

**WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014
TYRRELL MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
500 TODD ROAD, WOLCOTT, CT
7:00 P.M.
Page 1 of 3
MINUTES**

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

Town of Wolcott: FY 2014/2015 Proposed Budget

Chairman Valletta called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, and attendance was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman David Valletta, Vice-Chairman Gale Lanza Mastrofrancesco, Roger Picard, Jeffrey Slavin, Rachel Wisler, James Pape, Francis Masi and Charles Marsella

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donald Charette Sr.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Thomas G. Dunn; Linda Bruce, Municipal Finance Officer; et al.

CALL OF MEETING:

Vice-Chairman Mastrofrancesco read the following into the record:

**TOWN OF WOLCOTT
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Take notice that a Public Hearing of the Wolcott Town Council will be held at the Tyrrell Middle School Auditorium, 500 Todd Road, Wolcott, CT, on Tuesday evening, May 20, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., for the proposed Town of Wolcott Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

All interested citizens will have the opportunity to submit written & oral comments at the hearing.

The proposed budget may be examined & copies obtained from the Finance Office; Mon-Wed 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Thurs. 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Fri 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Wolcott Town Hall, 10 Kenea Ave., Wolcott, CT.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice to Town Clerk dated May 5th advising that the Town Council will be holding a Public Hearing on the Proposed Town of Wolcott Budget for FY 2014-2015 on Tuesday, May 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrrell Middle School Auditorium

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

At this time, Chairman Valletta welcomed the public to come forward to address the Council. He added that anyone coming forward must sign in and state their name and address.

1. **Shannon Ziomek, of 162 Garrigus Court** came forward to express her support of both the General Government and Board of Education proposed budgets. She commented that Wolcott is among the lowest in per pupil spending in the State which is a shame. She requested that both budgets be approved as presented.
2. **Debbie Testa, of 21 Margaret Terrace** came forward to express her support of the Board of Education proposed budget. She commented that any cuts will directly impact their children. She stressed the importance of funding education which will attract families to the Town and increase property values.
3. **Tracey Thibeau, of 14 Wilson Road** came forward and stated that she is in favor of the proposed budget submitted by the Board of Education. She advised that she has children in the school system and is also a member of the PTO. She commented that if the budget is cut, there will be a negative impact to the children. She spoke at length about rising contractual costs and transportation costs and elaborated about the many energy conservation systems that have been implemented, in addition to other cost savings measures and the numerous fund raising activities by the PTO.
4. **Holly Johnson (no address stated or written)** came forward to express her support of the proposed budget submitted by the Board of Education. She advised that she has children in the school system and is also a member of the PTO. She advised that for the past three of five years, there has been no increase to the budget and it is only a small increase this year. She commented that Wolcott is among the lowest in per pupil spending in the State which is not a statistic to be proud of. She stated that Wolcott needs to focus on more funds and resources and move towards the new Common Core curriculum.
5. **Theresa Marin, of 486 Center Street** came forward and stated that she has children in the Wolcott school system and is also the President of the Parent Action Council. She noted that she is in support of the proposed increase to the Board of Education budget. She spoke about the importance in getting prepared for the Common Core curriculum, which the State mandated but is not funding. Investing in programs and education is important so that their

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children can compete and succeed, and taking care of the infrastructure is also necessary.

6. **Daphne Giuggio, of 19 Valley Road** came forward to express her support of the proposed budget submitted by the Board of Education. She requested that no cuts be made to the budget.
7. **Gloria Gubitosi, of 11 Rustic Acres Drive** came forward and stated that she is Vice-Chair of the Board of Education. She noted that the proposed increase is only 1.6% and noted that there was no increase over the past several years. The increase is necessary due to Common Core implementation, technology upgrades, and personnel staffing. She commented that Wolcott ranks 167 out of 169 towns in per pupil expenditures. She further commented that a yes vote for the Board of Education budget is a yes vote for every property owner because their outstanding educational system is the foundation of their Town's reputation.
8. **Thomas Buzzelli, of 38 Old New England Road** came forward and stated that he is currently serving on the Board of Education and expressed his support of the proposed budget.
9. **Pat Najarian, of 43 Rocco Drive** came forward and stated that she serves as Chairman of the Board of Education and noted that their budget is put together by over 200 people and further noted that the budget has been scrutinized since the beginning. Everything contained within the budget is absolutely essential for them to continue to support the schools and give the children everything that they need. She stated that the increase is very slight and that it is very important that this budget be approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Roger Picard, seconded by Rachel Wisler, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

APPROVED:

**Elizabeth Gaudiosi
Commission Secretary**

**David Valletta, Chairman
WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**



TOWN OF WOLCOTT

TOWN HALL • 10 Kenea Avenue
Wolcott, Connecticut 06716
Tel. (203) 879-8100 • Fax: (203) 879-8105

RECEIVED
9:45 a.m.
5-5-14
Dolores C Slater
TOWN CLERK
WOLCOTT, CONN.

May 5, 2014

Dolores C. Slater, Town Clerk
Wolcott Town Hall
10 Kenea Avenue
Wolcott, CT 06716

Re: Town Council Regular Meeting Canceled – 5/20/14
Public Hearing Scheduled – 05/20/14 7:00 p.m. Tyrrell Middle School
Auditorium

Dear Mrs. Slater:

Please be advised that the Town Council Regular Meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the Wolcott Town Hall has been canceled.

A Public Hearing has been scheduled to be held on the same date at **7:00 p.m.**, for for the purpose of hearing oral or written comments regarding the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Town of Wolcott Proposed Budget, in the **Tyrrell Middle School Auditorium, 500 Todd Road, Wolcott, CT.**

The attached legal notice has been scheduled for publication in the Republican American Newspaper on Monday, May 12, 2014.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Gaudiosi
Town Council Secretary

cc: Mayor Thomas Dunn
Council Members
Linda Bruce, MFO
Brian Tynan, Town Attorney
Michael Bruce Video
Skye Cable

'CALL OF MEETING'

TOWN OF WOLCOTT PUBLIC NOTICE

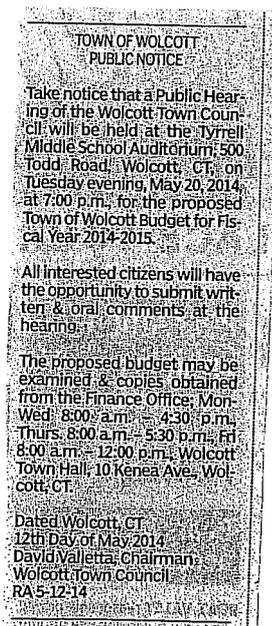
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Dated Wolcott, CT
12th Day of May 2014
David Valletta, Chairman
Wolcott Town Council

Published one (1) time: Republican-American Newspaper on
Monday, May 12, 2014



WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

SIGN-IN SHEET

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

NAME (Please Print)

ADDRESS (Please Print)

1. Shannon Ziomek 162 Garrigus Ct Wolcott

2. Debbie Testa

3. Tracey Libeau

4. Holly Johnson

5. Theresa Mann 486 Center St Wolcott Ct

6. Laphne Giaggio 19 Valky

7. Gloria Gubitosi 11 Rustic Acres Dr

8. Thomas Ryzelli

9. Pat Nagarion 43 Rocco Dr

10.

11.

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13.

14.

15.