

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 1, 2013**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Drake, Hurley, Kotkin, Manousos, McAlister, Montinieri (arrived at 7:15), Roberts, Deputy Mayor Console, and Chairperson Hemmann.

Also present: Mike Turner, Town Engineer; Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks & Recreation; Robert May, Fuss & O'Neill; Jeff Bridges, Town Manager, RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant Town Manager and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Councilor McAlister led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Chairperson Hemmann stated that the Public Hearing on the Town Budget will be April 15. She stated that Councilors did receive a copy of the proposed budget on Friday, March 29, prior to the April 1st deadline and residents attending the meeting were also provided a copy. Mayor Hemmann stated that the proposed budget is available on the Town Website @ Wethersfieldct.com.

Town Manager Jeffrey Bridges presented a brief overview of the proposed Town budget. The 2013-2014 Proposed Budget for the Town of Wethersfield totals \$89,617,321 this is an increase of \$2,350,666 or 2.69% from the current year budget of \$87,266,655. This equates to a total mill levy of 33.63 (General Levy of 33.46, Road Improvement Levy of 0.17) as compared to the current levy of 32.58 (General Levy of 32.19 and Road Improvement Levy of 0.39) which is an increase in the mill levy of 1.05 mills. For the average Wethersfield home assessed at \$186,000, this is an increase of \$195.30.

There are three basic components to the calculation of total Town spending and taxation. They are spending on education, spending on road improvements, and spending on non-education expenses which is spending on everything else but education and roads. Mr. Bridges also stated that the budget can be found on the Town website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Hemmann asked if anyone wished to speak on the hearing on the "Resolution Authorizing a Historic Preservation Grant". No members wished to speak on this hearing item and Mayor Hemmann declared the hearing closed.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Ballou Tooker, 65 Harmund Court, stated he wanted to address Mr. Emmett, Superintendent of Schools and dredging the Cove. He wanted to know where the soil that is dredged will be placed once removed. Also, he wanted to be sure felons are not allowed to vote.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., had just reviewed the budget quickly online and was disappointed in the growth of the Grand List of .3%. He noticed there are fire and dump trucks in the budget.

Lee Sekas, 117 Wells Rd., commented that it might be cheaper to build a storage unit in town instead of renting storage space. Also, some snowplows are leaving tire tracks on sides of some sidewalks requiring repair which is another cost factor for the town which could be avoided. He suggested the use of a cost-cutting suggestion box.

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Cir. asked the meaning of “borrowed funds” mentioned in the budget presentation. Mr. Bridges replied it is money the State is proposing to borrow to give to the towns. Mr. Ruhe asked about general fund money and if the amount of money was going to be less. Mr. Bridges responded that the money is expected to be the same but there are more restrictions on its use. Mr. Ruhe urged the Council to look at the budget very carefully.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Drake reported that he attended the School Project Committee last week and discussed the PCB situation at the High School which will be discussed later in this meeting and stated that other than that, things are going well.

Councilor Kotkin commented about the FAA shutting down six of the air control towers in the State and stated that the Hartford-Brainard Airport Noise Committee is interested in who to call in the event of a complaint. He asked Mr. Bridges what impact shutting down the airport control tower might have on residents when they have noise complaints.

Mr. Bridges replied that the Noise Complaint Hotline will still be in effect as it goes to the Airport Manager’s office, not the tower. He explained that it does impede the ability of the airport personnel to identify which planes may or may not have followed the Noise Abatement Procedure which is that planes are to go out over the river rather than over Old Wethersfield to land or when taking off. Mr. Bridges explained that they won’t have that person at the control tower to identify which planes did not adhere to the noise abatement. He added the control tower’s Noise Abatement Procedures by FAA regulation are voluntary. Even if the airport has them, the control tower cannot require a pilot to follow them. Mr. Bridges commented they are voluntary. Over the years, we learned once a new pilot to the area is aware of the Noise Abatement Procedures, generally, they follow them. Once you educate them, they pretty much follow it and this is going to be more difficult.

Councilor Hurley congratulated Kathy Bagley for getting the grant funds for dredging it is over one million dollars and commented. He commented she was very persistent and it took many years before she was finally able to get it.

Councilor McAlister requested that any significant correspondence sent directly to the Mayor be shared with the Council going forward. He commented that in terms of the budget, he knows we can't afford to purchase new large open space or maintain the open space that we have across the Town. Looking at our current budget, he is wondering, if we are looking at doing the referendum during the November election rather than off-cycle, so we can save that money. He commented that it should not only be a referendum for purchasing open space but also a referendum for maintenance of existing open space. It is difficult, with all the acreage we own, to continually keep that up. Councilor McAlister commented, in his personal opinion, he's not sure if he has the appetite to vote yes on a referendum and stated that while he's just one council member, he thinks it is a significant investment, surrounded by a lot of public emotion. He asks that keeping and preserving open space, and asks that it be considered for November. Councilor McAlister next commented relative to Mr. Young mentioning looking to increase the value of our homes, which essentially would increase our grand list, if the value of our home goes up. He explained that he thinks it is a supply and demand question and would think that on the supply side, if we can increase the appeal of our current housing stock compared to the competition of Rocky Hill, Newington or such that would certainly make it more attractive for people to move into town. We have spoken about some different ideas in the past about trying to improve the housing stock here in terms of its age. The second thing is on terms of increasing the demand, attracting new families; in terms of doing that, it is a lot about the school system, which he hopes to see dividends pay off for the monies put into it recently. Councilor McAlister stated on the town side, we should look at what we can do to improve the housing stock options in town. It doesn't mean building houses, but trying to encourage people to remodel, renovate, upgrade, renew and refresh their housing and make the curb appeal comparable to other towns.

Councilor Montinieri went back and looked at the first quarter in Wethersfield for housing sales with a couple of real estate agents and Zillo.com, a public site which folks can get on. He said that 74 homes have sold in the first quarter in Wethersfield in contrast to some public comment that we have heard suggesting that home sales are slacking. He explained that they are, in fact, the most robust they have been in six years. He pointed out that looking at the values of those sales, and these aren't all homes that have been sold, but all 74 homes reported, that 78 percent of those are at or above the appraised value which Market Vision Appraisal. If you go online, you can look at the assessed value for purposes of taxes. They indicate to most residences in Wethersfield that should be about 70 percent of the market value and Vision Appraisal of course, those numbers that were on the website are from before the 2008 recession and home sales in the last two years were at 45 percent of appraised value up and coming this year. Mr. Montinieri stated that two real estate agents that he spoke with this week have said that this has been the most robust period in four years and the market values on homes are actually returning or exceeding where they were prior to the recession. They feel that they are very bullish about what's happening with residents. Councilor Montinieri also stated that to Jim's point, both the real estate agents said that many homeowners in town are renovating kitchens, opening up space

to make them more contemporary compared to family needs. Most of the homes that are selling are in fact being sold to families with children. The number one thing referenced is schools and the full-day kindergarten. So, a review of the actual facts, happening with our market, is very encouraging and very positive. Real estate agents are getting pretty excited about what's happening in Wethersfield. We are exceeding our neighbors by a notable amount.

Councilor Drake reported that there was an email sent to Council regarding a potential cat problem and to the Hartford Courant. He asked Mr. Bridges if he can look and see if there is a problem.

Mr. Bridges responded that he did reach out to Lieutenant Poisson over the weekend when we got that email. Several feral cats were caught in that neighborhood over the past month or two. He reached out to the Animal Control Officer. He explained that on Wednesday they are going to have a broader meeting on feral cats and see what is going on in that particular neighborhood. He said they will see what the remaining issue is and stated that his office did reach out to CCM to find out what they have on feral cats.

Deputy Mayor Console commented on the Brainard Airport issue and asked Mr. Bridges to also check if this could also be a safety issue for residents in Old Wethersfield, Glastonbury, and Hartford in regards to not having a manned tower and the type of aircraft coming in. He stated that we are not talking about small planes. A lot of these are executive jets that come in and plus a lot of helicopters so now they would have to manage themselves as far as taking off and landing, so it could be a safety issue and something that Wethersfield should be on the forefront of and ask the appropriate questions.

Deputy Mayor Console reported that he attended the 75th year Rotary Club celebration along with the Mayor and he did some research and commented on some of the programs, events, scholarships and civil duties that they do is an A+. He enjoyed himself there and is thinking about joining the Rotary Club.

Deputy Mayor Console reported on the beaver issue at the reservoir. He has received pro and con calls but most of them stated in the paper that the animals were captured; they were actually captured and euthanized. Most people were speaking of how we could cohabitate with these rodents. Deputy Mayor Console stated that there is a study out by Sessions Woods and would recommend it the Town Manager's office or the Park and Recreation people to see if we can do a better job going forward. He would hate to see these animals killed; most people with open space like to see nature. He doesn't think we are doing our job as far as that goes. He commented they do cause an issue at times but doesn't think it's an issue that really causes the town, unless it has to do with affecting human life, he doesn't think we have to euthanize these animals.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that there is a house bill 5494 and some senate bills 244, 309, and 127 out there from our representatives who represent the Town of Wethersfield. He urged the people in the audience and at home to go on-line, look up these bills and see what our

representatives are doing with the budget crises and all. He thinks a lot of this is silliness and will leave it at that for now until the next meeting.

Councilor Roberts reported that on March 25th she attended the swearing in of the new Police Officer here in Wethersfield. She stated that his name is Justin Hillchuck and that he is a native of Wethersfield. She noted that his family has been here a long time and that his mom was very involved in parent-student council. Councilor Roberts added that he has a Bachelors Degree from Westfield State and that he starts the Academy for six months on April 5th and thinks he'll be a great addition to the Police Department. She commented that he is very young and very energetic wanted to welcome him on behalf of the Town Council.

Mayor Hemmann reported that the proposed budget hearing will be April 15th at Council Chambers beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the Council has until May 15th to adopt that budget.

Mayor Hemmann announced the 11th Annual Spring Dance Fundraiser for the Friends of the Nature Center and tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door and looks like a good event at the Community Center.

Mayor Hemmann reminded folks who travel to Glastonbury that beginning today the Putnam Bridge will be undergoing restoration work which will continue through August of 2015 and warned that there will be delays during the week. Mayor Hemmann stated that they are going to be working to keep it open during rush hours, but just know that there will be delays.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bridges reported that FEMA did approve a 72-hour window on the blizzard for reimbursement from FEMA so it is now a 72-hour window of the expense so that will certainly help cover those costs, so we should be ok.

TOWN CLERK

Nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Console requested to **“ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT THE END THE MEETING FOR A PERSONNEL ISSUE”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Deputy Mayor Console moved to **“AUTHORIZE THE TOWN CLERK TO APPLY FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT AND TO AUTHORIZE JEFFREY K. BRIDGES JR. AS TOWN MANAGER, TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER IN THE NAME OF AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD A CONTRACT**

WITH THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT”, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

Dolores Sassano explained the grant is offered to help communities preserve the important documents entrusted to their care. Since she has started they have been having targeted grants as well as larger competitive grants, whenever offered. The State Library offers some of the money collected by the Town Clerk for the State Library. Town clerks collect \$1 for every document placed on Wethersfield’s land records. Ms. Sassano explained that this is to preserve all the documents in town, some dating back to 1633. It costs money to have the books maintained and readable, especially the books hand printed by pen and ink. We also do records management town wide; funded the whole records room downstairs and were able to pull back most records stored off site back to town hall by using the sally port. We have organized within each department a records system to follow all of the guidelines that are mandated by the State of Connecticut as far as keeping records. We have put the money to good use. Because of the budget in the State, they have pulled out most of the money so that Wethersfield is only eligible to receive \$6,500. We always applied for larger competitive grants when offered and received all grants for which we had submitted applications.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Drake moved to **“APPROVE THE PROPOSAL WITH FUSS & O’NEILL DATED MARCH 11, 2013 FOR THE ADDITIONAL TESTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE WETHERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION PROJECT”**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges explained that on everyone’s podium this evening is a revised proposal that has a not to exceed number of \$40,000. He explained that we spent the last few days making sure we covered the basis and we are going to hear from Fuss & O’Neill this evening on where we are in the process and what we anticipate to be the completion of this testing phase so we can get on to the design phase of the remediation plan. Mr. Bridges explained that the proposal that we have on the podium tonight with the extra money in it is what we would prefer to see this evening, that way it’s a not to exceed number and that would be preferable. Mr. May from Fuss & O’Neill is here this evening to talk about PCBs in schools and where we are in this process.

Mr. Robert May, Vice President of Fuss & O’Neill EnviroScience, LLC gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding PCBs in schools. Mr. May explained that he is here to talk about PCBs and to give a little bit of background on PCBs in general and to talk about the process that they are going to go through to complete the testing as the Town Manager has suggested. Mr. May spoke about EPA caulking guidance & fact sheets, an EPA commissioned study on PCBs and the history of PCB use in construction materials in buildings and schools. Mr. May also explained the testing process and testing requirements as well as the cleanup process.

After the presentation Mr. Bridges explained that there is no inherent problem with the building for people to be in it until we start construction and that is when the remediation plan needs to be in effect and approved through the EPA. He explained that the proposal that is before you this evening is to complete the substrate testing, the soil testing and we would ask for the roughly \$40,000.

Councilor Manousos commented that basically the post-verification sampling has been removed and you have increased the limits to some of the testing samples.

Mr. Bridges responded that we have not brought you post-verification yet and stated that until they know the scope and scale of the entire program, we probably can't put a good post-construction plan together. That will come at some point during the project of post-remediation. Mr. Bridges explained that we'll have to test prior to occupancy of each phase of the project and there may be an interstitial testing phase during construction, particularly if it's an area that may be accessible or adjacent to other occupied spaces. He also stated that we may do periodic testing to make sure that we are containing that properly. Mr. Bridges stated that we are not in a good position to come in with a post-construction or a during construction testing plan.

Councilor McAlister commented that it would help to understand if this was in line with our expectation for the testing budget, or if this is beyond our budget. If we put \$100,000 in and this is only PCB's, its \$40,000, and we haven't even looked for lead or asbestos. Can you give us some relationship as to what was originally planned? Maybe we couldn't say \$40,000 for PCBs, but we probably put a pot of money away, so we could have some understanding of the relationship with the overall budget, how much this is and how far we are in understanding our exposure in all the different areas.

Mr. Bridges responded that we have exceeded our expectations and are beyond the testing budget and until we clarify the extent of the remediation, we won't know where we are in the construction budget. Mr. Bridges stated that they did budget money for the remediation based upon our first series of tests with Eagle Environment which was the caulk in the beginning of this process and we did find some materials in caulk, so we made sure there was money in the budget for caulk. Mr. Bridges explained that once we started the deeper investigation in the building, post-referendum, we found the other materials, which exceed our budget but not the total project budget because we did have design and construction contingencies for these particular issues. So as we go forward, we will put that together for you.

Councilor McAlister commented that he would like to get a clearer understanding of exactly what was budgeted and then how much more potential testing we are going to have in regards to the materials in the building, soil and other things like asbestos and lead.

Mr. Bridges responded that there is no lead. You will see a proposal for soil on one of the underground storage tanks that was removed in 1992 because the old tank leaked and there is some contaminated soil under that tank. He stated that you will see a proposal for testing the

extent to which that soil will be removed and that's more for budget purposes than anything else to know how much to anticipate in the budget for hauling that material out of there.

A discussion then ensued regarding removal and disposal of the contaminated waste. The number of samples already taken were also discussed.

Before a vote was taken, Mr. Bridges asked that the minutes reflect that the motion is referencing the revised proposal not to exceed the amount of \$40,000.

Dolores Sassano read the following revised motion:

“MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL WITH FUSS & O’NEILL TO REFLECT THE REFERENCED REVISED PROPOSAL OF NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000 DATED MARCH 29, 2013 FOR THE ADDITIONAL TESTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE WETHERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION PROJECT”

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

BIDS

Councilor Hurley moved to **“AWARD THE BID FOR MILLWOODS BEACH DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO RUNNING BROOK FARMS OF KILLINGWORTH, CT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$170,966”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

Mr. Bridges explained that this is a STEAP funded project and has been on our of list things that we would really like to do over at Millwoods. Every summer the torrential rain washes out the beach, we have to close the Millwoods pool for several days as we clean the sand out of the pool.

Mr. Bridges stated that Kathy Bagley is here this evening to go over the agenda item and stated that we did get bids in for the work and they are very encouraging as to the completion of the project.

Ms. Bagley explained that the plan that we are going to do which is designed by the Engineer is three-fold. She explained that at the top of the beach the grass meets the sand, and right at that point we are going to put a swale in to direct the water coming down off the lawn into catch basis. She explained then halfway down the beach, we are going to put drainage underneath. If you can think of where the pavilions are, the sun shelters, in that area mid-way down, we are going to be putting drainage under the beach so as the rain comes down it will go through the sand and collect in the drain pipes. Ms. Bagley explained that going further down the beach to where the curbing is, we are going to put in a granite curbing, a very low step with drainage underneath there also, so that's another way to collect the water and those will be piped off and away from the beach area. She explained that we are going to take off 18 inches of the sand and Wethersfield clay that is there now on the entire beach and replace it with beach sand and that beach sand will be able to act as a reservoir as the water comes down, take the sand in and direct

it to the drainage. So it is almost a three-fold way to make sure that water doesn't wash out the beach.

Councilor Drake asked if this is a standard design and has anyone has ever done this before.

Ms. Bagley responded that the engineering firm that they have hired has done drainage projects in a variety of places.

Councilor McAlister asked roughly how much revenue we generate from membership.

Ms. Bridges responded that he believes it is fractional, the amount of revenue versus the amount of expenses.

Mayor Hemmann asked what has been the approximate cost of the washouts. When you end up closing early to put everything back together and then you end up spending money to replace sand, clean it out so you can open it up again. How much would you say the cost is, roughly speaking?

Ms. Bagley replied that a large cost is the chlorine because we have to super chlorinate after all that sand goes into the pool. She explained that the chlorine alone probably increases our bill \$5,000 maybe for chlorine and some of our other chemicals that we use to balance the water there.

Mayor Hemmann asked if they have had increased washouts.

Ms. Bagley responded yes. Unfortunately, we are getting more water and stated that she doesn't know if we are getting more rain or if the beach is just washing out.

Councilor Kotkin commented that when it washes out you can lose it for a week or two.

Ms. Bagley responded that we work really hard and one of the jobs that the life guards have to do is to go into the water with brooms and sweep the sand up to mix it up so the filters can draw the sand out and whatever else may be in the water at that time. She explained that it does take a while because you have to wait a day or two to chlorinate so it is safe to go in and do some of that work.

Councilor Manousos commented that the motion was to award to Running Brook Farms at almost \$171,000, but the bid sheet shows them at \$139,000.

Ms. Bagley responded that we also did a few alternates because we weren't sure where the bid was going to come in at, so we pulled certain things out with the hope that if we got a favorable bid, we would put some of them back in.

Councilor Manousos asked if she was confident that they are the lowest bidder, the lowest responsible.

Ms. Bagley responded yes.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if the engineering was a proven fix or something that we are going to spend this money on and then it is not going to work properly. He asked if they have seen other projects where they have done this and if it is going to work and alleviate the problem?

Ms. Bagley responded that the firm selected had a lot of experience in drainage projects, some with beach and sand, some on lawns and grass and different commercial enterprises where they did a variety of different drainage options. She explained that we were very clear with them when we did our interview process and that whatever happened had to work and they seemed very comfortable with it and this is their business.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if it doesn't work, what recourse do we have.

Ms. Bagley responded that it's difficult to answer and stated that the design and logic behind it seem very good and would expect that we would hold them accountable and that the drainage should work.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if the motion could be tabled. A discussion then ensued regarding guarantee of the work and errors and omissions insurance coverage

Deputy Mayor Console moved to **"AMEND THE MOTION FOR MILLWOODS BEACH DRAINAGE"**, seconded by Councilor Manousos. After some discussion, it was withdrawn.

Councilor Hurley moved to **"AWARD THE BID FOR MILL WOODS BEACH DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO RUNNING BROOK FARMS OF KILLINGWORTH, CT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$170,966"**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-1-0. Deputy Mayor Console voted no.

Deputy Mayor Console moved to **"AWARD ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF OFFICE SUPPLIES BID #2011-17 TO SUBURBAN STATIONERS"**, seconded by Councilor Drake.

Mr. Bridges explained that this is an extension of an existing bid for our office supplies. He explained that they are holding the unit prices and that the original bid documents provide for a 1-year extension so staff would recommend keeping the unit prices with Suburban Stationers.

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

Deputy Mayor Console moved to **“AWARD THE CRCOG BIDS #576 AND 590, FOR DIESEL FUEL AND #2 HEATING OIL TO DIME OIL CO, FOR THE TIME PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014 AND CONTINGENT UPON APPROPRIATIONS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 ADOPTED BUDGET”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

Mr. Bridges asked Assistant Town Manager RaeAnn Palmer to explain the motion.

Ms. Palmer explained that this is our annual bid that we do through CRCOG for diesel and #2 heating oil. She explained that the heating oil is about \$.30 a gallon less than the current year and the diesel is about \$.35 a gallon less than the current year. So we locked in at this pricing and before we sign the contract we need the Council to authorize it.

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

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO AWARD A CONTRACT EXTENSION TO COSTELLO INDUSTRIES FOR PAVEMENT MILLING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges asked Mr. Turner to explain the motion.

Mr. Turner explained that the State annually bids vendor in place paving, milling and they have, in fact, bid both of those items, but in this particularly case they have not made an award yet, so we can't tag onto their bid. He explained that during the interim we are trying to keep our spring paving program going forward and we have contacted the vendors and they have agreed to hold their 2012-13 prices. So what we are asking for is essentially enough money to get us through this spring paving season and then we will be back to you later this summer with a new number to reflect the new State bid.

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

Councilor Hurley moved to **“AUTHORIZE A CHANGE ORDER TO THE TILCON CT CONTRACT FOR PAVING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000”**, seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Mr. Turner explained that in this case it is the same issue with Tilcon. Tilcon is our low bidder on the vendor in place paving program. He explained that we currently have an open Purchase Order of \$125,000 but are just shy the amount that we will need to finish our spring paving, so again we are asking for a change order to increase that amount that will let us finish our spring paving and we'll be back with the State bid.

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

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

None

MINUTES

Councilor Montinieri moved to “**APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WITH CHANGE OF MARCH 18, 2013 WITH CHANGE**” seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ballou Tooker, 65 Harmund Place, spoke about the beavers in the reservoir and lead poisoning removal.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., commented on the town budget and questioned the availability of excel background reports of the budget numbers outlined in the on-line budget report. Mr. Bridges responded that the budget is done in MUNIS. Mr. Young commented on some of the budget increases.

George Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, commented on a comment regarding a referendum in November regarding maintenance of open space. Mr. McAlister responded about keeping open space but not having the money to maintain it. He stated they are unable to use any open space purchase acquisition funds for any kind of maintenance or improvement. They would actually have to do a separate referendum if we wanted to actually do substantial improvements to open space. Mr. Ruhe asked if it was improvements or maintenance because he didn't think maintenance to a referendum. Mr. Bridges responded it would be Capital Improvements. Mr. Ruhe urged the town to take care of their property too. Mr. Ruhe believes that the Council needs to learn to ask the right questions before taking on big construction projects. He also questioned the cost versus the benefits of the Millwoods drainage project.

At 9:10 p.m., Councilor Hurley moved to “**ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**”, seconded by Councilor Drake.

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

At 9:30 p.m., Deputy Mayor Console moved to “**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION**”, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m., Deputy Mayor Console moved to “**ADJOURN THE MEETING**” seconded by Councilor McAlister.

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

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by Vote of Council
May 6, 2013