENTALS AND TOWN GROUPS - RENTAL CHARGE OF \$50 PER HOUR PLUS MAINTENANCE COSTS
- PRIORITY 5 - PRIVATE RENTALS - RENTAL CHARGE OF \$100 PER HOUR PLUS MAINTENANCE COSTS

**AND THE SHOWMOBILE RENTAL FEES AS FOLLOWS-**

**I. RENTAL CHARGES:**

THE SHOWMOBILE IS AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS AND WILL BE RELEASED ACCORDING TO THE PRIORITIES LISTED BELOW. THE RENTAL CHARGE MUST BE PAID WHEN THE RENTAL AGREEMENT IS SUBMITTED. CHECK PAYABLE TO THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD. IN ADDITION TO THE RENTAL FEE, A MAINTENANCE FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR DELIVERY, SETUP, ATTENDANCE AT EVENT, BREAKDOWN AND TRAVEL BACK TO WETHERSFIELD.

**GROUP 1 - TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD**

OFFICIAL TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD:

NO CHARGE

**GROUP 2 - WETHERSFIELD ORGANIZATIONS & NEIGHBORING MUNICIPALITIES**

LOCAL ORGANIZED NON-PROFIT, CIVIC, EDUCATIONAL, FRATERNAL, SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS, A MAJORITY (75%) OF WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS COMPRISED OF WETHERSFIELD RESIDENTS. ALSO, NEIGHBORING MUNICIPALITIES AND THEIR SPECIAL EVENTS WILL RECEIVE THIS RATE. NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS MUST BE RECOGNIZED AS SUCH BY THE STATE AND FEDERAL TAX CODES. A 501-C3 CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE RATE.

0-4 HOURS.....\$150.00

4-8 HOURS.....\$250.00

8-12 HOURS.....\$350.00

**GROUP 3 - NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

NON-PROFIT GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH ARE RECOGNIZED AS SUCH BY THE STATE AND FEDERAL TAX CODES FOR MEETINGS, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS, AND FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS. 501-C3 CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE RATE.

0-4 HOURS.....\$250.00

4-8 HOURS.....\$350.00

8-12 HOURS.....\$450.00

**GROUP 4 - PRIVATE RENTAL**

ALL OTHER PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR MEETINGS, EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES, WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE TOWN ARE BENEFICIAL TO THE COMMUNITY:

- 0-4 HOURS.....\$450.00
- 4-8 HOURS.....\$750.00
- 8-12 HOURS.....\$950.00

## II. DELIVERY AND OPERATION CHARGE

ALL GROUPS WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL FOR THE DELIVERY AND OPERATION OF THE SHOWMOBILE. TWO EMPLOYEES MUST ACCOMPANY THE UNIT IN TRANSIT AND WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR SETTING UP AND CLOSING DOWN. ONE EMPLOYEE WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE WHEN THE PROGRAM IS IN PROGRESS. LABOR CHARGES WILL BE ADDED TO ACCOMMODATE SET-UP AND BREAKDOWN TIME. GROUPS UTILIZING THE SHOWMOBILE WILL BE BILLED FOR THE DELIVERY AND OPERATION AFTER THEIR PROGRAM HAS TAKEN PLACE. ALL BILLS ARE PAYABLE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THEIR RECEIPT.

" seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that the Town receives requests for rental waivers for the Showmobile. With a fee schedule in place, there won't be any more waivers coming to the Town Council for approval. The Director of Parks and Recreation needs a fee schedule in place for Cottone field for the summer season.

Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreations, said that these fees are inclusive of the Budget and Finance Committee's recommended changes.

Councilor Drake said that the private rental for Cottone Field of \$100 is not enough to cover costs if anything should happen to the field.

Councilor Kirsche said that the fee was doubled from \$50 to \$100 to put it in line with Rocky Hill and Newington.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato said that the Committee decided that \$100 was a good place to begin with the fee.

Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation went over the fee schedule with the Town Council.

Councilor Drake said that when he read Group Two, it states "Local organized non-profit, civic, educational, fraternal, social and religious groups, a majority (75%) of whose membership is comprised of Wethersfield residents. Also, neighboring municipalities and their special events will receive this rate." He feels that it sounds like the 75 percent also applies to neighboring municipalities and would like that section of the policy to be clearer.

Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation said that the 75 percent only refers to local organizations.

Chairperson Adil asked if the Director of Parks and Recreation would clarify it in the fee schedule.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**TO TRANSFER \$5,460 FROM THE CONTINGENCY TO THE PHYSICAL SERVICES OVERTIME ACCOUNT FOR WEEKEND STAFF COVERAGE AT COTTONE FIELD**" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation said that this request is to pay for staff at the field to provide security and maintenance during weekend youth games.

Councilor Drake asked why the groups using the field aren't responsible for cleaning up the field. He suggested giving the groups a bill for clean up that they have not done.

Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation said that the number one issue is the security of the field. It will protect the field if a staff member is present. For large events there is generally a lot of trash from spectators. Also, there could be as many as four games on a given weekend day.

Chairperson Adil said that a permit is required to use the field and the Town needs to make sure that the groups are doing what they are supposed to be doing when they use the field.

Councilor Drake asked if this maintenance position is in the proposed budget, too.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that the proposed budget has money allotted for this position.

Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Drake voted NAY. The motion passed 6-1-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO TRANSFER \$5,500 FROM CONTINGENCY TO PARKS AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE ATHLETIC FIELD BLEACHERS AND BENCHES"** seconded by Councilor Kirsche.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager said that some bleachers and benches have become unrepairable over the winter. The Town could wait until July 1st and use funds from the proposed budget but since the bleachers and benches are used all spring, it made sense to replace them now.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN A LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH SIEGEL, O'CONNOR, O'DONNELL & BECK PC FOR THE SERVICES OF ATTORNEY KENNETH PLUMB"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that Kenneth Plumb, Labor Attorney has moved to a new law firm. The Town would like to continue to use his services. This motion would allow the Town to continue to use his services.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO TRANSFER \$1,458 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE POLICE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT ACCOUNT AND TO AWARD THE PURCHASE OF ONE FORD POLICE CRUISER AND ONE FORD EXPEDITION TO WARNOCK AUTOMOTIVE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,555"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that two police cruisers were in accidents. The Town was short \$1,458 for the purchase of the vehicle after the insurance proceeds were received.

Councilor Montinieri said that the insurance proceeds came in higher than project.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the claims worked out better than anticipated.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Kirsche moved **"TO TRANSFER \$4,245 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE DATA SERVICES IT EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE ACCOUNT"** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the Town had problem with the spam filter and Paul Dudley, Data Services Coordinator has been using the Barricuda on a trial basis. The Town now has to pay for the spam filter if it continues using it.

Councilor Kirsche said that he is the Town Council liaison to the Technology Committee. He said that the Data Services Coordinator has compared several spam filters and is pleased with the Barricuda product.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## **BIDS**

Councilor Drake moved **"TO APPROVE THE BID FOR HEATING OIL FOR TOWN BUILDINGS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ \$2.1359 PER GALLON AND FOR DIESEL FUEL FOR TOWN VEHICLES FROM VENDOR #1- DIME OIL AS NEEDED"** seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, said that the Capital Region Council of Governments bid this out for the region and the Town locked into this price in April.

Chairperson Adil said that it looks like a \$5,000 savings.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## **ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION**

### HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT

**RESOLVED**, That Bonnie L. Therrien, Town Manager of Wethersfield, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

### RESOLUTION REGARDING THE AUTHORIZATION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND YOUTH SERVICES AND THE AWARD OF FUNDS FROM THE GRANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND YOUTH SERVICES

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD that Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, and Nancy Stilwell, Director of Social and Youth Services are hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield, a contract between the State Department of Education and the Town of Wethersfield Department of Social and Youth Services. Said contract shall be in the amount of \$21,666\* for contributions to program services within the "Youth Services Bureau" for fiscal year 2007/2008.

## **MINUTES**

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 2, 2007"** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved **"TO APPROVE THE BUDGET MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 9th, 12th, and 19th"** seconded by Councilor Kirsche.

Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Deputy Mayor Fortunato ABSTAINED from the April 12th minutes and Councilor Kirsche ABSTAINED from the April 19th minutes.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved **"TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2007"**

seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2007**" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 10:35 p.m., Deputy Mayor Fortunato moved "**THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE NEGOTIATIONS AND UNION NEGOTIATIONS**" seconded by Councilor Kotkin. All Council members and the Chairman voted aye. The motion passed 7-0-0.

At 10:49 p.m. Councilor Montineri moved to leave the Executive Session. This was seconded by Councilor Kirsche. All Council members present and the Chairman voted aye. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO APPROVE THE BID FOR PROGRESS DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ \$157,000 FROM VENDOR #1- B & W PAVING AND LANDSCAPING**" seconded by Councilor Montineri.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO HAVE THE TOWN ATTORNEY DRAW UP THE PAPERS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE AT 15 HEATHER DRIVE AND TO ACCEPT THE PROPERTY AS A DONATION TO THE TOWN**" seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:57 p.m., Councilor Kirsche moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Amy Bello

Assistant Town Clerk