

**REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2013**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, July 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Drake, Hurley, Kotkin, McAlister, Manousos [late], Montinieri, Roberts, Deputy Mayor Console, and Chairperson Hemmann. Absent: none

Also present: Keith Whitt, Trott Communications, John Eichner, Mike Turner, Town Engineer, Lorel Purcell, O&G Industries, Jeff Bridges, Town Manager, RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant Town Manager and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Councilor Kotkin led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Hemmann announced we lost a very influential citizen during the past week. Dr. Phil Sehl served in World War II and he was a local dentist. He was elected to the first Town Council and served for four terms and he was Mayor from 1960 to 1962. Dr. Sehl and Felix Babel cosponsored the Wethersfield Citizens Scholarship Foundation now better known as Dollars for Scholars who have raised over \$1 million to give out to Wethersfield residents who are going on to school. Mayor Hemmann sent our condolences to his family.

GENERAL COMMENTS

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle commented the meeting not being held at its regular time but it was today. He stated postponing the meeting for the vendor at the expense of inconveniencing the citizens is to say the least. He feels the radio system should go to referendum, but seriously doubts it will. It foretells a direction the Town seems to be going in he is not particularly enthused. He questioned if we really have to spend \$3.8 million on a new radio system in order to accomplish the objectives of the Council. He urged the Council to give the project some more thought and the impact that it will have on the Town.

Jeffery Galin, 1807 Berlin Tnpk., commented on behalf of Mr. Marcus' company, suggesting the Town needs to revisit this as it would be nice to use a local company. He stated the Council should not just jump into this decision. They should make it a competitive bid. While he knows the police and fire departments want to get a new radio system, it should be done at the right price and with good equipment. He also added that Marcus gives 24-hour service and being a local company, can be here immediately.

Gus Colantonio, 16 Morrison Ave. commented about a stop sign for Morrison Avenue and gave a brief history of the area roads. He requested a second opinion from the State Traffic Commission on the stop sign situation.

Bruce Marcus, Chief Technology Officer of Marcus Communications located in Manchester, CT. explained his business and the customers that he serves. They represent lots of manufacturers but most importantly they represent their customers. He stated that if it is not right regardless of the vendor, they will make it right because his name is on the building. He commented that one of their vendors, Tait Communications, has 4,000 more radios in the State of Connecticut in public safety that Harris has. The State chose to buy Tait. He commented other Towns have Tait radios, the fire department in some Towns, police in others. Mr. Marcus stated they have updated their numbers from the first offering to match toe-to-toe at \$2.5 million. They are still \$1 million less and our ongoing cost is a lot less than that of Harris to maintain the system. He stated that Tait has installed many trunked systems. He spoke about the Tait systems and commented that none of them have failed. He would like equal chance to compete and go down the material list and supply a proposal. He stated that his reputation is here in CT and that they perform above the vendor to make it work.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., commented on the radio system and urged the Council to table it or vote no. He then reviewed the history of the old radio system. He has seen no evidence in the minutes, or news articles that states the Police radio system is broken down. He doesn't understand why Council wants to spend \$3.5 million dollars while still owing money on the old system.

Tony Martino, 374 Highland St., commented the Council should think outside the box. With the economy turning around it is going to cost us more for materials and constructions costs on the bids for the High School renovation. Consequently we need to find some other ways to pay for some of these things. Also he suggested looking at some of the small items to place them on next year's capital improvement budget to grab some money to pay for those. Between all that, maybe we can come up with enough money and can do everything we have to do. We need to find some ways for other money to put into this and get that whole project done.

Lee Sekas, 1178 Wells Rd., commented on the lack of a stop sign by Puritan Furniture, and the driveway that goes into the Hartford Medical Building and the Bank. He stated that cars have almost hit him twice and stated that stop signs are important to public safety. He also stated that all traffic laws should be upheld within our Town.

Dave Karuk, 149 Broad St., commented in support of Gus Colantonio stop sign issue on Morrison Avenue.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

Mayor Hemmann reported there was a Public Hearing held in Glastonbury in regards to the bikeway on the Putnam Bridge. She commented there is information they handed out. They informed the Town of Wethersfield and Glastonbury the options available. If anybody would like to see the handout a copy is available through the Parks and Recreation and a copy will be available in the Library as well.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Drake commented the reason why they changed the meeting tonight wasn't for the radio system vendor; it was to accommodate the high school building committee project and their schedule for the bids. That's the only reason we changed it, we are just trying to keep it moving and wanted to allow staff adequate time to review the information, before coming to Council.

Councilor Roberts said last week she went to the Police Department press conference on the new Emergency Electronic Manual. It is in all the cruisers now and provides all sorts of emergency data for the police officer who might be responding to an emergency in the school system. She explained it has the evacuation plan, overhead of the neighborhood, perimeter, staging area and other information. She wants to complement the Chief and his staff and Superintendent of schools, Mike Emmett and also retired Lieutenant Tom Dillon. They have been working on this for a couple of years have pulled it all together. This is a tremendous resource for the Town and thinks parents of school children should be happy this information is all accessible now to the first responders. It covers all of our schools, plus Corpus Christi, and Capital region, the CREC facilities.

Deputy Mayor Console stated he had asked the Town Manager to have a Public Safety Committee meeting so we can vet Emergency Electronic Manual and ensure everything is there and we haven't missed anything. He thinks it is a great job; he greatly appreciates it. Deputy Mayor Console thanked the Chief and all of his staff. Also, he commented on the police chase regarding the two people they captured with the stolen car. Deputy Mayor Console mentioned that he received a number of calls from people praising the Police Department, saying they feel very safe in Town. He thanked the Chief and all the men here tonight.

Deputy Mayor Console received a call from the owner of Carmen Anthony's stating they are closing. Deputy Mayor Console explained the owner stated over a four-year period, with the way the economy was his sales were down over \$1,000,000. He really did try to keep the place going, the food was very good and atmosphere was very nice. It is just unfortunate we have yet another empty building in Wethersfield. He hopes we can get something else in there because at this point Wethersfield has no high-end restaurant.

He has received some calls about the tree trimming that CL&P is doing in Town. While he realizes they have to keep their power lines free from tree limbs, they should have taken the whole tree down rather than leave half of a tree, which makes the entire road look shabby. He suggested we should view the whole area, especially Ridge Rd. Perhaps the remaining half of the tree should come down and some new trees planted in place of them. He asks the Town Manager to reach out to CL&P and see if they can come by and take a look at it.

Deputy Mayor Console commented on street paving and asked Mr. Turner if he has a report for him tonight about Ivy Lane. He has been receiving quite a few complaints. Last year it was a C-street and believes that it has now gone to probably a D or less. Deputy Mayor Console requested

someone go out there and assess it. He would appreciate it if Mr. Turner can talk about that tonight or maybe next meeting come back and give a report and see what we can do.

He finally had the opportunity to sit in on the revitalization of the Old Wethersfield plan for Comstock ~~Ferry~~ *Ferre*, the Belden House and the old Masonic Temple. The info packet was a reader's digest version of the facts and information was given to see what can be done there. Deputy Mayor Console stated it is a very inclusive plan, but unfortunately, all these buildings are privately owned. Many of the people that were here are from Old Wethersfield plus other parts of Town. He stated that even Pastor Derek, of First Church was never aware that this plan included using the church parking lot. Deputy Mayor Console stated he personally believes this is a \$50,000 waste of money. To do a report like this for privately owned buildings was great for the architect and for the director of the planning company that did it, but feels that it was grant money that was not properly spent. He also stated moving the original site for the meeting house part of the plan, moving the original site of the rock where the meeting house is and the flag pole in the center of Old Wethersfield to him is just a travesty for what goes on there.

Mayor Hemmann stated she received a letter from the Hartford Marathon and they will be sponsoring a 5K and 10K on Sunday, August 25th.

Mayor Hemmann stated we have a letter from Mr. Woodrow Warren with regards to some failure to respond to alarms if anyone would like to see it.

Mayor Hemmann also received more information from the Japan Consulate in Boston and she will make sure this goes to the Library with the rest of the information already received.

Councilor Roberts commented that Ted Schroll should be involved with the planning meeting for the Japan visit because the firefighters in Town already have contacts with some people in Japan.

Mayor Hemmann said that she will add him to the list.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Mr. Bridges reported t there is a memo on the podium tonight with some additional information regarding reimbursement on the high school project and the ability to reuse funds when they are reimbursed to the Town. Mr. Bridges explained that under the State law and under the Appropriation Ordinance that sets the cap for \$74,816,000, we can only spend the same dollar once and even if it is reimbursed to us, it is not available for re-spending. He explained that under the ordinance any dollar we get from the State or a grant source reduces the amount of local money we can spend on the project. If we were to use the money from the PCB remediation that is reimbursed to us to then build the geothermal, we are in affect doing both. Then another \$1.5 million has to be found somewhere else in the budget. Mr. Bridges pointed out the Building Committee took this step in order to pay for the PCB removal to eliminate the geothermal and stated we can only spend the same \$1.5 million dollars once although we get reimbursed for it; it comes off what can be spent on the project.

Mr. Bridges responded to a question about the tennis courts. Since geothermal was going to be underneath the tennis courts, now that we are not doing the geothermal, do we have to reconstruct the tennis courts? Mr. Bridges explained that the Town has spent \$43,000 on repairing these courts over the past 10 years and now due to structural issues in the sub base of the tennis courts, they have to be redone. The cost to replacing the tennis courts is \$400,000 so taking advantage of the economy's scale, now that we are under construction in the general area, now is the time to do that. In addition, the site plan for the project takes some of the space currently occupied by the tennis courts and uses it for traffic flow emergency access and parking

Mr. Bridges commented on the stop sign issue and stated that any stop sign in the Town of Wethersfield goes through a process dictated to every local unit of government by the Federal Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Mr. Bridges stated in that manual and in the State law, there are certain conditions that warrant the location of a stop sign. He explained this particular intersection that we have discussed tonight has been evaluated more than once in the time that he has been here in the last four years and explained the warrants are not met. Mr. Bridges explained in addition, the State law prohibits the use of a stop sign for street control. He added all of these issues have been reviewed by the Police Department and the Town Engineering Department in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and a stop is not warranted in that location. Mr. Bridges explained that is not a question of cost in any sense of the word but a question of meeting the federal guidelines for the placement of traffic control devices.

Mr. Bridges reported that we also received notice today regarding the residents over on Greenfield Street that the request for a 25 mile an hour speed limit signage has been approved so Physical Services will be placing those signs as soon as possible and starting enforcement accordingly.

TOWN CLERK COMMUNICATIONS

Dolores Sassano reported that as of July 15, 2013 some of the laws were changed in how much the Town clerks collect for the State on certain land records recorded. She explained it had been contested and the ruling from the court came back on July 11th in the afternoon but we were all set for money. We now collect more money on certain documents filed in our office and, hopefully, the Town gets a larger share.

COUNCIL ACTION **RESIGNATIONS**

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO ACCEPT THE RESIGATION OF JEREMY DONNELLY, 19 VILLAGE LANE #1304 FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD”**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

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

Deputy Mayor Console moved “**TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**” seconded by Councilor Drake.

ASSESSMENT APPEALS, BOARD OF

George W. Cote (Alternate) R 131 Charter Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ann Brickley R 143 Highcrest Rd. 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

CHILDREN MUNICIPAL AGENT

Nancy Stilwell TE 505 Silas Deane Hwy. 7-23-13 – 6-30-15

DISABILITIES, WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH

Joan Haines R 516 Highland Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

ETHICS, Board of

Jodi Latina (ALT) R 29 Blueberry Hill 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD

Wesley E. Sargent R 39 Randy Lane 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Robert A. Garrey, Chr. R 10 Morrison Avenue 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

Paul E. Courchaine (ALT) R 481 Main St 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES COMMISSION

David Herold (FULL) R 54 Old Mill Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Christopher Bazinet R 161 Garden Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellyn Laramie R 65 Nott St 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

Penny Stanziale R 15 Harold St. 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

John Rascius R 418 Wolcott Hill Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD

Joseph Koneski R 140 Eastern Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Antonio L. Margiotta R 155 Stockingmill Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

James Hughes U 135 Highland Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

Leigh Standish (ALT) R 278 Hartford Ave. 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kathy Bagley TE 505 Silas Deane Hwy. 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

Lisa Galipo TE 505 Silas Deane Hwy. 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

Kathi Liberman (Chr.) - TE 60 Lancaster Rd. 7-23-13 to 6-30-15
(Housing Authority)

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Joseph Koneski R 140 Eastern Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

TOURISM COMMISSION

Elaine R. St.Onge Hist. Soc. R 39 Randy Lane 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

Jenna Delay U 167 Church Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Barbara J. Ruhe R 79 Main Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

John D. Gustafson (ALT) U 182 Amherst Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

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

DEMOCRATIC APPOINTMENTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robert Turgeon D 962 Cloverdale Circle 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

DISABILITIES, WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH

Barbara Blejewski D 4 Tabshey Court, A1 7-23-13 to 6-30-15
Carol Keenan R 430 Wolcott Hill Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-15
Phil Knecht D 100 Executive Sq 7-23-13 to 6-30-15
Sue Buckland D 766 Wolcott Hill Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

ETHICS, Board of

Paula Izard D 89 Cider Brook Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16
Lorinda Coon D 11 Robbins Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

Alternate:

Lorrie Adeyemi D 110 Woodside Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

FAIR RENT COMMISSION

Phil Knecht at large *** D 100 Executive Square 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD

Lorinda S. Coon D 11 Robbins Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16
Douglas A. Ovia D 56 Broad Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Doug Ovia D 56 Broad St 7-23-13 to 6-30-16
Alternate:
Cynthia Greenblatt D 35 Broad St 7-23-13 to 6-30-14

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES COMMISSION

Brent M. Owen, VCHR D 42 Wells Farm Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16
Matthew John Zagaja D 12 Cornish Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laila Mandour D 420 Ridge Rd. 7-23-13 to 6-30-16
Penny Stanziale R 15 Harold St. 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Thomas A. Ragonese D 140 Black Birch 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Joseph L. Hammer D 65 Broad Street 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Michael T. Zaleski D 23 Black Birch Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adele J. Antoniou (at large) D 16 Bermuda Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

Claire A. Mehan (Health/Med) D 34 Two Brook Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

Joseph M. Mehan (at large) D 34 Two Brook Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-15

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Joseph E. Hickey D 28 Meadowview Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

SOLOMON WELLES HOUSE COMMITTEE

Nancy C. Smith D 23 Bunce Road 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Klajd Kovaci D 80 Valley Crest Drive 7-23-13 to 6-30-16

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Morris R. Borea D 112 Bittersweet Hill 7-23-13 to 6-30-18

seconded by Councilor Roberts.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Hemmann announced the next item is the Authorization For The Town Manager To Negotiate And Execute A Final Contract With Harris Corporation For The Purchase And

Installation Of A Complete Radio Communications System and asked for a motion to discuss the item.

Councilor Hurley moved **“FOR DISCUSSION”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

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

Mr. Bridges announced there is a presentation tonight from our consultant and other Town staff regarding the radio system proposal and the methodology that has been employed to make a recommendation. It answers a lot of the question that have incurred not only tonight but over the past few weeks. Mr. Bridges asked Keith Whitt from Trott Communications, Assistant Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer and Radio Consultant John Eichner to provide a review of the material provided.

Ms. Palmer explained the current problems and the need for a new radio system and provided a brief history of the old system which she stated is at end of life. She explained the inability of Motorola to upgrade the controllers (brains of the system) on the old system due to them being outdated technology, not manufactured anymore. When we needed one we would need to try and find one and we couldn't find one anywhere. She explained at that time she called Trott Communications who has been working with us since 2005 to help mitigate some of the problems that have been ongoing with this system since it was installed. She stated at that point Keith and his then coworker talked to me about the fact that the list I sent them was only maintenance. It was not going to do anything to help upgrade our system and in fact would leave us standing still while putting more money into a system that we have to replace at some point in the future. At that point we started to look at what the possibilities and solutions were to resolve this problem because much of our staff depends on the system every day to provide service to keep our residents safe. She explained we started a rather lengthy process to take a look at what our possibilities were, what steps we needed to take with a goal providing a system that would give us less problems; and less risk than the existing system; and to try to minimize the impact on the taxpayers of this community. As a taxpayer as well, she knows this is about a \$3.5 million dollar purchase. She then introduced Keith Whitt from Trott Communications to talk about the technology so that everybody may understand. Mr. Whitt explained the technical terms and abilities of radio systems and addressed the Harris proposal. Mr. Eichner then spoke about what separates this system out from others used in the area and explained the differences between the Marcus system and the Harris system. A discussion ensued with the councilors. Questions and concerns were posed from the Council. (This presentation is available for complete viewing on Wethersfield Community Television's website).

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A FINAL CONTRACT WITH HARRIS CORPORATION FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A COMPLETE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND FIRE PAGING SYSTEM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,600,000”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

Councilor Kotkin moved to table the motion, seconded by Councilor Montinieri. All Councilors

present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 5-4-0. Councilors Drake, Hurley, Manousos, McAlister voted No. Councilors Kotkin, Montinieri, Roberts, Console and Chairperson Hemmann voted Yes.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO TABLE THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING”**, seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. **AYE**. The motion passed 8-1-0. *Councilor McAlister voted no.*

OTHER BUSINESS

BIDS

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO AWARD A BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NATURAL GAS HONDA CIVIC FROM MANCHESTER HONDA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,995**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges explained that included with the 2014 budget is a Honda ~~Civil~~ Civic which we received a grant to pay for a portion of the vehicle. He stated that the Staff recommends approval and it will be used with our natural gas filling station for \$23,995.

Councilor Roberts commented that there was a boy scout in the audience and wanted to know what year vehicle we were going to buy. Mr. Bridges responded that is a 2013.

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

Councilor Drake moved **“TO AUTHORIZE A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$185,825 TO QUSIENBERRY ARCARI ARCHITECTS LLC”**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges reported that the Architect has submitted two requests for additional design services which total \$185,825. The services include redesign of the HVAC systems due to the Building Committee elimination of the geothermal well system; redesign of the auditorium to eliminate the mezzanine and make it a bid add alternate; and lastly the redesign of interior walls which were to remain, but must now be replaced due to finding of PCB contamination. He stated these design services were discussed verbally in May to allow the designer enough time to make the changes and incorporate them into the plans and cost estimates for submission to the State on July 16, 2013. Staff requests a change order in the amount of \$185,825 to Qusienberry Arcari Architects LLC in accordance with the two attached letter requests. Mr. Bridges explained the Building Committee approved these change orders on July 8, 2013. The Construction Manager included these design change fees in the budget submitted May 31, 2013. He stated those costs

are included in the memo that is on the podium tonight and there is an email which describes the nature of the additional services requested herein. Mr. Bridges stated if there are any questions, Mr. Turner and Chairman Fortunato of the Building Committee are here this evening.

Councilor Drake commented that usually the Architect has to design to build to our cost estimate and he has to keep the design until we get there and asked if it is basically the PCB so far out of that scope that it is beyond that?

Mr. Turner responded that was one of the three components that necessitated this change. He stated that when the Building Committee did their value engineering, it was determined the geothermal system, for instance, was eliminated. While the building still needs to have heat and air conditioning, we needed to design replacement systems. Mr. Turner stated the PCB discovery was much more extensive than was ever anticipated required, for instance, walls to be taken down. He stated when we were originally anticipating removal of caulk around a window, now we have to look at the removal of caulk and brick substrate that supports the windows, so all of these are increases in the design costs and additions into the bid plans and specifications that are above the Architect's basic scope of services.

Councilor Montinieri questioned if we are still up in the air if the mezzanine piece feature will be in the final project.

Ms. Fortunato responded that it is being carried as an alternate and will we will have to see where we are with finances as the bids come in.

Councilor Montinieri commented so we have to spend \$40,000 to redesign without the mezzanine because we are not sure if we are going to use the mezzanine and asked why we can't wait until we know if we are going to take it out rather than spend \$40,000 to come up with a design without it.

Ms. Fortunato responded the design work is necessary to go to the State with our plans to be able to get approval to be able to put these bids out on the street and we have to have both options to go out.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if it is correct that almost \$2.8 million dollars has been used so far to date from the contingency.

Lorell Purcell, Construction Manager commented that she is going to walk people through the Munis report so everybody understands where the dollars are going. Ms. Purcell the reviewed the Munis report with the Councilors.

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

Deputy Mayor Console moved to **“MOTION TO ACCEPT THE COLOSSALE BID WITHDRAWAL FOR BID 1.02, SITE WORK, TO REJECT ALL BIDS FOR SITE**

WORK AND REBID THIS ITEM; TO AWARD BID 1.03, CONCRETE FOR ADDITIONS, TO WATERBURY MASONRY & FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$482,700 TO INCLUDE THE BASE BID AND ALTERNATES TWO AND THREE; TO AWARD BID 1.04, STRUCTURAL STEEL FOR ADDITIONS, TO UNITED STEEL, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$942,000 TO INCLUDE THE BASE BID AND ALTERNATES TWO AND THREE”, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges explained that Phase I of the project includes site work, steel and concrete for those pieces of Phase 1. He stated that we bid the three elements, three bids were received and the low bidder Colossale has withdrawn their bid for the site work and the next highest bidder was beyond the budgetary estimate. He stated the other two concrete and steel bids came within budget and tonight we are recommending that you accept those concrete and steel bids and reject or accept the withdrawal of Colossale as a bidder and then rebid the site work. He stated that Mike Turner is here to further explain that.

Mike Turner explained that it was pointed out in our review that the bid for the concrete for additions, the total \$481,700 is a typo and is actually \$482,700.

Ms. Purcell reviewed the rebid of the site work and reviewed the bid tab sheets. A discussion ensued amongst the councilors regarding reduced scope of work and increasing HVAC and electrical costs and work being performed during the school schedule. Ms. Purcell then reviewed the Munis report with the Councilors.

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

Mr. Bridges commented that we did receive our letter from the State of Connecticut on the school construction projects that we are going to be reimbursed at a 50.710 reimbursement rate so whatever we spend we get 50.710 back and stated Linda Savitsky, the Interim Finance Director, is working on submitting reimbursements now.

Councilor Hurley moved to **“APPROVE AN AWARD OF BID FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF JORDAN LANE TO GENERAL PAVING & CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$323,223”**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

Mr. Bridges explained that Local Capital Improvement Program dollars (LOCIP), the Council authorized a resolution to apply its LOCIP dollars to the reconstruction of Jordan Lane extension. He explained that the bid proposal that came back was \$323,000 and stated that the memo talks about the current year allocation of \$188,000. Mr. Bridges explained that we are actually not using the \$188,000; we are using existing LOCIP funds in addition to the original \$250,000 budgeted. He stated that there is a spreadsheet in a packet this evening that shows what is available in our LOCIP account at the State, so there are sufficient funds available in addition to the money already allocated. Mr. Bridges explained that there is \$204,000 in addition to the \$250,000 that has been allocated for LOCIP so we won't touch next year's allocation on this project and the Staff recommends approval.

Deputy Mayor Console asked when this will start. Mr. Turner responded that they are prepared to start right away and the goal is to have it completed before leaf season.

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

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

Mayor Hemmann read the following resolutions for introduction.

Introduction of a resolution concerning an application to the State of Connecticut to obtain Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP) funds for milling and paving of various streets.

Introduction of a resolution concerning an application to the State of Connecticut to obtain Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP) funds to reconstruct and pave Fairlane Drive between Griswold Road and Fox Hill Road.

MINUTES

Councilor Manousos moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2013”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

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

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 1, 2013”** seconded by Councilor McAlister.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 6-0-3 Councilors Drake, McAlister and Manousos abstained.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 1, 2013”** seconded by Kotkin.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-2. Councilors Drake and McAlister abstained.

Dolores Sassano reported that the Introductions of tonight’s meeting will be heard on August 19th because there is not enough time to get it into the newspaper and have five clear days.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Sekas, 117 Wells Rd. commented on the Harris proposal and questions if we asked what the

other Towns are using. He also commented on the Town Board and Commissions list.

Gus Colantonio, 16 Morrison Ave. commented on the Colossale bid and the increasing prices of the site work. He also commented about the lack of a stop sign on Morrison Ave.

Bruce Marcus commented on some corrections to some statements that were made.

Ann Marie Stanford, Harris Corporation, commented that her proposal and pricing is now part of the public record. It puts Harris in somewhat of a noncompetitive situation, in that all of the information in the proposal, is now available to anyone who wants to look at it who is providing another proposal. She also stated that their P-25 Phase 2 is not an apples-to-apples design comparison. She also stated that Harris is also a local company located in Meriden, CT.

George Ruhe, 956 Clovercrest Cir, commented on the money that the Council agreed to make available for a playscape in an amount of \$52,000 to a private organization. He commented about getting the PTA's off the government pages in the Town calendar because they don't belong there. Mr. Ruhe commented that he finds it hard to believe that our Charter would allow that to happen.

Mr. Hemmann responded that the money to fund that is through a grant already approved but not yet received.

Mr. Bridges explained that it is not a loan and what we are doing is actually purchasing the equipment in anticipation of the grant. This is a public improvement on public property. The PTO has traditionally raised money on their own whether through state grants, passing the hat, whatever it is, and have given the money to the Town or bought the equipment and had it installed

for the Town and the Town accepts that as public property, so everything is on public property and is owned by the public. The PTO is in this sense an agent for us to build a playscape at an elementary school. The Town is the benefactor of the effort and in this particular instance in order to get this done before school starts, the grant was six months away so we fronted them the money. Mr. Ruhe also commented on the poor sound quality of the Memorial Day Ceremony. Mr. Ruhe asked the Council to come down and look at the pond and stated that nothing is happening with it and it is a blighted area and the elected officials don't care.

Mayor Hemmann next spoke about the decision to table. She stated that if people have further questions to email RaeAnn with those questions. Mayor Hemmann stated that there is an issue with the next meeting in attendance on August 5th and asked if there is potential for a meeting in the last week of July. Councilor Roberts stated that she will not be here. Councilor Drake stated that he needs to have the decision by the end of the month. He said that everything we heard tonight, we have heard before. Councilor McAlister stated that it was premature to not talk about it a little more. Mayor Hemmann agreed that she voted a little too quickly to table. A discussion ensued regarding the next best time to meet to review the tabled items. It was concluded that July 30th @ 6:30 would be the Special meeting discuss the tabled items.

Mr. Bridges commented that Keith Whitt will not be with us but will be able to attend via conference call.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:25 p.m., Councilor Hurley moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Deputy Mayor Console. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by Vote of Council
September 16th, 2013

Meeting Minutes were amended to reflect a spelling error on page 4, (striking out the word Ferry and changing it to Ferre), on page 11, (striking out the word AYE and adding the additional language, Councilor McAlister voted No), to the vote tally on the radio system lease agreement motion, and spelling error on page 11, (striking out the word Civil and changing it to Civic).