

ADJOURNED BUDGET MEETING MAY 11, 2005

An Adjourned Meeting of the Town Council (adjourned from Wednesday, May 4, 2005) was held on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 5:45 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Town Hall with Chairperson Russell A. Morin presiding.

Present: Councilors Adil (6:05), Cascio, Czernicki, Forrest, Fortunato, Hemmann, Montinieri, Deputy Mayor Karangekis, and Chairperson Morin.

Also present: Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager; Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk; and Lisa Hancock, Finance Director.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that there are a number of proposals on the distribution of the revenue sharing coming in from the State and the only one she has in writing is from the Lieutenant Governor for \$100 million shared between all the Towns in one year. This proposal would result in an additional \$413,715 in revenue for Wethersfield; however, she does not know what the formulas will be.

The Town Manager explained that previously the Council voted to increase the Senior Center fees and Social Services Director Nancy Stilwell and Senior Center Director Donna Mattison, after reviewing the change, feel that the increase will make Wethersfield noncompetitive with other communities; therefore they would like to bring these fees back down and increase program fees instead.

Councilor Montinieri moved "**TO RESCIND THE COUNCIL'S ADJUSTMENT TO THE SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP FEE AND TO INCREASE PROGRAM FEES AS OUTLINED IN DR. STILWELL'S MEMORANDUM TO THE TOWN MANAGER DATED MAY 5, 2005**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Czernicki said that she has concerns with increasing the program fees and asked by how much they will be increased. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that the current fee is \$2 per session and an increase to \$3 will produce \$1,297.50 over the current year and an increase to \$4 will yield an increase of \$2,595 over the current year. Councilor Czernicki asked how many times the programs meet. The Town Manager said that she is unsure of this, but it is somewhere between 12 and 16 times.

Councilor Fortunato asked if members were polled to obtain their input as to whether or not the increase in fees is something they can bear. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she believes that it was just the staff who met and proposed the current program fee increase. Councilor Fortunato said that she prefers to stay with the increase in the membership fee since it is reasonable and she is uncomfortable with increasing the program fees until this is brought to the members for discussion.

Councilor Czernicki asked if there is a current policy requiring a minimum number of participants in order for a program to run. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that there is a policy and the numbers vary from program to program. Councilor Czernicki said that she is in favor of increasing the membership fee rather than program fees.

Chairperson Morin said that, since the participants have not yet been spoken with, he would prefer to stay with the membership fee increase.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted NAY. The motion failed 0-8-0.

Councilor Fortunato moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO ADD \$1,560 FOR A SECRETARY FOR THE WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN**

MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE ANIMAL CONTROL DAILY BOARD FEE TO \$15", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT BULKY WASTE COLLECTION PER 1/2 CY FEE TO \$30"**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT BULKY WASTE DISPOSAL PERMIT FEE TO \$30"**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COMMERCIAL TIPPING FEE PER 1/2 CY TO \$300"**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Czernicki asked where the \$300 falls in comparison to surrounding communities. Ms. Palmer said that she will get the information presently.

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO POSTPONE THE VOTE UNTIL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED BY MS. PALMER"**", seconded by Councilor Czernicki. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ONE TIME VISIT - RESIDENTIAL FEE TO \$60"**", seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that a one time use of the Transfer Station without a permit will cost a fee of \$60. This fee provides residents with the incentive to purchase a permit.

Councilor Fortunato verified that permits are sold at the Transfer Station and was told that they are.

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

Councilor Montinieri moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT RECYCLING BIN FEE TO \$5"**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Ms. Palmer returned at this time with information regarding the Commercial Tipping Fee. She said that Newington charges \$240 per year and Rocky Hill charges \$100 for two years.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that last year she provided a five-year plan for all Public Works fees which will make the services 100% self-sufficient and this is year two of the plan.

Councilor Czernicki asked what the fee needs to go to, to make this self-sustaining. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the increases are 20%-25% each year resulting in a fee that is not cheap.

Chairperson Morin said that the \$300 amount seems high in comparison to Newington and Rocky Hill, yet it is expensive to dispose of the debris that is brought into the Transfer Station. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the regular tipping fee did not increase with CRRA; however the bulky did.

Councilor Czernicki asked if commercial haulers have the option to bring their materials to any dump in any Town. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that it varies. Councilor Czernicki asked what policies this. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that it depends on individual Towns' policies. Councilor Czernicki asked what would stop a commercial hauler from going to Newington where the fee is significantly less. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she does not know.

Chairperson Morin said that if the fee becomes too exorbitant, debris could be thrown into open areas throughout Town rather than the Transfer Station. He said that there is a fine line between offsetting the costs and driving users elsewhere.

Councilor Adil verified that the Town is currently running at a loss in terms of this fee and \$300 would still be operating at a loss; however, less of a loss. He said that if revenue is lost due to the increase in the fee, the fee could be altered again next year.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Czernicki voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Councilor Czernicki moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SENIOR CENTER THREE YEAR NONRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP FEE TO \$20**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Councilor Czernicki asked what the current policy is regarding nonresident program fees. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the fees are more; however she does not think that they are doubled. Councilor Czernicki asked if there are a large number of nonresidents interested in joining the Senior Center. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that there are not many. Councilor Czernicki asked if guest passes are provided for those wishing to bring a friend to the Center. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she does not think so.

Chairperson Morin said that he is not comfortable with the \$20 fee.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the \$20 fee was recommended by the Staff. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that they didn't have an issue with the nonresident fee as they did with the resident fee.

Councilor Czernicki said that the nonresident fee should be higher than the resident fee; however she suggests \$15 rather than \$20.

Councilor Czernicki moved "**TO AMEND THE MOTION TO INCREASE THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SENIOR CENTER THREE YEAR NONRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP FEE TO \$15**", seconded by Councilor Fortunato.

Councilor Adil said that if residents are being asked to live with fee increases, nonresidents should be expected to do as much, if not more if they want to use Wethersfield facilities. He said that if the Staff thinks that \$20 is a good number, he'd like to stay with this amount. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that Dr. Stilwell had used the rationale that if the resident fee is being doubled, the nonresident fee should be doubled as well.

Councilor Forrest said that he will vote against the amendment and the increase since members should feel free to bring a friend to the Center and he doesn't see the facility being used much by a large number of nonmembers.

Councilor Fortunato said that if there are programs of value to nonresidents, they will become members and although the membership fee is not substantial, it is an increase. She said that a one-time guest pass is very different than a nonresident regularly attending the Center.

Councilor Cascio said that he is concerned that a consistent policy be followed regarding fee increases for nonresidents. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she will provide this information in her weekly management report.

Councilor Fortunato said that the Parks & Recreation program fees distinguish between resident and nonresidents.

Chairperson Morin said that he supports the amended amount.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Adil voted NAY. The motion as amended passed 8-1-0.

Councilor Cascio asked the Town Manager for the dollar amount equating to two days of furlough. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the amount will be slightly over \$39,000. Councilor Cascio verified that the current budget includes two days of furlough for all Town employees. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this has yet to be voted upon; therefore the current budget includes four days of furloughs. Councilor Cascio said that he is not even comfortable with two days of furloughs.

Councilor Adil moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO REMOVE ALL FURLOUGH DAYS**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Councilor Cascio said that at last night's Shared Services meeting he asked if the Board of Education has ever done anything like this and was told by the Superintendent of Schools that they have not. He said that he is concerned because he would like to treat others as he would want to be treated in his job. He said that he would personally have a problem being furloughed in addition to receiving a 0% raise.

Councilor Fortunato said that people in the community have come to expect a certain level of service and Wethersfield employees have always delivered. She said that by furloughing employees, quality of service will be impacted as well as employee morale; therefore, she cannot support furloughs.

Councilor Hemmann said that she does not like the option of furloughs; however the Town is faced with a very large increase and there has to be give and take in the budget. She said that if the furloughs are removed, there will be an additional \$98,000 in the budget to add to the increase already in place.

Councilor Cascio commented that State of Connecticut employees brought a class action suit against the State for furloughs required of them. He said that the State not only had to pay for legal services, but also had to pay back the employees for a day of furloughed work. Councilor Cascio said that he is therefore uncomfortable with doing this in Wethersfield and other options should be considered.

Finance Director Lisa Hancock stated that every \$100,000 added back to the budget equates to an approximate .18% increase.

Councilor Czernicki said that the Council should take seriously the Town Manager's recommendation to include a four-day furlough in the budget. She said that she understands how the furloughs could affect morale and possibly the level of service provided; however, the taxpayers can only bear so much of a burden. She said that surrounding Towns with a budget referendum option, something which the Charter Revision Commission did not choose for Wethersfield, there are budgets with 4%-6% increases voted down. Councilor Czernicki said that it currently appears that Wethersfield will end up with one of the highest budgets in the surrounding area and she sees the furloughs as a fair and decent way to address the cost issue. She said that she prefers to see furloughs rather than layoffs. Councilor Czernicki said that furloughs and/or layoffs are presented year after year in the budget and are taken out just before the budget is approved. Councilor Czernicki said that municipal employees, in the long run, get a decent shake with work hours and benefits and if current employees think it is awful to work for the Town of Wethersfield; perhaps they need to seek employment elsewhere. She said that if the furloughs are removed, the Town Manager should consider not including them in future years.

Councilor Montinieri stated that she respects the Town Manager's proposed budget which includes four days of furlough; however since the budget was originally presented, revenues not initially anticipated have become available which will cover the \$98,411 of furloughs. Because of this, Councilor Montinieri said that she is in favor of doing away with the furloughs.

Councilor Hemmann said that information provided to the Council this evening indicates that the potential additional revenue is being earmarked for other items. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that the revenue will be used for thirteen tasers and additional debt. Councilor Hemmann said that the additional revenue will then not cover the \$98,411 of furlough money.

Chairperson Morin said that doing away with the furloughs will be an added cost to the budget and time will tell if there are revenues to offset this. He said that the Council has already voted to make adjustments to the budget and this one is just on a higher scale.

Councilor Czernicki asked what the projected additional revenues will be due to the increased fees. Ms. Hancock said that this will result in approximately \$57,120.

Chairperson Morin said that good points have been raised. He said that Town Employees are being asked to continue to provide great service with less funding and furloughing the employees does not keep with the charge of trying to get things done more efficiently. Chairperson Morin said that he cannot support the furloughs, keeping in mind that the Town Manager provides a budget that she thinks will best serve the Town. He said that the Council takes the responsibility of tweaking the budget up or down.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Czernicki and Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-2-0.

Councilor Adil moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE REVENUE TO \$300,000 DUE TO ANTICIPATED REVENUE FROM THE STATE**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Adil stated that in looking at the Lieutenant Governor's memo, all possible estimates are above the \$300,000 number; therefore this is a conservative number.

Councilor Forrest agreed with Councilor Adil that this number is slightly conservative but very appropriate.

Chairperson Morin stated that he is comfortable with the \$300,000 amount.

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

Councilor Cascio said that there was discussion regarding the Munis system at last night's Shared Service meeting and the contract in the current proposed budget. He asked if the contract is for \$180,000 and the Town Manager said that this is the correct amount in next year's budget. Councilor Cascio asked if it is true that an additional \$35,000 will not be needed. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Council voted at the May 4 meeting to decrease the Finance Dept. budget by \$32,000 for the support fee.

Councilor Hemmann expressed her concern over the wording of the motion to reinstate the Parks & Recreation playground program at Standish Park. After review, the Town Clerk's Office determined that the wording of the motion stated "Standish Park" and not Mikey's Place.

Councilor Fortunato moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO REDUCE THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT FOR REVALUATION BY \$30,000**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Cascio asked if the revaluation is something that can be handled by the Assessor's Office. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that the Assessor's Office cannot conduct a full blown reval, and this is money that is set aside over a three-year period to pay for the full blown reval in 2008.

Councilor Czernicki asked what the estimated cost is for the 2008 reval. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that it is approximately \$530,000.

Chairperson Morin said that he is comfortable with the amount and it is admirable that the Town is planning for this future cost.

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

Councilor Adil moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO DELAY FOR SIX MONTHS THE HIRING OF THE PHYSICAL SERVICES MAINTAINER II , THE POLICE RECORDS CLERK, AND THE PART-TIME PHYSICAL SERVICES CLERK**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that the six month delay will provide a savings of approximately \$46,500.

Councilor Adil said that he doesn't see that the delay will cause much of a hardship to the staff and creates a savings to take away from the cost of not furloughing employees.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the Maintainer II position is the one that will be shared with Newington. The Town Manager said that it is not and that this Maintainer II is a current vacant position.

Councilor Czernicki asked how long it will take to get the Maintainer II position in place. The Town Manager said that it takes approximately six to eight weeks.

Chairperson Morin said that if there is an added windfall from the State, the Council could adjust this at that time.

Councilor Forrest said that he is uncomfortable with not keeping up the current level of services. He said that the maintenance of trees, bushes, and grass for curb appeal is very important; therefore he is not comfortable with leaving these positions vacant.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Cascio, Councilor Czernicki, and Councilor Forrest voted NAY. The motion passed 6-3-0.

Councilor Czernicki moved "**TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE THE DISCUSSION ON THE PURCHASE OF THE TASERS FOR THE WETHERSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**", seconded by Councilor Cascio.

Councilor Czernicki said that at a previous meeting she made a motion to appropriate funds to purchase thirteen tasers in addition to the funds the Town Manager found in this year's budget to purchase two. She said that the Town Manager has suggested that FEMA funds be used for the purchase.

Councilor Czernicki moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE REVENUE BY \$75,441 FROM THE FEMA REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THIRTEEN TASERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**", seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Adil moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO DECREASE THE CNEF RADIO RESERVE ACCOUNT T1955 5801 BY \$75,000**", seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Councilor Hemmann said that she thought that a transfer was already made.

Ms. Hancock said that she remembers significant discussion on this topic; however she does not remember a vote being taken.

Councilor Montinieri asked if the \$75,000 is added revenue to the budget and Councilor Adil explained that the motion reduces the budget by \$75,000.

Chairperson Morin stated that this will leave the Town with \$114,000 in this account.

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

Councilor Czernicki moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCLUDE THE PURCHASE OF THIRTEEN TASERS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL ACCOUNT**", seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Adil moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT T1610121 5272 BY \$30 TO CORRECT THE AMOUNT OF THE INCREASE AS ADOPTED ON MAY 4, 2005**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Fortunato moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE DEBT SERVICE T1920 5766 905 BY \$55,000 FOR THE TOWN HALL/LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT**", seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Councilor Hemmann asked the Town Manager for a budget update at the next Council meeting on the Town Hall/Library renovation project.

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

Deputy Mayor Karangekis moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER APRIL 4, 2005 BE, AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO INCREASE THE PHYSICAL SERVICES PAYROLL ACCOUNT T1550 5001 BY \$20,340 AND THE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ACCOUNT T1550 5110 BY \$16,160 FOR THE MAINTAINER II POSITION THAT WILL WORK ON TREE MAINTENANCE AND BE SHARED WITH THE TOWN OF NEWINGTON, AND TO INCREASE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT BY \$27,000 FOR NEWINGTON'S SHARE OF THE EXPENSES**", seconded by Councilor Adil.

Chairperson Morin said that he looks forward to working with another community and how this may benefit Wethersfield in the future.

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

At this time (7:00 p.m.), Councilor Forrest moved "**TO RECESS UNTIL THE CALL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**", seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Chairperson Morin called the meeting back to order at 7:20 p.m.

Councilor Adil moved "**TO RESCIND HIS MOTION MADE ON MAY 4 STATING 'RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED APRIL 4, 2005 BY THE TOWN MANAGER, BONNIE THERRIEN BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO ADD \$69,539,211 TO REVENUE'**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Adil moved, "**RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED APRIL 4, 2005 BY THE TOWN MANAGER, BONNIE THERRIEN BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONS TO REVENUE AS VOTED ON**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved "**RESOLVED, THAT THE WETHERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT THE TOWN BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 4, 2005 AND AS AMENDED BY**

THE TOWN COUNCIL IN THE SUM OF \$69,635,076 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005", seconded by Councilor Montinieri. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Councilor Fortunato moved "**THAT THE TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR LIBRARY PURPOSES BE SET AT \$1,384,819 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005"**", seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Czernicki voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Councilor Fortunato moved "**THAT THE TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES BE SET AT \$39,933,174 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005"**", seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Montinieri voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Councilor Montinieri moved "**THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES FOR THE TOWN, LIBRARY, AND SCHOOL PURPOSES COMBINED BE SET AT \$59,570,333 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005"**", seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis moved "**THAT THE TAX RATE ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL TAXABLE PROPERTY BE SET AT 30.19 MILLS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005"**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Czernicki and Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-2-0.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chairperson Morin commented that he appreciates the work and dedication put in by Council members and he thanked the Town Manager, the Finance Director, and the Town Clerk for all their work during the budget process. Chairperson Morin stated that the Council's decisions tonight will make some people happy and some people unhappy and he appreciates the comments made by many people regarding the budget. He said that the things important to Wethersfield residents are being taken care of in the budget. Chairperson Morin announced that the tax increase will be 7.51% and the mill rate increase will be 1.84.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 p.m., Councilor Adil moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING"** seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by vote of Council 6/6/05