

**TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Town Council Chambers
TUESDAY
MARCH 24, 2020
6:30 P.M.
RECORD OF VOTES & MINUTES**

The Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Councilors in attendance were Craig C. Fishbein (TC), Thomas Laffin (TC), Joseph A. Marrone, III, Gina Morgenstein (TC 6:45 p.m.) Christopher K. Shortell, Christina Tatta (TC), Vincent F. Testa (TC), Jason Zandri and Chairman Vincent Cervoni. Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., and Corporation Counsel Janis Small were also present. (TC - BY TELECONFERENCE)

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO INTEND TO ATTEND SHOULD
BE MINDFUL TO MAINTAIN AN APPROPRIATE DISTANCE FROM
OTHERS (SIX FEET), IN LIGHT OF CURRENT HEALTH CONCERNS**

Moment of Silence

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

Chairman Cervoni thanks Chief Wright for setting up the teleconference.

3. Consent Agenda
 - 3a. Consider and approve Tax Refunds totaling \$4,934.08 (#807-814)
Acct. #1001001- 41020 - Tax Collector
 - 3b. Acceptance of U.S. Secret Service reimbursement funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$993 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
 - 3c. Acceptance of U.S. Secret Service reimbursement funds and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1022 to Misc. Revenue, Acct. #1009052-47040 and to Police Overtime, Acct. #10020050-51400 – Police Dept.
 - 3d. Acceptance of Donation and consider and approve Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$25 to Revenue Donations – Police, Acct. #2502002-47152 and to Expense Donations – Police, Acct. #25020050-58830-10135 – Police Dept.
 - 3e. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$4,200 from Contingency – General, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Probate - Copier, Acct. #10010850 – TBD – Probate Court

- 3f. Consider and approve Reappointment of Joel M. Rinebold to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term effective immediately and expiring March 1, 2023 - Mayor
- 3g. Consider and approve appointment of Karen Harris as an Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy which expires January 8, 2022 – Chairman Cervoni
- 3h. Consider and approve delegating authority to the Law Department to settle collection cases on claims valued up to \$2,500 for the term of the Town Council ending January 3, 2022 – Law Dept.
- 3i. Consider and approve a Resolution to apply for a Department of Housing Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant and Authorize the Mayor to enter into an Assistance Agreement with the State Department of Housing, to execute such other documents as may be required and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, to carry out approved activities and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Wallingford – Mayor
- 3j. Consider and approve Bid Waiver for 3M Company in the amount of \$25,010 to purchase N95 facial masks – Fire Dept.
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$25,010 from Contingency, General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire-Operating Expense, Acct. #10020150-58735 – Fire Dept.
- 3l. Approve Town Council Minutes of March 10, 2020.

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 3a.-3i. and 3l.

MADE BY: MARRONE
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

4. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:

- 3j. Consider and approve Bid Waiver for 3M Company in the amount of \$25,010 to purchase N95 facial masks – Fire Dept.
- 3k. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$25,010 from Contingency, General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire-Operating Expense, Acct. #10020150-58735 – Fire Dept.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD - WITHDRAWN

- 7. Discussion and action on a Bid Waiver request for Sageview Advisory Group, LLC in the amount of \$18,900 to provide investment and compliance services for the Town employees' 457 deferred compensation plan to run through September 30, 2020 – Human Resources

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Bid Waiver request for Sageview Advisory Group, LLC in the amount of \$18,900 to provide investment and compliance services for the Town employees' 457 deferred compensation plan to run through September 30, 2020

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	SHORTELL: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	TATTA: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
MARRONE: YES	ZANDRI: YES
MORGENSTEIN: ABSENT	CERVONI: YES
8-AYE	
1 -ABSENT	
MOTION: PASSED	

- 11. Consider and approve Revised Bid Waiver for 3MCompany in the amount of \$37,681 to purchase masks and other medical supplies – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Richard Heidgerd, Fire Chief (TC)
Joseph Czentnar, Deputy Fire Chief
Stephen Civitelli, Director, Health Dept.*

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE Revised Bid Waiver for Safeware Company in the amount of \$37,681 to purchase masks and other medical supplies.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: FISHBEIN**

Chief Heidgerd stated we are expecting recertification this fall and noted that supplies have been used up. He explained how they have reached out to local health facilities who have supplied them with masks for this month. He went on to say they will get reimbursed 75%. He feels we will need 10,000 face shields and masks and the rest will be stock.

CALL VOTE:	SHORTELL: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	TATTA: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
MARRONE: YES	ZANDRI: YES
MORGENSTEIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
9-AYE	
MOTION: PASSED	

12. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$25,010 from Contingency-General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire-Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020150-58735 – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Richard Heidgerd, Fire Chief (TC)
Joseph Czentnar, Deputy Fire Chief
Stephen Civitelli, Director, Health Dept.*

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Transfer in the amount of \$25,010 from Contingency-General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire-Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020150-58735.

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	SHORTELL: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	TATTA: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
MARRONE: YES	ZANDRI: YES
MORGENSTEIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
9-AYE	
MOTION: PASSED	

13. Consider and approve a Transfer in the amount of \$12,671 from Contingency-General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire- Operating Expenses, Acct. #10020150-58735 – Fire Dept.

*In Attendance: Richard Heidgerd, Fire Chief (TC)
Joseph Czentnar, Deputy Fire Chief
Stephen Civitelli, Director, Health Dept.*

MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE a Transfer in the amount of \$12,671 from Contingency-General Purposes, Acct. #10019000-58820 to Fire

**MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	SHORTELL: YES
FISHBEIN: YES	TATTA: YES
LAFFIN: YES	TESTA: YES
MARRONE: YES	ZANDRI: YES
MORGENSTEIN: YES	CERVONI: YES
9-AYE	
MOTION: PASSED	

6. Report from Stephen Civitelli, Director of Health, regarding COVID 19 - Councilor Morgenstein and Councilor Shortell

In Attendance: Stephen Civitelli, Health Director

Mr. Civitelli thanked all departments for their cooperation. He stated there are zero confirmed cases in Wallingford, 31 cases they have monitored and 28 have come back negative. They are waiting on one more. He explained they have been quarantining individuals on a case by case basis and have stockpiled some materials. He noted they have had a lot of calls from businesses regarding how long to be closed and lots of talk about flattening the curve. He stated this is a long term event.

Councilor Laffin thanked Mr. Civitelli for the time he has spent with keeping the Council informed.

Councilor Marrone asked about closing the town hall. Mr. Civitelli explained how we are isolating and quarantining any employee who may have been exposed. Also, he stated, through Public Works, we have upped the cleaning. He went on to say glass walls were put up in high traffic offices to protect everyone (Town Clerk, Tax, etc.) and we are now locking office doors and making appointments to do business or limiting the number of people let in. He stated that the Health Department has spoken with town hall staff. He said the Governor expects 70% of the population to get this and indicated these are not his numbers.

Councilor Morgenstein thanked Mr. Civitelli and stated this was her item. She indicated she has been fielding questions from the public and from employees. She asked Mr. Civitelli what is essential and if we are thinking of staggering shifts.

Mr. Civitelli explained they are looking at staggering especially at Water/Sewer. He indicated he has spoken with Neil Amwake and he is taking every precaution.

Councilor Morgenstein inquired about town hall people. She stated that she is concerned about our Mayor's concern about our employees.

Councilor Shortell asked about the locking of department doors and then asked what are you looking at next, closing Town Hall?

Mayor Dickinson stated we really cannot close departments, we have to be conscious of that. He said this is a public building and we are trying to limit people in.

Councilor Shortell read a list of towns that have closed or have limited hours and stated they are working though it and we should as well.

Councilor Shortell asked about the strategy of our budget schedule. Chairman Cervoni stated we have not yet noticed any of that and indicated that he intends to postpone the budget meetings. He stated he is evaluating the workshops. He went on to say the Governor gave us latitude on the budget process without the public and said he really doesn't want to do that.

Councilor Tatta thanked Mr. Civitelli for his work and said her questions have been answered.

Councilor Testa stated he could not hear anything on this call and he is very frustrated with the town hall being open. He asked if there is any procedure in place if someone at town hall shows symptoms.

Mr. Civitelli explained he has been given the authority by the Mayor and Mr. Hutt to quarantine the worker if his or her spouse or someone has come into contact with someone with COVID19. He stated if the employee has exposure to others, we would lock down the building and clean it.

Councilor Testa asked Mr. Civitelli if he has advised the Mayor to shut down or limit the activities of the Town Hall. Mr. Civitelli said they went around the building and put up walls, locked doors and have departments doing business by phone, email, or mail.

Councilor Zandri likes that the offices are locked and making appointments especially the Town Clerk.

Mayor Dickinson stated that cleaning of surfaces is happening on a constant basis.

Councilor Zandri thinks it will be helpful if we have information on our website about how long the virus lasts on surfaces.

8. 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

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:58 P.M.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE INTO 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.

MOTION WAS MADE TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:22 P.M.

MADE BY: LAFFIN
SECONDED BY: SHORTELL
VOTE: ALL AYE
MOTION: PASSED

Time of Executive Session 7:58 p.m. to 8:22 p.m.

Attendance at Executive Session:

FISHBEIN	MAYOR WILLIAM W. DICKINSON, JR.
LAFFIN	CORPORATION COUNSEL JANIS SMALL
MARRONE	POLICE CHIEF WILLIAM WRIGHT
MORGENSTEIN	
SHORTELL	
TATTA	
TESTA	
ZANDRI	
CERVONI	

- 9. Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-225(f) and Section 1-200(6)(B) of the CGS regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to the pending tax appeal matter of *CREFIII Waramaug Wallingford, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* – Law Dept. – **WITHDRAWN**
- 10. Discussion and possible action in the pending tax appeal matter of *CREFIII Waramaug Wallingford, LLC v. Town of Wallingford* as discussed in Executive Session – Law Dept. - **WITHDRAWN**

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Moss
Council Staff
Meeting digitally recorded

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 3-27-2020
 AT 4:00 AND RECEIVED BY
Barbara Thompson TOWN CLERK

Vincent Cervoni, Chairman

Date

Barbara Thompson, Town Clerk

Date