

MAY 17, 2004 REGULAR MEETING

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on May 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

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

Also present: Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager, and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

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

Update from Logisticare - Dial-A-Ride Transportation

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that when the ridership was switched to Logisticare, the Council was told that they would receive an update report after six months. She said that things are going very well and that Logisticare is very responsive. The Town Manager introduced Mr. Gianni Zarrilli, owner of Logisticare.

Mr. Zarrilli said that the transition has gone very smoothly and that any small issues have been resolved.

Councilor Fortunato asked if Mr. Zarrilli anticipates continued increased usage for the Summer months. Mr. Zarrilli said that the March numbers are high because there are more days in March and no holidays. He said that he anticipates the numbers staying around the April amount. Councilor Fortunato said that the Dial-A-Ride program is very valuable, yet after reviewing the monthly statistics, she suggested that there be possible cutbacks in the number of trips during slower months. Mr. Zarrilli said that he will not charge an additional fee if the numbers go over 1,200 trips in only one month or two yet stay below the 1,200 amount in other months.

Councilor Czernicki thanked Mr. Zarrilli for the information and service he has provided. She agreed with the Town Manager that Logisticare's service is all the Council asked for, and more.

Chairperson Morin thanked Mr. Zarrilli for coming before the Council.

Councilor Montinieri moved "**TO REMOVE ITEMS 3.b.2, 3, AND 4 FROM THE TABLE**", seconded by Councilor Czernicki. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HEARING

RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODY

Doreen Garcia, 33 Sherburne Road, stated that she is against the proposal for artificial turf. She said that the New England Patriots have gone back to real grass as artificial turf has caused many injuries. Ms. Garcia commented that Wethersfield should be tightening its belt with regard to expenses rather than even considering the expense of artificial turf, given the current economic conditions. She said that the Council is not using logic and common sense in their decision to move forward with the project.

Lucy Kazakos, 554 Nott Street, spoke in favor of the artificial turf at Cottone Field. She said that she has children who have played in the slop of the current field. She looks forward to seeing her children play on the renovated field, rather than having games cancelled or moved to an out-of-town location.

Woodrow Warren, 9 Nutmeg Circle, spoke of an article written by Joe Namath addressing the negative affects of what hard surfaces can do to the joints of the body. The article crusades against fields with hard surfaces. Mr. Warren said

that the health and safety of Wethersfield children is what is most important when deciding on the renovation to Cottone Field.

Jay Cottone, 37 Drummer Lane, thanked the Council for their efforts toward the renovation of Cottone Field. He said that much research has been done and he is proud of the work of the Artificial Surface Committee. He said that the field will be done correctly due to this great research.

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, spoke as Vice President of the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. He said that the Association does not support accepting a grant for the renovations to Cottone Field as there is no free money as all Grants come from the pockets of the people. Mr. Ruhe said that Grants come with too many strings attached as is evident with the Nott Street project. He urged the Council to table the resolution as the petition issue is not a dead issue and that there is currently an ethics complaint pending.

John Miller, 375 Pine Lane, distributed photos taken of Cottone Field in April showing its muddy condition. He urged the Council to move forward with the renovation project as there is a big show of support by many groups and residents in Town. He said that the neighbors' concerns can be and should be addressed. He said that the field will be safe and also increasingly available.

Demetrios Triantafylidis, 39 Robbins Drive, spoke in favor of the installation of artificial surface at Cottone Field. He said that he has coached soccer and his son currently plays. He said that other fields throughout the State are like night and day when compared to Cottone Field. He urged the Council to walk Cottone Field and see the kind of conditions on which the youth of Wethersfield are being expected to play.

Judy Emmick, 88 Westway, commented on her concern that the football field was built on a swamp and, regardless of the drainage or surface, the field will still be on a swamp. She urged the Council to consider an alternate location for the field.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Road, spoke in opposition to the installation of artificial surface at Cottone Field. He said that he is concerned that mole will come through the artificial surface because the field is so wet. Mr. Young is also concerned about injuries that will occur as a result of the artificial turf. He is also concerned for the surrounding neighbors and the impact the renovated field will have on their neighborhoods.

No one else wished to speak and the Chairperson declared the Hearing segment closed.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Arlene McCarthy, 50 Cedar Street, urged the Council to develop and implement a Town ordinance and/or Zoning regulation that will prohibit the Town from entering into any local, State, or Federal contract with specifications calling for the use, or potential use, of explosive demolition materials or hammering equipment in excess of 5,000 pounds within any Wethersfield residential zone. She said that had such an ordinance been in place, the residents of the Nott Street project area would not be in the unenviable position they find themselves in. Ms. McCarthy thanked Councilors Cascio and Hemmann for their opposition to the blasting. She also thanked Councilor Czernicki for her support of the Nott Street area residents. She commented on a remark made by Deputy Mayor Karangekis at the May 3 Council meeting in which he said that projects have been done consistently using explosives, with very little negative effect on the surrounding areas. She questions what projects Deputy Mayor Karangekis is referring to with this remark. Ms. McCarthy asked who is monitoring the situation to ensure that all of the pre-blasting surveys have been completed and the residents have received copies. She asked what the Town proposed radius of the pre-blasting surveys is. She said that during the previous blasting on the same rock ledge, homes as far as 900 feet sustained negative impact. Ms. McCarthy recommended that the Town notify the residents of the estimated dates and times of the blasting and approximately when the blasting will cease. She said that the Town needs to notify the residents of their right to participate in the pre-blasting survey conducted by both the blasting contractor and also by the Town and to receive a copy of such. Residents also need to be notified of the precautionary steps to take in lieu of a pre-blasting survey. Lastly, the residents need to be informed of the name and phone number of Town Hall staff to contact for further information and for reporting any damage.

Margaret Hunt, 26 Westlook Road, spoke of her dismay and disgust over the vote to blast Nott Street. She said that the Council has decided to damage homes with this vote. She said that the Council didn't blink at spending over \$1 million on Cottone Field, yet did not want to spend this much to stop the project on Nott Street. Ms. Hunt said that an exception to the design standards allowed a reduction in the depth of rock cut from the necessary six feet to roughly three feet was approved on April 1, 1999. She said that the Council and the Town did not bother to find out what the project entails. Ms. Hunt submitted her comments, a May 3, 2004 letter from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, and a copy of the Alternative Rules for Determining Tort Liability into the Council record. Ms. Hunt also thanked Councilors Cascio, Hemmann, and Czernicki for their support. She said that she has no respect for the Councilors who rescinded the previous vote not to blast.

Councilor Forrest left the meeting for four minutes at this time (7:40 p.m.).

Woodrow Warren, 9 Nutmeg Circle, spoke of his concerns over the Pyquaug Village Association and also his concern that the Council needs to make sure they have all the facts before making any decisions with respect to Cottone Field.

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, commented that it would not be prudent for the Council to proceed with the award of artificial turf installation to RAD/Sportsturf when there is a pending ethics issue. Mr. Ruhe suggests that the Council table the award until the issue is resolved. Mr. Ruhe feels that the 8-24 referral of the lights at Cottone Field to the Planning & Zoning Commission is premature because the funds have yet to be received and he does not see it as a wise move to charge ahead before all issues are resolved. Mr. Ruhe commented on the two petitions submitted to the Town by the Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. The Association feels that the Council is not paying enough attention to how Town projects affect the community, and that they are trying to move the Cottone Field renovation ahead regardless of this.

John Miller, 375 Pine Lane, suggested that the Council review the procedural format of the operation of the Ethics Committee. He said that delaying or stopping projects seems to be the key strategy of a particular group in Wethersfield and filing an ethics complaint could be an effective weapon according to the current operation of the Ethics Committee. Mr. Miller questions whether the Ethics Committee should be used in this manner.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Road, commented on the newly adopted 2004-2005 budget with its average 17%-18% tax increase on residential homes in Wethersfield. Mr. Young said that he finds this outrageous and is concerned for older residents in Town. He said that the increase is many times what the current inflation rate is. He said that the citizens need to rise and demand their right to a budget referendum.

Judy Emmick, 88 Westway, said that she supports the neighbors in the Nott Street area. Ms. Emmick voiced her concern over the submitted petitions for a referendum on Cottone Field and is disappointed that the Town will not be able to voice their opinions through such. Ms. Emmick said that many important projects in Town have been overridden by the \$1.2 million football field renovation. She questioned the priorities of the Town Council and feels that the reason the project is not going to referendum is because proponents fear it will be defeated.

Cathy Boyes, 20 Westlook Road, commented on the Nott Street project. She was amazed that the Council rescinded their vote to stop the blasting due to dollars and cents rather than sticking to their original decision supporting the will of the people in the area. She said that she would like to have a pre-blast survey and asked that a listing of inspectors from which to choose be provided to residents. Ms. Boyes also asked that documents suggesting precautionary measurements be provided, as well as a schedule of blasting. Ms. Boyes reminded the Council that they should be listening intently to the public's comments during Council meetings.

Doreen Garcia, 33 Sherburne Road, spoke in opposition to the installation of artificial turf at Cottone Field. She said that the issue of lawsuits needs to be addressed. Ms. Garcia voiced her disappointment that the Council voted to raise Wethersfield taxes an average of 17%. She said that in light of this, the Council is being irresponsible in considering the expense of the Cottone Field renovation at this time.

Rick Saccoccia, 21 Holly Lane, said that he is in awe of the power of the Town Manager's position. He said that one side of the position is self-serving and political and the other side is for the good of the community. He said that the power of the position seems to be unlimited and can change people's lives. Mr. Saccoccia said that the proposal of two

budgets by the Town Manager diverted the public's attention away from the real issue of a 17%-18% tax increase. Mr. Saccoccia said that all groups want Wethersfield to have a good educational system; however Wethersfield is a public school system, not a private school system. Mr. Saccoccia said that those with children in the Wethersfield school system are getting a great deal as they are getting a private school education without the extra cost, but those without children in the system are not getting a good deal at all. Mr. Saccoccia said that after paying for teachers and their benefits, leaking roofs, outdated textbooks, and ample supplies take a backseat in the Board of Education budget. Mr. Saccoccia said that the Town Manager needs to protect the whole community and not just a part of it.

Ron Rodd, 88 West Way, addressed the ongoing ethics complaint and commented on the validity of the process. Mr. Rodd said that the process needs to be trusted in order for it to work. He warned Chairperson Morin that his public comments could serve to prejudice the outcome of the ethics complaint, as he was quoted in the newspaper as saying that "this (complaint) is just another tactic to waylay the effort for developing Cottone Field". Mr. Rodd said that, as a public official, Chairperson Morin should be cautious in his comments and be sensitive to the fact that the process is in place and should be trusted. Mr. Rodd said that the current lighting ordinance was adopted in 1993 and amended in 1996 and has yet to be applied to municipal properties. He said that the code states that if the lighting represents a continual inconvenience or compromise to the privacy of the area residents, it can be challenged. Mr. Rodd said that he, along with others, will form an aggressive challenge to any effort to light Cottone Field.

Barbara Ruhe, 79 Main Street, recognized the 50th Anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision of Brown vs. the Board of Education. She read a small portion of the Declaration of Independence regarding the rights of the public. She said that the Council needs to remember that the public is not the audience, they are the voters.

Ann Brickley, 143 Highcrest Road, thanked the Council for their hard work in deliberating and adopting the 2004-2005 budget. She spoke in favor of the proposed renovations to Cottone Field. Ms. Brickley said that the field represents a wide range of Wethersfield's diversity and their coming together on this field.

No one else wished to speak and the Chairperson declared the Public Comments segment closed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS & REPORTS

Councilor Adil reported on the meeting of the EDIC at which the business visitation program was discussed. He said that there has been very positive feedback. Councilor Adil thanked Mr. Camillere for his work on the Committee, since he will not be seeking reappointment when his term expires in June.

Councilor Cascio reminded everyone that the Memorial Day Parade will be on Saturday, May 29 beginning at the DMV. He said that the schools have posted signs advertising the parade. He urged Wethersfield residents to show their patriotism by hanging the American Flag along the parade route and at their homes.

Councilor Czernicki commented on the Council's vote, for which she was absent, to rescind its decision not to blast. She commented on Chairperson Morin's passing the chair of the meeting over to Deputy Mayor Karangekis at the time of the discussion. Councilor Czernicki verified the name of the newly proposed blaster from Berlin is Revisa. She asked the Town Manager if the Council will find out the amount of liability insurance carried by Revisa. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said once they have accepted the project, they will provide this information. Councilor Czernicki asked if the DOT will now answer Town residents' questions regarding the blasting since the Council has approved the blasting. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she will provide the questions to the DOT. Councilor Czernicki asked if Revisa has been involved in any recent litigation activity, any recent judgments, and if they have any current liens against them. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she is unaware of any. Councilor Czernicki asked who the Town designee on site during the blasting will be. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that Fire Marshall, Gary Santoro will be on site. Councilor Czernicki asked if he will check the proper working order of the equipment. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that he will. Councilor Czernicki asked if the equipment is examined and shown not to be in proper working order, will blasting cease for that day. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this will be the call of the Fire Marshall. Councilor Czernicki asked the Town Manager to provide verification of the previously stated schedule of two blasts per day for approximately ten days. Councilor Czernicki verified that there will be no experimental blasts. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this is accurate. Councilor Czernicki asked if the Council has determined the radius for the pre-blast surveys. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this has not

been discussed. Councilor Czernicki asked the Town Manager to explain what cost savings residents might realize if the reval were put off due to action taken by the State recently. The Town Manager said that any money spent on the reval this year would be wasted as a complete reval, costing four times as much, would need to be done at a later date. Councilor Czernicki announced that the Chamber of Commerce recently announced that they have chosen Councilor Cascio as Wethersfield's Volunteer of the year.

Councilor Cascio said that he attended the recent Charles Wright Arbor Day Festival with Councilor Czernicki. He said that it was a wonderful event put on by the PTA.

Councilor Forrest clarified that at an earlier Council meeting, Town Manager Bonnie Therrien instructed the Council that any of them who wishes to abstain from a vote, not take part in the discussion. He said that it was at this point that Chairperson Morin handed the chair over to Deputy Mayor Karangekis. Councilor Forrest said that the words of the founding fathers are taken into consideration when actions are taken by the Council.

Councilor Montinieri reported that she traveled to Montreal with the Silas Deane Middle School's eighth grade Spanish class. She said that she is very proud of the behavior exhibited by the students and very impressed by the faculty.

Chairperson Morin urged the public to attend the Memorial Day Parade and thanked all, including Councilor Cascio, who contributed to its organization.

Town Attorney Opinion - Petitions

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she requested that Town Attorney Bradley review the submitted petitions and give an opinion as to the next steps to be taken.

Town Attorney Bradley said that he has delivered an opinion to the Town Manager in which he recommends that the proposed petitions should not be certified. He said that he makes the recommendation because under the Wethersfield Charter there are three ways in which to bring about a referendum, but there is no provision for a purely advisory referendum. It is possible that the Charter Revision Committee review this item for revision. The three ways to bring about a referendum are as follows:

- Obligatory referendum items involving bonding and special appropriations in excess of \$100,000
- Over-ride provisions whereby the citizens can petition the Council to over-rule certain action taken by the Council
- Initiative ordinance mechanism which is a means by which citizens can propose their own ordinances

Attorney Bradley said that the two proposed ordinances are fundamentally flawed and raise a myriad of difficult legal problems. He said that the first proposed ordinance stating that "The Town of Wethersfield shall not keep, maintain, or cause to be kept or maintained any permanent or temporary floodlights, spotlight, other reflector-type lighting for illumination of sporting events on any municipal owned property" would be problematic as there is current lighting in Mill Woods Park that has existed for many years, and this ordinance would declare such lighting illegal. He said that the ordinance is vague, does not provide definition and gives insufficient notice of what conduct is sought to be prohibited. Attorney Bradley said that there is a lighting ordinance already in effect which was adopted in 1993 and amended in 1996 which permits the type of lighting that the proposed ordinance would prohibit. Attorney Bradley said that the proposed ordinance interferes with the authority of the Board of Education for, although the Town owns the property on which Cottone Field is located, the Board of Education has the exclusive right to control the use of the property. This is why the permission of the Board of Education was sought before going ahead with this project. Attorney Bradley read the second proposed ordinance stating that "The Town of Wethersfield shall not keep, maintain, or install or cause to be kept or maintained or installed any synthetic or artificial grass or turf on any municipal owned athletic fields or parks". He said that this proposed ordinance also has problems of vagueness and lack of definition. Attorney Bradley said the proposed ordinance restricts, just as the other one, what can be done on school property and this is the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. Attorney Bradley said that on October 6, 2003, the Council adopted a resolution directing "the Town Manager to take the necessary actions needed to replace the current High School football field with artificial turf in time for a 2004 Fall opening". He said that this action should have triggered an over-ride petition if this is the intent of the proposed ordinance. It is now way beyond the time for filing such a

petition. Attorney Bradley said that the petition initiatives could be said to be a back door attempt to infringe on the Council's exclusive power to deal with budgetary and tax issues, since the funds for the renovation of the field have been included in the budget.

Councilor Adil asked Attorney Bradley to explain the affects of the prudency of the initiative ordinance petitions and the ethics complaint on the Council's right to proceed. Attorney Bradley said that there has been concern over the affect of the filing of an ethics complaint on the continuation of the process. He said that, regardless of the merits of the ethics complaint, it is important to keep in mind that the person against whom the complaint was made was a member of an Advisory Board which has no power to award a contract, but only the power to make a recommendation. The Advisory Board member resigned before the Board voted to make any recommendation. Attorney Bradley said that it is the decision of the Council which contractor will be awarded the bid and there is nothing requiring the Council to suspend their actions any time a complaint is made. He does not believe that there is anything, at this point, requiring the Council to suspend their actions.

Councilor Czernicki said that she is surprised that, under the Connecticut State Statutes, each local or regional Board of Education shall have charge of the schools of its respective school district and shall have the care, maintenance, and operation of building, lands, apparatus, and other properties used for school purposes. She asked if it changes anything that the Town forces maintain the lands of the schools. Attorney

Bradley said that this does not. Councilor Czernicki asked if the height of the lighting poles, since they will be erected on school property, will fall outside the parameters of the height ordinance. Attorney Bradley said that he has not yet reviewed the ordinance with respect to the height of light towers. He said that the Town has the power to exempt itself entirely from zoning. Councilor Czernicki asked if it is moot to consider any argument as the renovations will take place on school property. Attorney Bradley said that, in general, the project will be subject to the height ordinance if it applies. He said that to his knowledge, the height ordinance applies only to towers. Councilor Czernicki said that she would like clarification of the definition of the phrase "continuous annoyance" from the Town Attorney. Attorney Bradley said that the existing lighting ordinance states "lighting, so as to constitute while the light is on, a continuous annoyance". Councilor Czernicki clarified that the present Council did not adopt the October 6, 2003 resolution; it was adopted by a previous Council.

Councilor Forrest said that he is unclear as to the present position of the petitions. He asked if they have been certified yet and was told that the Town Clerk has certified them. He asked Attorney Bradley what the Council's actions are as he has suggested that the petitions not be certified. Attorney Bradley said that the petitions have the proper number of signatures; however the second part of certification is to submit the proposed ordinances to the voters and he is suggesting that this not be done. Councilor Forrest asked if the Council needs to accept the Town Clerk's certification. Attorney Bradley said that they do and if they refuse to accept certification it is essentially a refusal to place the items on the November ballot.

Councilor Hemmann commented on the rights of the Board of Education to take certain actions. Attorney Bradley said that the Board of Education has exclusive responsibility over all educationally related issues. Councilor Hemmann said that since it is stated that the Board shall have charge of the schools of its respective school district and shall have the care, maintenance, and operation of building, lands, apparatus, and other properties used for school purposes, action should have come from the Board of Education and not from the Council.

Councilor Fortunato said that the Board/Council relationship is no different than the Town evaluating all of the school roofs and putting them into the Capital Improvement plan.

Councilor Czernicki asked if the field will be used solely for school purposes since Attorney Bradley states that the proposed ordinances will conflict with the powers vested in the Board of Education which has charge of all buildings, lands, and properties used for school purposes. Attorney Bradley said that presumably the Board of Education has consented to have the field built and renovated, and the petition ordinances are invalid because it would purport to tell the Board of Education what to do. Councilor Czernicki said that it has been mentioned numerous times that the intent of building the field is to provide extra play time for numerous sports teams outside of the school system. Attorney Bradley said that he assumes that the Board of Education will need to adopt a use policy with regard to this. Councilor

Czernicki said that this argument by Attorney Bradley is very vague. Attorney Bradley said that with regard to the existing athletic fields, the law would say that the Board of Education has the power to prohibit use of the fields to certain activities.

Councilor Fortunato agrees that the proposed ordinance is very vague with regard to Mill Woods and possibly the turf at the running track. She asked if the ordinance were more specific to Cottone Field, would there even be an issue at this time or would it still go back to the need for an over ride petition last Fall. Attorney Bradley said that one option is a brand new petition and a valid ordinance. Councilor Fortunato said that a funding decision has been made in the operating budget and the Town is poised to have a contract with a firm. Attorney Bradley said that based on the announced purpose of the petition, it is a back door attempt to overrule the budget and other decisions. He said that the proposed ordinances do not mention Cottone Field; however it is safe to assume that they refer to the field. Councilor Fortunato asked where in the process the third resolution proposed by proponents of the field lies. Attorney Bradley said that the signatures have yet to be certified and he has not yet been asked to provide an opinion.

Councilor Cascio said that any outside group can use the school buildings by filing a usage form and having the usage approved by the Board of Education. He said that outside groups requesting the use of Cottone Field would also need to file a usage form.

Chairperson Morin commented that there is a process in place as during his involvement with Wethersfield Little League, he was required to sign up for usage of the field and that the High School teams had priority of usage.

COUNCIL ACTION

Wethersfield High School - Artificial Surface - State Grant - \$250,000

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this is the \$250,000 through the Bonding Commission and if the Council wants to move forward, they have to read the resolution into the record.

Councilor Adil moved "**TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:**

RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODY

BE IT RESOLVED, that Town Manager Bonnie Therrien, is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield an Open Space Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to renovate the football field.

IN ADDITION, that Town Manager Bonnie Therrien is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that Town Manager Bonnie Therrien was appointed and her term of office began on April 21, 2003. As the Town Manager, Bonnie Therrien serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of Wethersfield, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield.

Purpose: To authorize the Manager to sign on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield and have the Town Seal affixed.

Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut this 3rd day of May, 2004", seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Councilor Hemmann said that she appreciates grants and what they can bring to the Town; however, based on the resolution to go to referenda introduced at the last meeting which was voted down, she cannot support this proposed resolution.

Councilor Czernicki agreed with Councilor Hemmann.

Chairperson Morin said that this is an issue before the Council for many years and he thanked Representative Doyle for looking into these funds. He said that he looks forward to moving ahead with the project.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Practice Field - High School

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that, during the budget process, the Council agreed to set aside funds for the artificial surface on the practice field. The Council needs to vote to award the project to RAD/Sportsturf.

Councilor Montinieri moved "**TO AWARD THE RENOVATION OF THE PRACTICE FIELD WITH ARTIFICIAL SURFACE, AT THE WETHERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL TO RAD/SPORTSTURF IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$448,000**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Czernicki said that at the last meeting there was conversation relating to the type of drainage involved. She asked if a decision has been reached as to the type of drainage. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the drainage issues pertained to the installation of grass. Councilor Czernicki asked if the concerns of Mr. and Mrs. Dobruck and others in the area have been taken into consideration, should their drainage problems be exacerbated due to the installation of the artificial turf. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the contractor is aware of the issues and that retainage is being held. She said that if there is a problem that makes the neighbors drainage problems worse, the contractor is obligated to remedy this.

Councilor Adil said that Dr. Dest, in a statement to the Council, stated that he has full confidence that there will be no drainage issue with the neighbors in the Folly Brook area.

Report on Town Hall Renovations

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Town Hall/Library Building Committee met with the architect, Peter Wells, to prioritize the renovation costs for the completion of the Town Hall renovations. They divided the items by High Priority vs. Low. She said that the Town's Bond Counsel is recommending that the ordinance to allow a referendum for approval of accepting grants not be introduced until the Council decides on a dollar amount and description of the project.

Chairperson Morin asked the Council to consider either referring this to the Infrastructure Committee or having a workshop of the Council and the members of the Town Hall/Library Building Committee.

Councilor Hemmann said that she supports moving this to a workshop. She asked why specific items, such as sprinklers, are categorized as low priorities that she feels should be addressed when the building is opened. Councilor Hemmann is concerned about the electrical work not included in the scope of the project and that it should appear on the list so as not to be forgotten. Mr. Coombs, Chairperson of the Building Committee, said that he remembers this issue as being that someone stated that there is not enough electrical power in the building. He said that a study conducted by the consulting engineers a couple years ago indicates that there is enough power in the Town Hall and the Library to meet the required needs. Mr. Coombs said that the sprinklers will be determined by the building codes. Councilor Hemmann asked Mr. Coombs to explain what the curtain wall replacement is. Mr. Coombs said that the curtain wall is referred to as the exterior of the building, excluding the brick and masonry work. Councilor Hemmann asked why this item is not considered a high priority. Mr. Coombs said that the curtain wall is put into perspective with all the other items requested as well as the work required to replace it. Councilor Hemmann said that it would seem more economical to do it all at once, rather than going back at a later date. Councilor Hemmann asked what the total cost of the elevator will be. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she will get this information and provide it to the Council.

Councilor Adil asked Mr. Coombs to explain how the Committee prioritized the items. Mr. Coombs said that some items are grouped together to be done at the same time and therefore the priority for each will be the same. Councilor Adil said that high and low priorities were requested because there are time restrictions for the referendum and that the referendum could have three separate questions for the passage of high priority items only, high and low priority items,

and the whole thing. Mr. Coombs said that this can be discussed and more detail can be given as to how the priority list was determined.

Councilor Cascio verified that the cost to do everything is approximately \$6 million. Mr. Coombs said that it will be \$5.25 million. Councilor Cascio asked if a brand new Town Hall and Library can be built for \$6 million. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she does not think that both buildings can be built for that amount. Mr. Coombs said that the current Town hall building is structurally worth saving.

Councilor Forrest agreed with Councilor Cascio's sentiment that the Town Hall building is unattractive and that Wethersfield deserves better. He said that he agrees with Chairperson Morin that the issue needs to be sent to a workshop or the Infrastructure Committee. Councilor Forrest supports saving the bond and appropriating the resolution for \$790,000. He said that the long-term plans of the building have to be considered.

Councilor Fortunato said that going out to the public for the \$790,000 provides the opportunity to make additional improvements to the facility. She said that the items in the Capital Improvement Plan need to reflect the needs of the Town Hall building. She said that referring this to the Infrastructure Committee should not be used as a means to pull back from the project and start all over.

Councilor Czernicki said that the entire Council needs to have a workshop to determine what needs to be looked at and then have this refined by the Infrastructure Committee before moving forward.

Councilor Fortunato asked about the time frame for approval of the bonding. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she'd like to see it approved before the end of June. She said that the wording for the referendum is all set; the actual monetary figures need to be determined.

Chairperson Morin suggested that the Council meet on Monday, May 24 to discuss the issue.

Councilor Forrest said that if the purpose of the meeting is to determine what to do with the Town Hall renovation, he feels that this will take more than one meeting. Chairperson Morin said that Councilors need to prepare their questions for the May 24 meeting and additional needed time will be determined at this date. He said that a joint meeting with the Town Hall/Library Committee is set for Monday, May 24 at 5:30 in a location to be determined by the Town Manager.

Summer Hours

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she discussed with the Union representatives the option of a one year trial period of "Summer Hours". They following hours were determined:

Monday-Wednesday	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	45 minute lunch break
Thursday	8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	45 minute lunch break
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	No lunch break

She said that this schedule allows for the same amount of hours worked currently.

Councilor Cascio asked if the change of hours has proven that there is greater efficiency. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she has been here for only one season of summer hours. Councilor Cascio said that he has never supported the summer hours and certainly does not support going to a full year of these hours. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the summer hours for two months seem to create confusion with the public. She said that it has not yet been determined that greater efficiency is achieved by changing the hours.

Councilor Adil asked if the original intent of changing the hours was to provide for later hours on Thursday. This would allow for the public to conduct business at the Town Hall after they get out of work. Councilor Adil supports a trial period of the summer hours.

Councilor Cascio said that his concern is that it was discussed in the past that Town staff could rotate staying later allowing for longer hours on certain days. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this would need to be negotiated with the Unions.

Councilor Czernicki said that she has historically not been in favor of the summer hours for a number of reasons. She does not think that the change in hours provides for the most efficient use of Town staff. Councilor Czernicki said that many residents are upset that the Library closes early on Fridays and she cannot support an early Friday closing of the Town Hall as well, since the building is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. This would mean that by noon on Friday, the Town Hall is no longer serving the public until Monday. Councilor Czernicki said that she could possibly consider the summer hours if the early closing day was changed to Tuesday or Wednesday and the hours were done all year, otherwise she does not think that the hours provide much bang for the buck.

Councilor Forrest said that Friday is a good day for closing early as the public is apt to be off doing other activities starting their weekend. Councilor Forrest asked if the Thursday hours could be extended even later. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Union agreed with 6:30 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m.

Councilor Hemmann asked if there is data from last year providing information on the number of people who came in during the later hours. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she can get this information and provide it to the Council. Councilor Hemmann said that the Town staff is here for public service and needs to be here for the public rather than having the extra benefit of an early dismissal on Fridays. She said that she is not in favor of the summer hours.

Councilor Cascio asked what would happen if someone needed to obtain a marriage license after noon on a Friday and the Town Clerk's Office is closed. Town Clerk Sassano said that she has received calls in cases of emergencies, but usually the public calls in advance to obtain information and at that time they would be informed that the office will be closing early. Councilor Cascio asked if, last summer, every full-time employee was in their office for the late closing on Thursdays. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the only staff who did not stay late on Thursday was the Information Specialists who stayed with the regular hours because they have no interaction with the public.

Councilor Adil suggested a compromise to negotiate flex time and stick with the summer hours for this year. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she recommends staying with the regular hours as the summer hours are too confusing for the public.

Chairperson Morin said that the summer hours do provide a benefit to the public by staying open late one evening per week. He said that the summer hours do not change the hours worked by Town staff. Chairperson Morin said that he would rather not have summer hours at all than to table this issue again.

Councilor Forrest moved "**TO ADOPT THE SUMMER HOURS FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR**", seconded by Councilor Adil.

Councilor Cascio verified that if this motion passes, the Town Hall will close at 12:30 p.m. each Friday and remain open on Thursdays until 6:30 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis said that the summer hours never affected the Police Department, but they did affect members of the public who may have come in to obtain documents after the closing hour on Friday. He said that he does not favor offering these hours year round.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted NAY. Councilors Adil and Forrest voted AYE. The motion failed 2-7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Reschedule of June 21 meeting

Chairperson Morin explained that June 21 is the night of the Wethersfield High School Graduation and asked the Town

Manager to suggest another night for the Council meeting. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Board of Education is using the Council Chambers on June 22. Councilor Czernicki and Councilor Adil suggested that the Board of Education use a room at the Board of Education building. The Town Manager said that she will try to arrange this with Dr. Proctor.

Councilor Czernicki moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO ARRANGE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, THE CHANGE OF EITHER THE LOCATION OR THE DATE OF THE JUNE 22 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING IN ORDER TO FACILITATE A TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON THAT DATE"**, seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Vision Statement for Town Council/Board of Education

Councilor Fortunato reported that the Shared Services Committee has brought forward a draft of a vision statement for a collaborative effort between the Board of Education and the Town Council. The Shared Services Committee has adopted the Vision Statement and it is being brought forward for endorsement not only to the Council this evening, but also to the Board of Education at their meeting. The Vision Statement reads as follows:

*The shared vision of the Wethersfield Town Council and Board of Education is that as a community we :
Preserve our history; embrace our cultural diversity; provide the highest quality of Town and education services responsive to all citizens, especially children; and promote Wethersfield as a desirable community in which to live and locate a business.*

Councilor Fortunato moved **"TO ACCEPT THE VISION STATEMENT TO BE USED BY BOTH THE TOWN COUNCIL AND BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ALL OF THEIR WORK"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Councilor Cascio asked Councilor Fortunato why the phrase *especially children* is used in the Vision Statement. Councilor Fortunato said that individual feedback from the Fireside Chat focused on children's needs and therefore was incorporated into the Vision Statement.

Councilor Hemmann said that she feels that the phrase *responsive to all citizens* stands well alone without the phrase *especially children* which pulls out a specific group. Councilor Fortunato said that this is a shared statement of both the Board of Education and the Council and the Fireside Chat comments did focus on children.

Councilor Czernicki said that the Vision Statement is great, but that the *especially children* phrase bothers her because it names specifically one portion of Wethersfield's population. She feels that this phrase is redundant since the Statement already says *responsive to all citizens*. She said that although at the Fireside Chat there were many comments regarding the services provided by the Board of Education and the Library, the Vision Statement needs to be all inclusive. Councilor Fortunato said that the Vision, as presented, was voted on by the Shared Services Committee; therefore having the endorsement of the Board of Education and Council members in attendance at that meeting. Councilor Fortunato said that she is not comfortable changing any of the wording without the recommendation going back to the Shared Services Committee.

Councilor Czernicki moved **"TO AMEND THE VISION STATEMENT TO ADD 'AND TO RETIRE' AT THE END OF THE LAST SENTENCE"**, seconded by Councilor Cascio.

Councilor Hemmann said that she does not support the addition of the word *and to retire*, nor does she support the phrase *especially children* being included in the Vision Statement. She said that both phrases limit the Vision Statement by making it too specific.

Councilor Fortunato said that she would like the feedback of all Council members as she would need to go back to the Shared Services Committee in order to change the wording of the Vision Statement. She said that she would love to see people retire in Wethersfield, including her, but she would not include this in the Vision Statement because it did not receive priority ranking in the comments made at the Fireside Chat.

Councilor Montinieri said that she would be uncomfortable changing the wording of the Vision Statement without it going back to the Shared Services Committee for review. She said that, as a member of the Shared Services Committee, she is comfortable with the phrase *especially children* being included in the Vision Statement.

Councilor Forrest left the meeting at this time (10:22 p.m.).

Councilor Adil said that the purpose of the Vision Statement is to identify what the Board of Education and Council share with each other. He said that children are the focus of the Board of Education and the Council's focus is the entire Town as a whole. He does not support any change to the Vision Statement as presented.

Councilor Cascio said that no one is criticizing the work that has been done by the Shared Services Committee; however everyone has to agree on the Vision Statement and if there is concerns, it needs to be respected. Councilor Cascio said that the phrase *especially children* is redundant as *all citizens* are already addressed.

Councilor Forrest returned to the meeting at this time (10:25 p.m.).

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted NAY. Councilors Cascio and Czernicki voted AYE. The motion to amend failed 2-7-0.

The following roll call vote was taken on the original motion.

Councilor Adil	AYE	Councilor Cascio	NAY
Councilor Czernicki	NAY	Councilor Forrest	NAY
Councilor Fortunato	AYE	Councilor Hemmann	NAY
Councilor Montinieri	AYE	Deputy Mayor Karangekis	AYE
Chairperson Morin	AYE		

The motion passed 5-4-0.

Small Cities Grant Application - Housing Rehabilitation

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that she is requesting permission to apply for a State Small Cities Grant for housing rehabilitation. She said that the Town has spent \$238,810 in housing rehab for eleven families. She said that there is a waiting list of other families in Town who would like to participate in the program.

Councilor Adil moved "**TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A SMALL CITIES GRANT FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION FOR A TOWN WIDE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Budget Transfer - Telephone Budget

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that that the phone services are being centralized and in order to pay the bills for the remainder of the year, the Council needs to approve a transfer of the leftover money in the amount of \$18,649.03 for all phones from each of the Departments into Central Offices.

Councilor Cascio moved "**TO TRANSFER PHONE ACCOUNTS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS INTO THE CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICES ACCOUNT AS OUTLINED BELOW:**

\$292.95	FROM TOWN MANAGER #020
\$6,782.79	FROM CHIEF'S OFFICE #1420
\$9,368.41	FROM FIRE #1430

\$129.36 FROM ENGINEERING #1530531
\$55.99 FROM BUILDING INSPECTION #530
\$823.65 FROM PHYSICAL SERVICES #1550542
\$365.68 FROM SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES #1625
\$335.96 FROM RECREATION & PARKS #810
\$494.24 FROM PARKS FACILITIES

A TOTAL OF \$18,649.03 TO CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICES #1067-5251", seconded by Councilor Montinieri. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Czernicki left the meeting at this time (10:30 p.m.).

8-24 Referral to Planning & Zoning Commission - Lights at Cottone Field

Councilor Forrest moved **"TO REFER THE LIGHTS FOR COTTONE FIELD TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR AN 8-24 REVIEW"**, seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-1-0.

BIDS

Swimming Pool and Water Treatment

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that this is part of the regional bid through the Capitol Region Purchasing Council. There are three companies recommended for award depending on the type of chemicals needed. She said that the regional bid has provided for very good prices.

Councilor Karangekis moved **"TO AWARD THE BID FOR SWIMMING POOL AND WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS TO H. KREVIS AND COMPANY, SEVEOL BLEACH COMPANY, AND UNIVAR USA, INC. AS OUTLINED IN THE CAPITOL REGIONAL PURCHASING COUNCIL'S REGIONAL BID INFORMATION"**, seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Czernicki returned to the meeting at this time (10:35 p.m.).

Furniture Bid - Physical Services

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO AWARD THE BID FOR DESKS, CHAIRS, AND FILES TO THE BIDDERS OUTLINED BY NEWFIELD CONSTRUCTION - IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,238.32"**, seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien explained that the School Building Committee is recommending a partial furniture award bid for new furniture at the Physical Services Building. She said that a lot of the furniture is old and cannot fit into the new complex. She said that currently, the Supervisors are sharing one desk.

Councilor Hemmann asked if the \$9,238.32 is in the budget and the Town Manager said that it is.

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

Boat Donation from Rocky Hill

Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Town of Rocky Hill has agreed to donate one of their boats to Wethersfield for the Harbormasters. She said that there are currently two Harbormasters and they have to either borrow a boat from the Town's Fire Department or use a Police Officer to be with them when they do the work. The Town Manager said that the Wethersfield mechanics have checked out the boat and it has been reported to be in very good

condition. She said that the Council needs to understand that the acquisition of this boat means additional insurance, maintenance, and fuel costs.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis moved **"TO ADD THE ITEM OF A BOAT DONATION FROM ROCKY HILL TO THE AGENDA"**, seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis asked if the Harbormaster works certain days and hours during the entire summer. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that this is true. Deputy Mayor Karangekis asked the Town Manager what purpose the Harbormaster has for a boat. She said that he patrols and performs work in the water area.

Councilor Hemmann asked how the Town can afford to acquire the boat if the additional costs have not been budget for. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the insurance should be alright since the Town is getting rid of so many cars. The gasoline; however is not budgeted for.

Councilor Forrest asked the Town Manager if she feels that the Harbormaster needs a boat. She said that there are times where the enforcement could be much better if the Harbormaster had his own boat. She said there were many problems last year with thefts of boats moored in the water and a greater presence by the Harbormaster could alleviate this.

Deputy Mayor Karangekis said that it costs a higher rate of pay for two Police Officers to respond. It also takes these Officers away from their normal patrol duties. He is in favor of acquiring the new boat due to this.

Councilor Czernicki asked if the capital list of the CNEF budget would reflect the purchase of a new boat if this boat were not donated to us. Town Manager Bonnie Therrien said that the Harbormasters have asked for a new boat in the past, but that it does not appear in the CNEF or Capital accounts. Councilor Czernicki asked if the Harbormaster has the right to ticket violators. Deputy Mayor Karangekis said that he can issue Town Ordinance tickets. Councilor Czernicki verified that if the Harbormaster witnessed illegal activity, he would need to call the Police anyway.

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

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

Councilor Adil moved **"TO REJECT THE CERTIFICATION OF THE PETITION AGAINST ARTIFICIAL SURFACES AND OF THE PETITION AGAINST LIGHTS FOR PLAYING FIELDS BASED ON THE TOWN ATTORNEY'S OPINION"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karangekis.

Councilor Czernicki said that it is not right to deny the process for over 1,100 people who have spoken on the issue. She said that denying the process takes away their voice, which she feels is the road that the current Council seems to be on.

Councilor Adil said that the Council has to follow the law and if the petition is not legal, the Council cannot move forward. He believes that the voices of the people should be heard, but it has to be done legally.

Councilor Hemmann said that she supports Councilor Czernicki's comments and that she has reservations with regard to Attorney Bradley's comments. She said that she supports the will of the people who brought the petitions forward and although she does not agree with what the petitions say, it is the people's right to bring them forward.

Chairperson Morin said that he respects the opinions of the Town Attorney with respect to these petitions. If there were not legal reasons not to, Chairperson Morin would support moving the petitions along.

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

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ACCEPTANCE OF JACOB DRIVE FROM THE SOUTH STREETLINE OF HIGHLAND STREET TO AND INCLUDING THE CUL DE SAC AS A PUBLIC ROAD AND WAY IN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED, that **Jacob Drive** from the southerly street line of Highland Street to and including the cul de sac, approximately 400 feet in length, together with all easements as shown on a map entitled: "Subdivision Plan Highland Estates Highland Street Wethersfield Connecticut Drawn GT Checked MJP Date AUGUST 3, 1998 Scale 1"=40 FT Sheet 1of 5 Job No. 2492 AutoCAD File 2492.DWG Revisions : September 15,1998; September 28, 1998; Oct. 7, 1998; Nov. 05, 1998 and Dec. 23, 1998 by Herbert & Pronovost Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors be accepted as a public road and way in the Town of Wethersfield.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$790,000 FOR RENOVATIONS TO WETHERSFIELD TOWN HALL AND THE PITKIN COMMUNITY CENTER

BE IT RESOLVED,

- a. That the Town of Wethersfield appropriate SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$790,000) for design and construction of renovations and improvements to Town Hall and the Pitkin Community Center, including (1) at Town Hall, installation of a new north side entrance automatic door; installation of an entrance ramp to Town Council chambers; installation of ADA compliant doors and the replacement of existing door hardware, renovations of bathrooms, upgrade to fire alarm system, installation of signage, and installation of telephone equipment, to comply with ADA standards; installation of wheelchair accessible counters in the Assessors Office and the Building and Engineering Office; installation of metal tubing and fabric cover for awnings at three entrances; installation of an elevator in the southern part of the building; and renovations and improvements to the ground and main floors for library purposes; and (2) at the Pitkin Community Center, installation of a new main entrance automatic door and new external walkways and entrance doors at the west, south and east entrances. The Town Council is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project. The Town Council may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified. The appropriation may be spent for design and construction costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, site improvements, architects' fees, engineering fees, other consultants' fees, legal fees, and other expenses related to the project. The appropriation and project are in addition to the Town Hall/Library appropriation and project approved at referendum held on November 2, 1999. The appropriation shall be funded by grant funds.
- b. That the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project.
- c. That this resolution shall become effective after publication and approval by the electors at referendum as provided in the Town Charter.

MINUTES

Councilor Cascio moved "**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING OF APRIL 26, 2004**", seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann ABSTAINED. The motion passed 8-0-1.

Councilor Czernicki moved "**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP OF APRIL 27, 2004**", seconded by Councilor Cascio.

Councilor Hemmann said that the minutes need to be amended to reflect that she was absent.

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

Councilor Czernicki moved "**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP OF APRIL 29, 2004**", seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Cascio moved "**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 3, 2004**", seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Montinieri amended the minutes on page 16583 to read "She said that she was told by the DOT that the Town of Wethersfield gave permission to blast in the project specifications dated January, 2002."

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:50 p.m., Councilor Cascio moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Adil. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk