

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Council Chambers

TUESDAY  
APRIL 9, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 was called to order at 6:31 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were: Chairman Vincent Cervoni, Craig Fishbein, Thomas Laffin, John LeTourneau, Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein and Christopher K. Shortell. Councilor Vincent F. Testa was absent. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. and Comptroller James Bowes were also present at the meeting.

- 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$4,420.23 (#659-#687)  
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
- 3b. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$5,000 from Repoint Company I, Acct. #10020150-57000-00729 to TBD – Fire Dept.
- 3c. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$3,000 to Revenue Recovery-Legal, Acct. #1009052-46300 and to Professional Services-Lawyers – Acct. #10010300-56710 – Law Dept.
- 3d. Acceptance of funds for Dispatcher 911 Training and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$365 to Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Continuing Education & Training, Acct. #10020050-55700- Police Dept.
- 3e. Acceptance of funds for Dispatcher 911 Training and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,334 – Police Dept.
 

\$1,334	To: Revenue	Acct. #1009052-47040
\$969	To: Police Overtime	Acct. #10020050-51400
\$365	To: Continuing Education & Training	Acct. #10020050-55700
- 3f. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$200,000 to Outside Contractors, Acct. #10020050-51600 and to Charges for Current Services, Acct. #1002001-46020 – Police Dept.
- 3g. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$1,000 from Utilities, Acct. #10030000-53010 to Emp. Medical Exams, Acct. #10030000 –56734 - Public Works

3h. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$14,000: - Electric Div.

\$3,000 From: General Plant-Laboratory Equipment Acct. #395

\$6,000 From: General Plant-Power Operated Equipment Acct. #396

\$5,000 From: General Plant-Miscellaneous Equipment Acct. #398

\$14,000 To: Distribution Plant-Leased Property-Private Lights, Acct. #372

3i. Consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$222,000 from Retained Earnings, Acct. #NA to Distribution Maintenance-Overhead Lines, Acct. #593 – Electric Div.

3j. Acceptance of funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$150 to Revenue, Acct. #2264002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #22640150-58830 – Y&SS

3k. Acceptance of Donations and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$183 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

3l. Acceptance of Donations and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$175 to Revenue, Acct. #2134002-47152 and to Expenditures, Acct. #21340100-58830 – Y&SS

3m. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$40,500 – Human Resources

\$15,000 From: Contingency Acct. #10019000-58820

\$10,500 From: Unemployment Insurance Acct. #10012100-52970

\$15,000 From: Property/Casualty-BOE Acct. #10012150-55945

\$40,500 To: Retirement /Sick Leave Acct. #10012100-51750

3n. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 26, 2019.

**MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3n.**

**MADE BY: LAFFIN**  
**SECONDED BY: LETOURNEAU**  
**VOTE: ALL AYE**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: *None*

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Opened Public Question and Answer Period at 6:34 p.m.

Darrell Stancuna, Old Village Circle, asked if we are going to get some big rock bands to come and play on our green like other cities. He then stated he thinks we should keep the homeless shelter open all year round.

Closed Public Question and Answer Period at 6:40 p.m.

6. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Town Council Resolution Opposing Tolls in Connecticut – Councilor Fishbein

**MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE TO APPROVE TOWN COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION OPPOSING TOLLS IN CONNECTICUT.**

**MADE BY: FISHBEIN  
SECONDED BY: MARRONE**

Councilor Fishbein stated as he reads the news he sees that other towns have passed or tabled a Resolution opposing tolls in Connecticut. He then reads the Resolution.

Chairman Cervoni stated to Councilor Fishbein that he knows he represents us in Hartford and he agrees with him on this topic. Chairman Cervoni then said I know we can count on you to support this Resolution.

Councilor Zandri stated he is not a big fan of tolls but asked how do we pay for this highway system. He then asked if the lock box passed.

Councilor Fishbein feels the language was very loose and he did not support it. He explained the language was left that anything called a “transportation” project can be swept out of it and so we have learned that anything can be used to take it out.

Councilor Zandri spoke about how we are taxed at \$.044 on fuel in this state and asked how we get money to help improve our roads from all the out of state plates that drive through our state and don’t spend a dime in Connecticut.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Robert Burkhardt, 68 Simpson Avenue, asked why they already have towers up. Chairman Cervoni responded that they support cameras. Mr. Burkhardt then stated that tolls will cost \$431,000 and asked who will support them. He feels the working middle class are the ones getting hurt.

Mark Davis, Audette Drive, stated everything he heard tonight was valid. He went on to state he cannot trust Hartford to do the right thing and that they have not earned our trust.

Bob Beaumont, Maple Avenue, commended Councilor Fishbein for drawing up a Resolution. He agrees with Councilor Zandri that it will hurt in-state citizens. He commented as to why our costs are the highest in the country. He believes implementing tolls is not going to change that and all this will do is increase the cost of delivery of all goods in Connecticut.

Rocco Mattarazzo, North Main Main Street, explained how he runs a small truck business and he will have to forward this cost on to his clients. He hopes this Resolution will be supported and he feels this will be a burden to all the residents of Connecticut.

Bob Acedo, 8 Cooper Avenue, thanked the Council for the opportunity to talk about this. He stated that Connecticut is the most expensive state to retire in and it's the worst place to start a business. He went on to say it's always the state's idea to increase taxes but not lower expenses.

Mr. Stancuna stated he's glad this is here tonight. He talked about how motor vehicle is adding new drivers constantly which means more drivers every day on the roads. He hopes this doesn't pass and stated if it passes, the back roads will be clogged up with trucks and cars trying to avoid tolls.

Bob Gross, Long Hill Road, stated unless you're coming up with a way to fund these roads he doesn't know what we will do.

Willard Francis, 519 Pilgrim Harbor, thanked Councilor Fishbein for bringing this up. He suggests an audit should be done to see where our money is going. He thinks bonding is a responsible way to fix the roads and not tolls.

Larry Morgenstein, South Main Street, feels everyone in the room believes there is a problem with the roads and there's no magic solution. He stated trucks going through the state ruin the roads so we need to fix the roads and we need revenue to do it.

Councilor Morgenstein is putting her support behind Councilor Fishbein to do his governing for us in Hartford so tonight she will not support this.

Councilor Marrone somewhat agrees with Councilor Morgenstein. He thinks it would be symbolic to support this tonight.

Councilor Zandri asked with the out of state motorists will it be enforceable as an unpaid ticket would be. Councilor Fishbein agrees that it might be but there is no process for Connecticut to arrest an out of state person.

**CALL THE QUESTION**  
**MADE BY: SHORTELL**  
**SECONDED BY: LAFFIN**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**  
**FISHBEIN: YES**  
**LAFFIN: YES**  
**LETOURNEAU: YES**  
**MARRONE: YES**

**MORGENSTEIN: NO**  
**SHORTELL: YES**  
**TESTA: ABSENT**  
**ZANDRI: NO**  
**CERVONI: YES**

**6-AYE**  
**2-NAY**  
**1-ABSENT**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**  
**FISHBEIN: YES**  
**LAFFIN: YES**  
**LETOURNEAU: YES**  
**MARRONE: YES**  
**5-AYE**  
**2- NAY**  
**1-ABSENT**  
**1-ABSTAIN**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

**MORGENSTEIN: ABSTAIN**  
**SHORTELL: NO**  
**TESTA: ABSENT**  
**ZANDRI: NO**  
**CERVONI: YES**

7. Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(D) of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to the purchase, sale and/or leasing of property – Mayor - *Withdrawn*

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**  
**MADE BY: LETOURNEAU**  
**SECONDED FISHBEIN**  
**MOTION: PASSED**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:50 P.M.


Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss  
Council Staff  
Meeting digitally recorded

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 4-11-19  
AT 2:00 AND RECEIVED BY  
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

23 APR 2019  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

4-24-19  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date