

WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Council Chambers, Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 p.m.

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MINUTES

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

Chairman Valletta called the meeting 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, Donald Charette Sr., Rachel Wisler, Jeffrey Slavin, George Phelan, Joseph Membrino, and Francis Masi

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Thomas G. Dunn; Sue Hale, Municipal Finance Officer; Attorney William Tynan; et al.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

▪ **Regular Meeting – September 20, 2016**

Upon **MOTION** by Roger Picard, seconded by Donald Charette, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 6, 2016.

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

No taxpayers came forward.

CORRESPONDENCE (on file):

1. **Notice to Town Clerk dated September 7th Regarding Referendum Vote scheduled for Tuesday, November 8th**
2. **Letter dated September 7th to the Board of Education Regarding new Town Council Liaison**
3. **Letter dated September 13th from Attorney William Tynan Regarding the Purchase of 180 Nichols Road**
4. **Proposed Explanatory Text of Referendum Question**
5. **Proposed Contract of Sale for Property Located at 180 Nichols Road**

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6. Treasurer's Report dated September 21st

7. Board of Education Year to Date Budget Report dated 08-31-16

8. Town of Wolcott Expenditure Report, Revenue Report, & Trial Balance, for month ending 08-31-16

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Dunn came forward and reported the following:

- They have another rating call tomorrow because they are going out to permanent bond; he will keep the Council up to date
- Road reconstruction is coming to an end; Dave Kalinowski will be reporting to the Committee soon and will also appear at a future Council meeting to give a final report
- They have applied for the Municipal Excellence Award through CCM; it is a new award and the criteria fit for the walking trail
- They will be giving rides again with the golf carts through the walking trail; there were many volunteers who drove the carts last time
- The Wolcott Dog Park made it into the CT Landscape Architect Booklet; he has a copy of it if anyone would like to see it
- Eversource has been doing a lot of clearing and they will be expanding the areas through their right of ways; he has a map of the areas they will be cutting
- Gilda DiManto Burns will be the Italian Mayor for the Day on Monday, October 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers; following that will be the Breast Cancer Awareness ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- Tomorrow evening is Police Appreciation Night at 5:45 p.m. at the Woodtick Recreation Area

Mr. Charette requested if the maps for the Eversource clearing areas can be placed on the website, at which time Mayor Dunn said that they can try to do that.

Mr. Masi commented that Billy Dauphinais did an excellent job cutting back the brush on Spindle Hill Road.

Mr. Picard referenced the body cams that the Police Dept. uses and advised that there was an article in the paper about the trouble some departments were having with respect to storage of the information. He asked if this was an issue in

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Wolcott. Mayor Dunn stated that he has spoken with the Chief who has no concerns with respect to storage.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT/TRANSFERS:

Sue Hale came forward and reported the following:

- There have been no audit adjustments for FY 2015-2016, therefore, they should have approximately \$550,000 as an addition to the unassigned fund balance
- Surpluses resulted from over collection of revenue: current taxes \$77,000, back taxes \$13,000, interest & liens fees \$68,000; Town Clerk fees \$28,000, building permits \$38,000, and recycle permits \$14,000
- Total revenue over collected totaled \$284,000
- Also, some expenditure items were under expended such as heating fuel, gas & diesel \$34,000
- There are about 30 departments in General Government and almost all contributed something to the surplus
- Total expenditures under expended totaled \$266,000, including \$25,000 from the Board of Education
- The unassigned fund balance total will be approximately \$4,306,000, which equates to 8.1% of their annual budget; their goal, per the fund balance policy is 7%-10%; they are heading in the right direction
- They are prepared for the bond rating meeting tomorrow; Standard & Poor's will be looking at the last audit report completed (FY 2014-2015), results from FY 2015-2016, and the current budget year of FY 2016-2017
- The continued additions to the fund balance will be viewed positively by Standard & Poor's

SUB-COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE BOARD OF ED SETTLEMENT: Mrs. Wisler reported that the cost of investigating the settlement was \$5,192.50.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Discussion & Possible Action Regarding Contract of Sale for Property Located at 180 Nichols Road**

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Attorney William Tynan came forward and advised that the Council approved resolutions for the purchase of the property and sent it to referendum, however, there is a provision in the contract stating that the Town's ability to purchase is conditional upon the Council approving the actual contract. He is requesting that the Town Council formally approve the contract. Also, the next item on the agenda authorizes the preparation and printing of explanatory text for the referendum question. He worked the language out with the Town Clerk and submitted it in the Council packets (**see attached**).

Upon **MOTION** by Gale Mastrofrancesco, seconded by Rachel Wisler, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the Contract of Sale for Property Located at 180 Nichols Road (**see attached**).

2. Authorize Preparation & Printing of Explanatory Text for Referendum Question Regarding the Purchase of Property at 180 Nichols Road

Upon **MOTION** by Gale Mastrofrancesco, seconded by Joseph Membrino, it was unanimously voted to **authorize** the Preparation & Printing of Explanatory Text for Referendum Question Regarding the Purchase of Property at 180 Nichols Road (**see attached**).

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Chairman Valletta advised that if anyone has any items that they should contact himself or the Clerk.

TAXPAYERS' TIME (summary of comments below):

Jeffrey Slavin, of 505 Todd Road came forward and referenced the Police Appreciation night scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st from 5:45-8:00 p.m. Car Rally begins at 5:45 p.m. with a checkered flag wave off. Leading the Rally will be our Wolcott Fire Dept. The route will leave the Woodtick parking lot, -Nichols Rd. – Woodtick Rd. – Center St.- past the Wolcott Town Green-Boundline Rd.- Brooks Hill Rd., onto Munson Rd.-Wolfs Hill Rd., back onto Nichols Rd. to the Woodtick Recreation Area. At 6:45 p.m. there will be a recognition ceremony honoring the Police Department. From 7:00-8:00 p.m. there will be recreation for everybody. Bouncy houses, Finger painting, Photo Booth, and Photos on Emergency Vehicles. Everybody in the community is invited and he would like to encourage everyone to attend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was held.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by George Phelan, seconded by Gale Mastrofrancesco, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

Elizabeth Gaudiosi, Secretary
WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

David Valletta, Chairman
WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL