

**REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Hurley, Kotkin, Martino, Rell, Roberts, Deputy Mayor Barry, and Chairperson Montinieri. Absent: Councilors Hemmann and Manousos.

Also present: Kathy Bagley, Director Parks and Recreation and Social and Youth Services, Mike Turner, Town Engineer, Peter Gillespie, Town Planner, Brook Berry, Library Director, Jeff Bridges, Town Manager, Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk.

Councilor Hurley led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Montinieri asked if there was anyone wishing to speak on the public hearing item:

Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to file an application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for a \$450,000 Commercial Façade Improvement Program grant.

No one spoke on the hearing item.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., commented on the Wethersfield tax liens posted in the Hartford Courant and questioned why other towns aren't posting these public notices as well. He hopes information on properties for auction in town are also on the website describing the properties that were up for auction, what they sold for and who the buyers were and whether the taxes were paid within the six months by the original owner and what the outcome was. He commented on how the CL&P increases and the television cable companies are loaded with taxes. Also, with the tax inversions, for example, Burger King is moving major offices to Canada and they are going to avoid paying taxes to the Federal and the State. He stated that the Council should be standing firm about holding the line on taxes and stop spending.

Lee Sekas, 117 Wells Rd. commented that 1000 Silas Deane Highway and Fun Zone have been vacant a little over 10 years and stated that there should be a status update periodically on those addresses because that is often what people complain about.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Kotkin reported on a lengthy Budget and Finance Committee last week and stated that tonight we are going to be talking about the year-end budget transfers. Last year, the town did well in part due to the tax liens and strong collection record of the Tax Collectors office.

Revenues came in more than \$1,000,000 above budget and expenditures came in about \$660,000 below budget. Councilor Kotkin commented that the Insurance Committee has talked in the past about the possibility of having an audit of medical claims to the Insurance Committee. The town pays out about \$9,000,000 a year for active employees, retired employees and their families and as far as we know, we've never audited the Anthem or the predecessor, Blue Cross to see whether those claims were being paid correctly. The Committee talked about inquiring of the Insurance Committee as to whether they would recommend that we go forth with some sort of audit on it.

Councilor Kotkin reported that they talked about salaries for the registrars and decided we are going to look at registrars in the area to see how our registrars relate--salary wise. The issue came up a few years ago when we had 2 registrars, 2 deputy registrars, 2 assistant registrars and we basically merged those six positions into four with some improvements in salaries. We want to look at what's going on elsewhere in the region to see whether the salaries are commensurate with their peers in the region. It will probably in a month or so on that we hear back. The Town Manager is going to look at that as well as the Registrars.

Councilor Kotkin reported on an inquiry from a retired employee asking why we have not had any cost of living increases for the retired employees. They have not had one since 1997 and the pension plans, for all but the Police Officers, do not call for cost of living adjustments. Since we received a request the Budget Committee is going to be hosting a public meeting on that topic probably sometime in the second half of October.

Councilor Kotkin reported that the last item they was debt issuance for the high school renovation project. The benefit, since work began on the high school of actually seeing interest rates going down. In the budget for this year, they had anticipated issuing debt at about 3½ percent and we issue for a range of maturities from two years up to 20 years. Looking at what the average would be, currently around 3½ percent, it's probably in the mid to high 2's for the type of debt we would issue. This is great news for the town for not only the budget this year, but longer term because we are issuing debt up to 20 years. It means basically that if rates hold as we are issuing the debt that the town's responsible for the cost of the project over the long term could be lower. Not that the town's contribution of \$44 or \$45 million dollars would be any less, but the carrying cost on it would be less. When you go out to issue public debt, you get a credit rating and in March the Town of Wethersfield's credit rating was raised from AA to AA+ which is the second highest rating there is below AAA. Councilor Kotkin then read a piece from the credit report which described Wethersfield as having a very strong local economy. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes. Councilor Kotkin stated to remember we are the second highest there is right now so if we went still higher, we would be at the highest possible rating of AAA. He thinks this underscores the work that the past several council's have done to put the Town on a strong financial footing. It will clearly benefit the town over the long-term so it is very good news for the Town and its tax payers.

Deputy Mayor Barry commented that he did attend the Building Committee meeting last Monday. They talked about getting the high school ready for the first day of school. Obviously

the work that needed to be done was completed in time to have the school open. Much work remains to be done but essentially a significant amount of work has been done this summer and will be done this fall to ensure that the new additions are ready in December. Deputy Mayor Barry commented that regarding the Cottone Arch, the committee confirmed that it was going to be used. The only thing needed to be done was for the architect to ensure aesthetically and from safety and a structural standpoint that the arch was designed in a manner that could fit the new opening. The new opening is significantly wider than the old opening but that is going to get done and get done right. Deputy Mayor Barry commented that the first day of school opening went relatively smooth according to his own reports from folks in his household, so he thinks things went well.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Hurley commented that he is not available to tour the high school on the scheduled date; ; he doesn't recall seeing a notice asking when people were available; and asked if another tour would be available in the future. Mr. Bridges responded that he can make arrangements for that. Councilor Hurley reported that there were four churches that volunteered at Millwoods this past weekend on Saturday. They were the First Church of Wethersfield, Evangelical Free Church, New Life Christian Fellowship Church and Center Point Community Church. He stated they removed brush and painted buildings and benches and signs. They went there before to scope out the area. They were going to paint the garage door at the Nature Center but found out it was in too bad a condition to paint. So they had one donated and they put it in down there. He went back the next day and the place looked really great. He stated that Mike Rell, himself, Jeff and Kathy Bagley were down there talking to them before they started.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bridges reported that on the podium this evening is the transfer list that we want to work off this evening. He stated that there is an adjustment which he will describe when we get to that point in the agenda. There is also an additional agenda item that we would like you to add as 3b which is as we discussed with the Board of Education during the budget process; they anticipated some unexpended funds and would like to use that to reduce some capital improvements at Hanmer, replacing the burners. So this additional agenda item allows them to transfer to the CNEF reserve fund, created for them a couple of years ago, and use those dollars for those kinds of capital items. Peter Gillespie is here this evening to present his Economic Development report.

Peter Gillespie reviewed the August 2014 Economic and Development Report which is attached to these minutes. He will just go through the highlights but certainly if there are any questions about things that he skips over to please let him know. Mr. Gillespie explained that the CREC Discovery Academy on Cumberland Avenue is making great progress. They were a little bit behind schedule. They was a conflict with some of the neighbors on some of the hours of operation, noise and lights so Planning & Zoning Commission had to get involved. They dealt with that in a very calm and sensible way which will allow that project to remain on schedule.

There has been great progress at the Chips Restaurant in the Goff Brook shops over the past month or so. They indicated they are anticipating an opening in mid-October. They are already hiring folks and will be doing training over the next couple of weeks as the building progresses. He stated that Comstock Ferre is making significant improvements also. Their parking lot phase 1 is complete. We are also working with them and they are hoping to take advantage of the State DECD express loans/grant program. They are talking about changing out their heating system and also finishing the parking lot in the back with the brick paver system so hopefully, they can take advantage of that State program which will allow them to do some of things that they have been talking about for a couple of years. Mr. Gillespie reported that in the space below the Flower Box, a new restaurant is going to open soon. It is called Edo-Ichi Sushi and Hibachi Steakhouse at 580 Silas Deane Highway. Double A Veterinary Clinic on Nott Street is doing some work. The American Legion recently sold to its primary tenant which is Griffiths Dance Academy. The good part is the Griffith Academy will be able to stay in town and expand. The property will now come back on the tax rolls so that is also a positive aspect of that transaction. Planning and Zoning Commission just approved plans for a Planet Fitness franchise to go into the Goff Brook Shops. The bad news is that it is Office Depot and it will be closing. Staples combined with Office Depot two years ago or so and they have closed numerous locations across the country. The owner of Goff Brook Shops is working on that as a contingency plan, but plans have been approved by our Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Gillespie reported that Pretty Pups and Mutts, a dog grooming business has opened on the Berlin Turnpike, a small karate studio has opened on 500A Silas Deane Highway and a security consulting firm called EnSafe has opened at 1233 Silas Deane Highway. He also noted that they approved plans for a children's gymnasium called Romp and Roll in the vacant space where Wooden Toy use to be and that Wooden Toy moved over a space. He stated that a couple of consulting firms have moved in at 100 Great Meadow. Mr. Gillespie announced that we now have a new Zoning and Property Maintenance Officer. Her name is Monica Holloway. She is doing a great job and has hit the ground running. We have already seen the benefits of that position being filled. If you haven't met her, she has a desk in the Building Department. He noted that the EDIC continues to do their various programs. Over the last couple of months we have given our four façade grants/loans: 20-30 Beaver Rd., 326 Silas Deane Highway, 279, 287 Main Street and then also 121 Main Street. In total that's about close to \$100,000 in façade program funding that we have given out to the business community within the last couple of months. He stated that there was a question earlier about 1000 Silas Deane Highway. We applied for some State financial assistance to try and act as a catalyst for that project so we were fortunate to receive \$200,000 which will be used to assist with the demolition of that building and the redevelopment of the site. At the present time the Town Attorney is drafting the development agreement language so there are some performance measures included in that agreement. The design of that agreement is such that it will be a reimbursement type of program so the developer and/or the property owner will have to perform first before he gets any funding from that program. So, we are working right now on the details. I would think that in the next couple of weeks we will have some of it ironed out for more public discussion. In terms of Tourism Commission, they are continuing to do their various programs. One of the recent things they focused on is the distribution of a series of seasonal promotional rack cards. It's a more affordable and inexpensive card that we are distributing to hotels, motels, restaurants throughout Connecticut.

He is happy to report that since August of last year, we distributed 40,000 of those throughout the State of Connecticut, so we are getting the word out on Historic Wethersfield. Lastly, in July we had a public information session on the status of the Wethersfield Heritage Walk project. It was moderately attended but the purpose of it was to provide some status on the panels, the designs, some of the subject matter, we are going to cover in the program. We had originally intended on completing it this year with the intent of getting the signs in before the snow flies. The Committee felt, based on the progress that we are making, we wanted to push it over to spring so we are planning on finishing the project up in May of next year. The primary idea behind that is it is during the Heritage weekend held every spring. There will be a lot of visitors to town so we want to piggy back on that weekend and unveil the panels at that time. The date that we actually targeted is May 23rd. When you see the final product, you will be very pleased. It will tell a great deal about the history of this community in a very attractive, comprehensive way. Mr. Gillespie asked for any questions. A copy of the Economic Report is attached to these minutes.

Counselor Hurley asked about Wethersfield Diner and if they are reaching out to them at all. Mr. Gillespie responded the Wethersfield Diner has closed. They've been having some issues with the landlord so I think the landlord finally had to pull the trigger and they have closed. There are no specific plans for the space right now. They have talked to several people about it. The building is owned by the individual who also owns the Mobile station next door. Councilor Hurley commented that he talked with Mary Beth Griffith at the American Legion Hall and they are going to let the American Legion also stay downstairs in the building. Mr. Gillespie stated that it's a win-win for everybody involved there.

Councilor Roberts commented that on Connecticut Day at the Big E last year a lot of towns had a lot of information available and the only thing that was there from Wethersfield was a brochure from Webb Deane Stevens. She stated that we should make sure that some of our rack cards are there because there were thousands of people that day and really not a lot about Wethersfield.

Councilor Kotkin commented that once the Rectory gets sold does that mean it comes back on the tax rolls or is it on the tax rolls already. Mr. Gillespie responded that he doesn't think it is on the tax rolls right now. He thinks it is owned by the church and with their status it is not on the tax rolls. If it does sell for profit, a private individual, it will certainly change the status. Councilor Kotkin asked if the Yoga Studio is leaving or moving. Mr. Gillespie responded yes she will be moving and we have been working with her to try and find a home. He stated that she is certainly going to stay in business and we are trying to find her a spot in town. She unfortunately has looked in other towns because of the limited space available for her specific needs here in town, but she may have found something, so cross our fingers

Councilor Martino asked if there is any activity on the convalescent home on Jordan Lane. Mr. Gillespie responded that there has been interest but wouldn't say activity or specific proposals but he has talked to a couple of people and we are working closely. They have retained a commercial real estate broker which they had not done for a long time so both of those have been positive. The folks they have hired are very aggressive and have been out actively marketing the property so I'm hopeful that something will come out of that soon. There has been interest.

Mayor Montinieri thanked Mr. Gillespie for his presentation.

TOWN CLERK COMMUNICATION

Dolores Sassano reported that she had received notices for people who have achieved the status that enables them a place on the November ballot. Councilor Hurley will be running for State Rep. for District 28 and he has received his letter of approval [Independance Party]. For State Senate District 1, Alyssa Peterson; or Governor, Joe Visconti who also received 7500 qualified signatures; one letter rejected Jonathan Pelto from the Education Democracy Party. He failed to receive the required number of qualified signatures by 3,000. They will join the major parties on the November ballot.

Councilor Kotkin commented on discussions about Jonathan Pelto petition pages going to wrong towns and asked if any of it gets to appropriate towns. Ms. Sassano responded that sometimes towns will forward petitions but most will come from the Secretary of the State. Everything we received came to Wethersfield directly; we didn't have anything we couldn't process.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO ADD ITEM 3B TO THE AGENDA"**, seconded by Councilor Martino.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Deputy Mayor Barry moved **"TO APPOINT TO THE BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS BASIA DELLARIPA AS AN ALTERNATE, 37 ROBBINSWOOD DR. FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-15, TO FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL AS AN ALTERNATE BASIA DELLARIPA, 37 ROBBINSWOOD DR. FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-16, TO INLAND WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES COMMISSION, JAMES KULPA, 239 CREST ST. FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-17, TO ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS BASIA DELLARIPA, 37 ROBBINSWOOD DR. FROM 8-18-14 TO 6-30-15, YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD, MARIA ALFONSO, 256 BRIMFIELD RD., FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-17, COLLEEN KEANE, 99 WELLS RD., FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-17, MIKE SCAVETTA, 51 WILMONT ST. FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-17, AND KEN LESSER, 8 HAWTHORN WAY, FROM 9-02-14 TO 6-30-17"** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

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

Councilor Martino moved **"TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR A \$450,000 COMMERCIAL FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT"**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry.

Mr. Bridges explained that Peter Gillespie is here to answer any additional questions. This is the grant the STEAP grant we received, which is \$250,000 for façade loan and \$200,000 for the redevelopment money for 1000 Silas Deane Highway. It's titled Façade Improvement Program but it is a mixture of the two projects.

Mayor Montinieri commented that we've already won the grant but this is authorizing Jeff to accept and sign the agreement with the State. Mr. Gillespie explained that if you look at the paperwork as Jeff indicated the important notation to make is this is for both of those projects, not all for the façade program and there's a cover letter in there which explains it. Look closely at the budget it itemizes it a little bit differently as well. I think it was a concern initially that it didn't cover both but we have been assured that it will cover both projects that we applied for. We went to the prioritization project last year to identify the three projects and this was number 1 so I fully support.

Mayor Montinieri commented the façade improvement funds have rotated through for several years. I believe we had somewhere between 3 and 4 to 1 in terms of private funds coming towards the façade, is that relatively accurate. Mr. Gillespie responded it's actually probably on the private investment and I think I said it was \$90 to \$100 thousand dollars we are getting out when you look at the overall projects that it supports, it's more like 6 to 1 just in those four recent projects and by the time you factor in permit fees and assessed value increases on all of that there are exponential increases well beyond the limited investment we put into it. But in those recent examples it is about 6 to 1. Mayor Montinieri commented that you had also mentioned the current committee is looking at some of the language in there to be as tight as possible because there has been a couple of questions about specific features of proposals that have been submitted. Mr. Gillespie responded that there have been a couple of problems, not real big problems. We have had projects that have lingered for a long time. We want to eliminate that so the money can go back into the pot and we're tightening up some of the criteria on the types of projects that we will reimburse for. So, the EDIC looked at just a draft at their last meeting, they are going to look one more time and if they think it is ok, we will bring it back to council and go through all of those changes. It's not a dramatic change to the program. It's really fine-tuning some of the language so that when people ask whether a project qualifies, I can tell them very specifically rather than say, it's up to the Commission to decide. This will be the criteria that we use from here on out. The program has been in place for almost 10 years now so it's time to take a look at it and dust it off a little bit. Mayor Montinieri asked if there were any other questions.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Martino moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS PER THE ATTACHED TRANSFER REQUEST,”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Councilor Roberts commented that she thinks he meant to say unexpended appropriations in the motion and not unexpected. Mayor Montinieri confirmed the correction.

Mr. Bridges explained that what you have here this evening are two different types of transfers. The first are the balancing transfers between departments which are results of operations and the big issue or the big transfer is unexpectedly or not unexpectedly Physical Services. The severe winter caused significant depletion of their resources over the year in terms of plows or snow plowing and salt purchases. So the big transfer is there of course. Then you move onto the requested transfers and as we looked at these last year, we looked at if we use some of the unexpended funds to pay for things that we would otherwise not do or in the instance of Police, the Department can just buy their vehicles outright rather than lease them. So you see some of those transfers in there. Then the big department, of course, is street improvement fund. We accumulated the left over remnants of various departments and put it towards more paving which is always in need in any community. You are seeing that. We still have a lapsing balance in the general fund of about \$10,000 and as Councilor Kotkin said, the results of operations on the revenue side produced more revenue than expected so even with these transfers, we are seeing an increase in the overall fund balance from a projected 9.8% to 10.7%. So, all in all a good story and we are going to be able to do more things. Lower our long-term costs and still provide to that strong financial picture that Councilor Kotkin talked about from the S&P report.

Mayor Montinieri emphasized Councilor Kotkin’s earlier statement, several of the variables that the town continues to see happen not only in terms of revenue collection has been continuing to impress us with the number being more than projected. It raised the number that we expected during the budget season and we are still exceeding that which is very good news. It reflects the work of the staff, obviously in the tax collection area. Also, Town Manager Bridges went over it quickly, but there is a note that the additional expenditures for this winter are being accommodated without tapping into any of the reserve funds. It’s being done as a result of those additional revenues which I think is also good news. Just to emphasize, I think, to the point that Jeff just made about our road fund, we are continuing to recognize that the work that is done on the roads now, in terms on efficiency, while everybody is up and running and doing additional work within this budget season is exponentially beneficial because the equipment doesn’t have to be reset. That most of this transfer went to road work just gives us additional efficiency during a time that we are obviously trying to catch up from some very tough road conditions that reflect what we’ve seen in terms of the climate, particularly this past winter. It is good news and I think emphasizing that it’s not a flurry of spending but very good fiscal planning that will help alleviate some of the pressure when some of that might not be there a year or two from now.

Councilor Roberts asked if somebody could explain why the town attorney’s account for the department was so far off. It looks like we transferred \$129,000 or \$131,000. Do we have any idea why? Mr. Bridges responded we had several contracts that not union contracts, of course we

had some personnel issues with some employees that were let go and we had to resolve those or are in the resolution process with those. We had the radio contract negotiations which took resources. We have Charter Revision which consumes some resources. So you are seeing a host of smaller items that accumulate to higher costs.

Mayor Montinieri asked a follow-up to that. Our total budget for Town Attorney was around \$100,000. Mr. Bridges responded yes. Mayor Montinieri commented so we roughly went twice on that. That's during the fiscal year up through June 30th, right. Mr. Bridges responded June 30th and that included the retiree settlement as well.

Councilor Kotkin commented just to sum up on the paving, if we take the \$1.5 million that we budgeted this year between State and local and we add the \$300,000 that we allocated for Highcrest and we've just put about a couple hundred thousand more in this fiscal year we are going to be spending somewhere around \$2,000,000 on paving including Highcrest. Mr. Bridges responded yes. Mr. Kotkin commented compared to several years ago, we are like \$850,000 or so three, four, five years ago. It's a commitment to improve the roads and lots in town and now I guess we've addressed the worst school lots that we have--the two elementary schools. Is that a fair statement? Mr. Bridges asked Mike Turner if Webb and Highcrest were the two most in need school lots. Mr. Turner responded yes. Councilor Kotkin asked if we've got Millwoods coming. Mr. Bridges responded that's a STEAP grant. Councilor Kotkin didn't even include that so there's actually a lot more that's going to be done. He stated that we've got a lot of work to do in town, but this is a great start.

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

Councilor Martino moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$67,198.99 FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 UNEXPENDED EDUCATION APPROPRIATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENSES NON-LAPSING ACCOUNT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BURNERS AT HANMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL”**, seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Mr. Bridges explained that a couple of years ago the Town Council set up a CNEF Capital Nonrecurring Fund Account for the Board of Education according to State Statutes which would allow them to reserve up to 1% of their total budget in a fund for capital improvements. The Board of Education through this year's budget process requested that ability to put about \$67,000 into that fund and not include that cost in their proposed 2015 budget to do some burner replacement work at Hanmer Elementary. That was something the Council and Board discussed at the time and found acceptable and this transfer would make that happen. Mayor Montinieri asked if there were any questions on that.

Councilor Kotkin asked if we know if the work is going to get done before the winter. Mr. Bridges responded that he doesn't know. Mr. Kotkin asked if he could just circle back and get back to them with the answer. Councilor Kotkin stated that during the budget period we had said that we had hoped that they would do the work before the heat came on in Hanmer. It was a fairly

dire situation that was outlined for us during the budget. Based on the memo, do I understand that the Board's returning beyond the \$67,000, they are returning \$50,000. Mr. Bridges responded that is the message he got from Mike O'Neil, that they are lapsing up to \$50,000. Councilor Kotkin commented that's good.

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

BIDS

Councilor Martino moved **"TO APPROVE THE VALUE ENGINEERING CHANGE ORDER REDUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,518 TO THE FERGUSON ELECTRICAL COMPANY CONTRACT"**, seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Mr. Bridges explained as part of our VE process, Ferguson Electrical has brought in \$55,518 of their reductions recommended by O&G and approved through the Building Committee. Mr. Turner is here to answer any questions you may have but the description of the change order is included in the packet and the items that were accepted by the Building Committee. Mr. Bridges commented that there will be more forthcoming and you may see multiples in different vendors but this is what we have so far.

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

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

Mayor Montinieri introduced the following resolution.

Acceptance and execution of \$9,009 Social Services Block Grant for October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015.

MINUTES

Councilor Martino moved **"TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2014"**, seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., commented on borrowing money from the State of Connecticut -- someone has to pay for this money; he urged the Council against borrowing more money; every town across the State keeps asking the group that is in trouble for more money; it's terrible the way it works. He also commented on the lack jobs that are available in the State of Connecticut. He stated that he has been following the Charter Revision Commission and doesn't really see anything coming out of the Charter Revision Commission. He hopes that the

citizens vote it down and send them back to do a better job. He also questioned the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been spent on attorney's fees on town issues. Mr. Young commented on the \$25,000 that was spent on crack sealing and stated that we should be bringing back the contractor to fix their work on those roads.

Councilor Kotkin commented that we received a note from the Town Manager and the Police Department that a major repaving project on Wells Rd. is going to begin on Monday so maybe for those who are watching, it might be good to remind them that some of it is going to be during the day and some of it is going to be over the night. Mr. Bridges commented that near the schools work will be over night. We are keeping that away from the daytime traffic. Councilor Kotkin stated that it starts Monday and milling and repaving going on for two weeks on one of our major thoroughfares. He stated that it's needed and people are going to have to be patient over the next two weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:07 p.m., Councilor Martino moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by Vote of Council
September 15, 2014