

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Council Chambers, Wolcott Town Hall

7:30 p.m.

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## MINUTES

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**Note:** These are summary minutes; a tape recording of this meeting is on file in Commission Secretary's Office in Wolcott Town Hall.

Chairman Santogatta called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, and attendance was taken.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Michael Santogatta; Vice-Chairman Steven Olmstead, Michael Perrone, Gale Mastrofrancesco, Francis Masi, Charles Marsella, Randy Petroniro, David Valletta, and Michael Bokon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Thomas Dunn; Brian Tynan, Town Attorney; Pamela Deziel, Assessor; Dick Romano, Vision Appraisal Representative; et al.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Special Meeting – August 17, 2010**

Upon **MOTION** by Francis Masi, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 17, 2010, with one abstention from Mr. Valletta.

- **Regular Meeting – August 17, 2010**

Upon **MOTION** by Francis Masi, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 17, 2010, with one abstention from Mr. Valletta.

- **Public Hearing – August 24, 2010**

Upon **MOTION** by Michael Perrone, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Public Hearing held on August 24, 2010, with one abstention from Mr. Masi.

- **Special Meeting – August 24, 2010**

Upon **MOTION** by Randy Petroniro, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 24, 2010.

- **Special Meeting – August 31, 2010**

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Upon **MOTION** by Randy Petroniro, seconded by Gale Mastrofrancesco, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 31, 2010.

### **TAXPAYERS' TIME:** (Limited to Items on the Agenda)

No taxpayers came forward.

### **CORRESPONDENCE (on file):**

1. Finance Office Transfers, submitted by Linda Bruce
2. Resolution: State of CT Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security
3. Letter dated September 15<sup>th</sup> from Mayor Dunn regarding the election of STEAP Assistance (copy of email to Mayor Dunn from the Office of Policy & Management attached advising that the Town of Wolcott's opt-in for STEAP is expiring; they need Town Council action; copy of Town Council motion regarding this item from 2006)
4. Notice dated September 1<sup>st</sup> to Town Clerk regarding Referendum Vote for Proposed Charter Revisions (Legal Notice Attached )
5. Letter dated September 3<sup>rd</sup> from Linda Bruce and letter dated September 16<sup>th</sup> from Attorney Brian Tynan Regarding Vision Appraisal Contract for FY2011 Revaluation Update (Proposed Contract and copy of RFP comparison attached)
6. Letter dated September 3<sup>rd</sup> from Linda Bruce Regarding Request to Waive Public Bidding Procedure with Regard to an Extended Contract with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. (Proposed Contract Attached)
7. Board of Education Year to Date Budget Report dated 08-31-10 for FY 2009-2010
8. Board of Education Year to Date Budget Report dated 08-31-10 for FY 2010-2011
9. Town of Wolcott Expenditure Report, Revenue Report, & Trial Balance, for month ending 08-31-10
10. Revised Finance Office Transfer

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Dunn came forward and reported the following:

- With regard to items #4 and #5 on agenda, he noted that the Council will not need to act on that; they will be putting electricity out to bid instead;

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- The high school just approved a 40 piece Marine band to perform a free concert on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium

A question and answer period followed, during which discussion was held and/or comments were made regarding the following items:

- All of the properties were auctioned at the tax sale that recently took place; there were 25 properties that went to the Back Tax Sub-Committee; of those, 17 people came forward and paid their taxes; 8 properties were auctioned; the owners still have 6 months to come forward and pay their taxes; another tax sale will take place in January;
- Electricity Rates; will go out to bid soon;
- Long Swamp Road Reconstruction Project update; the catch basins and drainage have been started;
- Refurbishing of the Town Trucks; all have been finished;
- Household hazardous waste pick up at the Town Garage this Saturday from 9:00 a.m until 3:00 p.m.;
- Tosun Road Project update; it will begin with catch basins, drainage, and a waterline on the bottom of the hill; there were issues with some residents not wanting the waterline; the roads will also be regraded and repaved; they have about \$400,000 to work with from the STEAP grant; some work will get done this year and then will resume in the spring

### FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT/TRANSFERS:

Mayor Dunn noted that Linda Bruce was on vacation and that he will answer any questions regarding the proposed transfers.

Chairman Santogatta noted that the following transfer is a modified version of the one that was originally sent in their packets.

Mayor Dunn explained that there was a resignation in the Town Clerk's Office as well as a retirement in the Building Dept. He was aware of the pending retirement and cut about half of the funds in that line item. He was originally going to utilize the employee in the Town Clerk's Office to work part of the day in the Building Dept., however, that person resigned and he did not fill the position. The plan is to fund the Floater position; this will satisfy coverage in the Building Dept., as well as coverage in other departments as needed.

Upon **MOTION**, by Francis Masi, seconded by Gale Mastrofrancesco, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the following transfer; Gen'l Gov't- 112; to 01-1-112-1-1125 Wages-Floater-P/T \$24,191.87, and also to 01-1-112-3-3670 Technology \$4,000.00, from 01-1-122-1-1120 Wages – Clerical \$28,191.87 (**see attached**).

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Upon **MOTION**, by Francis Masi, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the following transfer; Acquired Facilities - 30; to 30-8-800-4-4420 Maint. & Repair Building \$2,400.00, from 30-8-800-7-7300 Capital Outlay \$2,400.00 (**see attached**).

### **SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:**

**Pension Committee:** Mr. Perrone reported that they met last week and voted to give the Financial Advisor additional authority with respect to investments.

**Sub-Committee for the Review of Ordinances:** Mr. Valletta reported that he forwarded a copy of the proposed revisions to Ordinance #66, regarding blight, to the other members for their review. They will be having a meeting to discuss.

**Board of Education:** Mr. Petroniro reported that the Custodians Union Contract is currently in arbitration. Also, he and Mrs. Mastrofrancesco attended the first negotiation meeting for the Teachers' Contract.

**Negotiations Sub-Committee:** Mrs. Mastrofrancesco reported that the Town Hall Employees Union Contract is at a standstill right now. They haven't been able to set up a meeting recently, but it is in the works.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Resolution: State of CT Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security – FY 2011**

Upon **MOTION**, by Steven Olmstead, seconded by Francis Masi, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the following resolution; AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WOLCOTT; RESOLVED, that the Wolcott Town Council may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and FURTHER RESOLVED, that Thomas G. Dunn, Mayor of the Town of Wolcott, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Wolcott Town Council, and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents (**see attached**).

- 2. Discussion & Possible Action to Elect STEAP Assistance (Small Town Economic Assistance Program)**

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Upon **MOTION**, by Steven Olmstead, seconded by Francis Masi, it was unanimously voted that the Town Council of the Town of Wolcott **elects** STEAP Assistance, in lieu of Urban Act Assistance, and the Town of Wolcott will notify the Office of Policy & Management of the same.

### **3. Discussion & Possible Action on Acceptance of Vision Appraisal Contract for Revaluation**

Pamela Deziel came forward, at which time a brief question and answer period followed. She noted that the full process of the revaluation will take about a year and a half. It is not a full inspection; it is an update. The properties that will be inspected are the ones that have been sold in the previous two years, properties under construction, properties that have open building permits, and properties with reported discrepancies. The database will be available on line when the Grand List is complete.

A **MOTION** was offered by Francis Masi, seconded by Gale Mastrofrancesco to **accept** the Vision Appraisal Contract for Revaluation (**on file**).

Ms. Deziel indicated that she is satisfied with the Workers' Compensation insurance limits and liability, as they are the standard limits used throughout the industry. Ms. Deziel next asked Mr. Romano from Vision Appraisal to come forward. He verified that all of their employees go through a background check. It was also noted that the Police Department will be given a list of all of their employees who will be working on the revaluation.

Chairman Santogatta called for vote on the above motion, which **carried** unanimously by voice vote.

- 4. Discussion & Possible Action to Waive Public Bidding Procedure for Constellation NewEnergy Contract**
- 5. Discussion & Possible Action on Acceptance of Constellation NewEnergy Contract**

Chairman Santogatta advised that the Mayor has withdrawn items #4 and #5, above, from the agenda and will address the matter at a later date.

### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

Chairman Santogatta advised that if anyone has any items for the next agenda to contact himself or the Clerk.

### **TAXPAYERS' TIME:**

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No taxpayers came forward.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Upon **MOTION** by Michael Bokon, seconded by Charles Marsella, it was unanimously voted to take a five minute recess at 8:02 p.m. and then **enter** into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing item 'a. Contract Negotiation Update', inviting Mayor Dunn and Town Attorney Brian Tynan (it was noted that they are striking item 'b. Personnel Matter' from discussion this evening; a Special Meeting has been set for this matter tomorrow night).

Chairman Santogatta called the regular session back to order at 8:30 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon **MOTION**, Gale Mastrofrancesco, seconded by, Michael Perrone, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

### **APPROVED:**

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Elizabeth Gaudiosi, Secretary  
**WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**

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Michael J. Santogatta, Chairman  
**WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**