

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 1 of 10

MINUTES

 **DRAFT**

**RECEIVED**  
1-22-26  
3:34 PM  
Karen Mowad  
TOWN CLERK  
WOLCOTT, CONN.

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

Chairman Sean Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance was taken; a quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Sean Hughes, Vice-Chairman Joseph Skerritt, Anthony Guerrera, Charles Nappi, Cory Lagasse, Michael Macary, Maggie Gugliotti & Terri Sheehan was present by Zoom.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rachel Wisler

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Thomas Dunn, Municipal Finance Officer Susan Hale, Town Attorney Michael Tansley, Leslie Zoll & Harold Smith from CliftonLarsonAllen & Danielle Braun from Shipman & Goodwin LLP Partner was present by Zoom.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting – January 6, 2026**

Upon **MOTION** by Maggie Gugliotti, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 6, 2026, with one abstention from Anthony Guerrera.

## TAXPAYER'S TIME: (Limited to Items on the Agenda)

No taxpayers came forward.

## CORRESPONDENCE (attached and/or on file):

1. Submitted by CLA, LLP, Governance Communication Letter, Town of Wolcott Final Report & Financial Statements, Federal Single Audit Report & State Single

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 2 of 10

## MINUTES

- 
- Audit Report for Year Ended June 30, 2025 **(Separately Attached) {Hard Copies will be Provided at Meeting}**
2. CLA, LLP Audit Presentation for Year Ended June 30, 2025 **(Separately Attached) {Hard Copies will be Provided at Meeting}**
  3. Town of Wolcott Mayor's Proposed Bonding Projects 2026 Revised: 1-9-26 **(Rounding Changes Only)**
  4. Proposed Resolution (#494) Resolution to Appropriate & Bond \$10M for Various Town Improvements **(separately attached)**
  5. Proposed Resolution (#495) Resolution to Submit to Referendum the Resolution to Appropriate & Bond \$10M for Various Town Improvements **(separately attached)**
  6. Proposed Resolution (#496) Resolution to Authorize the Town to Prepare & Print an Explanatory Text of the Referendum Question **(separately attached)**
  7. List of Mayor's Appointments to Boards & Commission **(separately attached)**
  8. Letter dated January 15<sup>th</sup> from Mayor Dunn regarding his recommendations to the Town Council for Approval to the Boards & Commissions
  9. Letter dated December 9<sup>th</sup> from the Republican Town Committee designating the Town Moderator and the Deputy Town Moderator
  10. Wolcott Public Schools Year-to-Date Budget Report dated 12-31-25 **(separately attached)**
  11. Town of Wolcott Financial Statements for month ending December 31, 2025 **(sent under separate cover by Steven Slater)**
  12. Letter forwarded by Impressions Studio that addressed their position as Town's vendor for student pictures

# **WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 3 of 10

## **MINUTES**

---

13. Letter dated 1-20-26 from resident Michael Bruce addressing the Agenda Item under  
Unfinished Business

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

Mayor Dunn did not have a report.

### **FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT/TRANSFERS:**

Susan Hale came forward and reported on the following:

- They are continuing to work on the FY 2027 budget. Budget requests are under review by the Mayor, herself and the Chief Accountant.
- Budget meetings are scheduled with the department heads and the commission chairs in the coming weeks.
- They are working with their Pension Actuaries, Health & Welfare Benefit Consultant, Insurance Carriers & Agents to project those costs as well.
- This year in the general fund through September expenses and revenues are in line. Operating expenditures are 48% expended through the first half of the year. They are looking at the larger departments more closely, which are Ambulance, Public Safety Depts., Police & Public Works. It's too early to tell if they will need any transfers.
- The auditors are here tonight to present the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025, audit & financial reports.
- She thanked Leslie Zoll & Harold Smith from CliftonLarsonAllen for a seamless audit process and also her finance team on their continued commitment.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:**

Terri Sheehan reported that she sat in on the Special Meeting for the Board of Education, they reviewed the proposals for strategic budget project for 26-27 school year. The Town Council members received a Board of Education Summary Points sheet tonight in regard to

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 4 of 10

## MINUTES

---

the approval of the proposed professional agreement with the Wolcott Board of Education and the Wolcott Education Association.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **The approval of the proposed professional agreement between the Wolcott Board of Education and the Wolcott Education Association.**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Maggie Gugliotti, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the proposed professional agreement between the Wolcott Board of Education and the Wolcott Education Association with one abstention from Anthony Guerrero.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. **CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA), LLP – Presentation of Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025, Financial Statements & Audit Report**

At this time Leslie Zoll and Harold Smith came forward and gave a presentation on our Audit Scope, Executive Summary on audit results and the Federal and State single audit and Governance Communication Report and reviewed the new standards that are coming in 2026. **(see full presentation attached-financial reports on file)**

2. **Approve Resolution to Appropriate & Bond \$10M for Various Town Improvements**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary it was unanimously voted to **approve** the resolution to appropriate \$10,000,000 for various town improvements, improvements to the Wolcott Public Schools, and the reconstruction, repair and paving of various town roads and roadside elements and to authorize the issue of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to finance said appropriation. SECTION I. That the Town of Wolcott appropriate \$10,000,000 for costs related to the renovation of Town Hall, including the installation of a new elevator ("Town Hall Improvements"), the reconstruction, repair and paving of various Town roads, roadside elements, associated drainage facilities, parking lots, and pedestrian and roadway bridges (collectively, the "Town Roads"), purchase and installation of a new generator at the Senior

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 5 of 10

## MINUTES

---

Center ("Senior Center Generator"), upgrades to the fire alarm panels at Frisbie Elementary School and Tyrrell Middle School ("School Fire Alarm Upgrades"), upgrades to the elevator at Alcott Elementary School ("Alcott School Elevator Upgrades"), a new roof for Tyrrell Middle School ("Tyrrell School Roof Replacement"), replacement of HVAC units at Tyrrell Middle School ("Tyrrell School HVAC"), the replacement of water pumps at Wolcott High School and Alcott Elementary School ("School Water Pumps", and collectively with the Town Hall Improvements, Town Roads, Senior Center Generator, School Fire Alarm Upgrades, Alcott School Elevator Upgrades, and Tyrrell School Roof Replacement and Tyrrell School HVAC, the "Projects"). The appropriation may be expended for site improvements, design, renovation, construction, reconstruction, repair, excavation, inspection, evaluation and surveying costs, equipment, furnishings and materials, professional fees, and for administrative, financing and bond issuance costs, interest expense for temporary borrowings and other costs related to the Projects, as follows:

Town Hall Improvements	\$ 380,000
Town Roads	3,579,000
Senior Center Generator	120,000
School Fire Alarm Upgrades	313,000
Alcott School Elevator Upgrades	62,000
Tyrrell School Roof Replacement	4,518,000
Tyrrell School HVAC	850,000
School Water Pumps	78,000
Administrative, Financing and Bond Issuance Costs	<u>100,000</u>

**TOTAL** **\$10,000,000**

The appropriation shall include any federal, state or other grants-in-aid or other funds received for the Projects. The amount authorized to be expended for each purpose shall not exceed the amount set forth opposite each purpose, provided that the Town Council may, by resolution, transfer unexpended funds among purposes, so long as

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 6 of 10

## MINUTES

---

the total appropriation and bond authorization is not increased. SECTION 2. That the Town of Wolcott finance the appropriation by issuing the Town's bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 which bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The bonds or notes may be sold as a single issue or consolidated with any other authorized issues of bonds or notes of the Town. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the bonds or notes. The bonds or notes shall be signed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the Mayor and Treasurer and shall bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof. The bonds or notes shall each recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been fully complied with, that such bond or note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The terms, details and particulars of such bonds or notes shall be determined by the Mayor and Treasurer. The bonds or notes shall be sold by the Mayor and Treasurer at public sale or by negotiation in their discretion. If the bonds or notes are sold by negotiation, the purchase agreement shall be approved by the Town Council. The remainder of the resolution is set forth in the written resolution document submitted to the Town Council is part of the official record of this meeting and is hereby adopted into this motion.

### **3. Approve Resolution to Submit to Referendum the Resolution to Appropriate & Bond \$10M for Various Town Improvements**

Upon **MOTION** by Michael Macary, seconded by Joseph Skerritt it was unanimously voted to **approve** the resolution to submit to referendum the resolution to appropriate \$10,000,000 for various town improvements, improvements to the Wolcott Public Schools, and the reconstruction, repair and paving of various town roads and roadside elements and to authorize the issue of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to finance said appropriation. The following appropriation and bonding resolution approved by the Town Council concurrently herewith shall be submitted to a referendum vote on the voting machines or ballot by persons qualified to vote in town meetings on Saturday, March 28, 2026 between the hours of 10:00 a.m and 8:00 p.m (E.D.T.): Resolution to appropriate \$10,000,000 for various town improvements, improvements to the Wolcott Public Schools, and the reconstruction, repair and paving of various town roads and roadside elements and to authorize the issue of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 TO finance said appropriation

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 7 of 10

## MINUTES

---

The remainder of the resolution is set forth in the written resolution document submitted to the Town Council is part of the official record of this meeting and is hereby adopted into this motion.

#### 4. Approve Resolution to Authorize the Town to Prepare & Print an Explanatory Text of the Referendum Question

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the resolution to authorize the town to prepare and print an explanatory text of the referendum question. RESOLVED: The Town shall prepare and print a concise, explanatory text, and the Mayor is authorized to prepare additional explanatory materials, of the following appropriation and bonding resolution which, by vote of the Town Council, has been submitted to a Referendum vote on the voting machines of the Town, said explanatory text and explanatory materials to be prepared in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-369b, which text and materials shall not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the question: Shall the town of Wolcott appropriate \$10,000,000 for various town improvements, improvements to the Wolcott Public Schools, and the reconstruction, repair and paving of various town roads and roadside elements and to authorize the issue of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to finance said appropriation?

#### 5. Approval of Appointments to the Inland Wetlands Commission (as recommended by the Mayor)

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Maggie Gugliotti, it was unanimously voted to **approve** William, Tynan, Bill Harpin, Rob Pierpont, Ken Wilson, Gary Derosa, Kristin Moore & Kyle Cleary to the Inland Wetlands Commission

# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 8 of 10

## MINUTES

---

### **Approval of Alternate Appointments to the Inland Wetlands Commission**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** Edion Gjuzi, Eric Sousa & Tom Komarzynski as alternates to the Inland Wetlands Commission

### **6. Approval of Alternate Appointments to the Planning & Zoning Commission (as recommended by the Mayor)**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** Olivia Buczak, Jeff Stango & George Callalku as alternates to the Planning & Zoning Commission

### **7. Appointments to the Library Board of Directors (Town Council Appointments)**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary it was unanimously voted to **approve** William O'Brien, Pat Najarian, Janet Tynan, Lori Conant, Lauresha Xhiani, Crystal Caouette, Regina Lynch, Susan Ouellette & Dawn Bertrand to the Library Board of Trustees

### **8. Appointment of Alternates to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Town Council Appointments)**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** Sean Keegan & Joe Silva to the Zoning Board of Appeals as alternates.

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# WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 9 of 10

## MINUTES

---

### 9. **Appointments to the Building Code Board of Appeals** (Town Council Appointments)

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, was unanimously voted to **approve** Peter Sheehan & Joe Silva to the Building Code of Appeals

### 10. **Appoint Town Moderator by the Republican Town Committee**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** James Paolino as Town Moderator

### 11. **Appoint Deputy Town Moderator by the Republican Town Committee**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Maggie Gugliotti, was unanimously voted to **approve** Pat Najarian as Deputy Town Moderator

**At this time Mayor Dunn pointed out that they missed the approval of Appointments for two regular members for the Planning & Zoning.**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Michael Macary, it was unanimously voted to **approve** Angelo Mastrofrancesco & Debbie Kiely to the Planning & Zoning Commission terms expiring January 2028 as regular members.

### ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

# **WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Town Council Chambers

Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Page 10 of 10

## **MINUTES**

---

Chairman Hughes advised that if anyone has any items, please contact himself or the Secretary.

### **TAXPAYER'S TIME:**

At this time resident Brett Mucino who is Chairman of the Veterans Advocacy Commission came forward to discuss Public Act 24-46 which is a property tax exemption. Mr. James Natale also came forward to support this Act. Mrs. Sarai Strickland came forward to have a follow-up discussion regarding the school photography contract.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No Executive Session was held.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon **MOTION** by Joseph Skerritt, seconded by Charles Nappi, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

### **APPROVED:**

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Cindy Amaral, Secretary

**WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**

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Sean Hughes, Chairman

**WOLCOTT TOWN COUNCIL**