



Council Agenda

**Council Chambers
Windsor Town Hall
June 6, 2016**



7:20 PM Public Hearing

To solicit public comment on applications for participation in the Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program

7:30 PM Regular Council Meeting

1. ROLL CALL
2. PRAYER – Deputy Mayor Terranova
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Deputy Mayor Terranova
4. PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS
 - a) Proclamation honoring May 2016 as Building Safety Month
5. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS
(Three minute limit per speaker)
6. REPORT OF APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
 - a) Board of Education
 - b) Historic District Commission
7. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT
8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS
9. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
10. ORDINANCES
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) *Approve applications submitted for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program (Town Manager)
13. *RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS
14. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS



a) *Minutes of the May 16, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting

15. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

(Three minute limit per speaker)

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. ADJOURNMENT

★Back-up included

Proclamation

Honoring May, 2016 as Building Safety Month

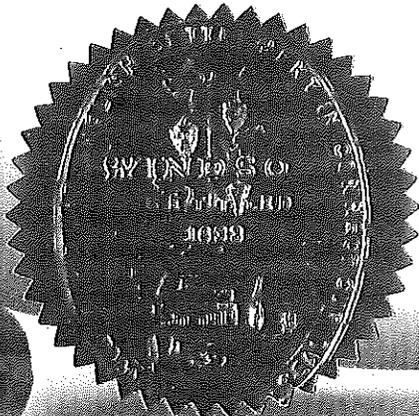
Whereas, our Town of Windsor Building Safety Department continues efforts to address the critical issues of safety of the structures that surround us both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and give us confidence that our structures are safe and sound, and;

Whereas, keeping Windsor families and homes safe is the number one priority in the Building and Fire Safety Division, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council, to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown guardians of public safety, our local code officials, who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings, and;

Whereas, the theme for Building Safety Month, "Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience, and Safety" encourages all citizens to enhance economic opportunity and celebrate the importance of building and fire safety regulations; mitigating disaster; integrating new and innovative technologies into the construction industry; and driving economic growth through safe, adaptive new building design.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Mayor of Windsor that May, 2016 be honored as Building Safety month and all residents are asked to consider home and community improvement projects that promote safety and sustainability and acknowledge the essential services provided by Windsor's Building Safety Services department.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Donald S. Trinks".

Donald S. Trinks
Mayor of Windsor
June 6, 2016

Agenda Item Summary

Date: June 6, 2016
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council
Prepared By: Jim Hallisey, Community Development Coordinator
Reviewed By: Peter Souza, Town Manager 
Subject: 2016 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

Background

The Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit program, established by the Connecticut General Assembly, offers non-profit and municipal organizations an opportunity to enhance their fundraising capabilities by offering tax credits to eligible corporations. Corporate donors receive a tax credit against their state corporate tax liability in the amount of 60% of their contributions, or in the event the proposed activity is an eligible energy conservation project, equal to 100% of their contribution. All applications are subject to approval by the local governing body, subsequent to a requisite public hearing allowing for public comment. Applications are ultimately reviewed by the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services as well.

Discussion/Analysis

The Office of Community Development issued press releases and mailed notices to non-profit organizations in an effort to ensure that eligible organizations are aware of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit program. In addition, the public hearing was duly noticed.

The program has several statutory limitations, including the following:

- Businesses are limited to a tax credit of \$150,000 annually
- Non-profits may receive up to \$150,000 in contributions annually
- The minimum contribution on which a tax credit can be granted is \$250
- The program has a \$5,000,000 cap, which if exceeded, results in proration of approved donations

The applications received this year include the following:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Windsor Police Cadets	\$ 9,500	Program Sponsorship
Saint Gabriel School	\$150,000	2016 Energy Conservation Program
Connecticut Radio Information Systems	\$ 13,000	Audio Accessibility

Financial Impact

The dollar amounts listed above for each applicant are essentially fundraising goals for the participating organizations. It is up to the applicants to secure donations from corporate sponsors using the NAA Tax Credit program as a financial inducement. The cost for the town to participate is minimal, essentially limited to targeted mailing, the publication of a legal notice for the public hearing and minimal staff time.

Other Board Action

None

Recommendation

If the Town Council is agreement the following motion is recommended for approval:

“MOVE that the attached resolution regarding the applications for participation in the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program administered by the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services be approved.”

WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT (NAA) TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut, acting through its Department of Revenue Services, administers a program authorized by the state legislature entitled the Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program which provides corporations with tax liability in the State of Connecticut an opportunity to receive tax credits for donations made to participating municipal and tax exempt organizations; and

WHEREAS, in order to utilize the NAA Program eligible municipal and non-profit organizations must first secure the approval of the local governing body in a town served by the applicant; and

WHEREAS, the organizations listed below have submitted applications for assistance in the NAA Program and the Town Council feels that the proposed activities are in the best interests of Windsor's residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF WINDSOR'S TOWN COUNCIL that the following applications for participation in the 2016 Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program are hereby approved:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Connecticut Radio Information Systems (CRIS)	\$13,000.00	Audio Accessibility
Windsor Police Cadets, Inc.	\$ 9,500.00	Program Sponsorship
Saint Gabriel School	\$150,000.00	2016 Energy Conservation Program

Town Council

June 6, 2016

Resignations

None

Appointments / Reappointments (to be acted upon at tonight's meeting)

None

Names submitted for consideration of appointment

A. One *Republican Alternate* Member

Town Planning & Zoning Commission

Two Year Term to expire November 11, 2017 or until a successor is appointed

(Nathan Scharoff – moved from alternate position to regular membership – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Alexander Correia as a Republican Alternate member to the Town Planning & Zoning Commission for a two year term to expire November 11, 2017 or until a successor is appointed.”

B. One *Democratic* Member

Human Relations Commission

Three Year Unexpired Term to expire March 31, 2017 or until a successor is appointed

(Mark Reeves – resigned – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Pamela Lofton-McGeorge as a Democratic member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year unexpired term to expire May 31, 2017 or until a successor is appointed.”
(moving from Alternate to regular membership on commission)

C. One *Democratic Alternate* Member

Human Relations Commission

Three Year Unexpired Term to expire May 31, 2018 or until a successor is appointed

(Pamela Lofton-McGeorge – moved from alternate position to regular membership – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Max Kuziak as a Democratic Alternate member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year unexpired term to expire May 31, 2018 or until a successor is appointed.”

D. One *Democratic Alternate* Member (resident)

Historic District Commission

Two Year Term to expire October 14, 2017 or until a successor is appointed
(Heather Groenstein - resigned - VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Marcia Hinckley as a Democratic Alternate (residential) member to the Historic District Commission for a two year term to expire October 14, 2017 or until a successor is appointed.”

E. One *Democratic* Member

Youth Commission

Three Year Term to expire January 30, 2019 or until a successor is appointed
(Nathaniel Fenn – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Pamela Cook as an Unaffiliated member to the Youth Commission for a three year term to expire January 30, 2019 or until a successor is appointed.”

F. One *Democratic* Member

Human Relations Commission

Three Year Term to expire May 31, 2019 or until a successor is appointed
(Joyce Armstrong – reappointment)

“MOVE to REAPPOINT Joyce Armstrong as a Democratic member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term to expire May 31, 2019 or until a successor is appointed.”

G. One *Democratic Alternate* Member

Commission on Aging & Persons with Disabilities

Two Year Unexpired Term to expire November 30, 2016 or until a successor is appointed
(Amy Silliman-Avedisian – resigned – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Linda Rickard as a Democratic Alternate member to the Commission on Aging & Persons with Disabilities for a two year unexpired term to expire November 30, 2016 or until a successor is appointed.”

H. One *Democratic* Member

Commission on Aging & Persons with Disabilities

Three Year Unexpired Term to expire January 31, 2017 or until a successor is appointed
(Linda Rickard – resigned – VACANT)

“MOVE to APPOINT Amy Silliman-Avedisian as a Democratic member to the Commission on Aging & Persons with Disabilities for a three year unexpired term to expire January 31, 2017 or until a successor is appointed.”

**Town Council
Council Chambers
Windsor Town Hall
May 16, 2016
Regular Council Meeting**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

1) ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Donald Trinks, Councilor Randy McKenney, Councilor Alan Simon, Councilor Jill Jenkins, Deputy Mayor Jody Terranova, Councilor Donald Jepsen, Councilor James Govoni, Councilor Kenneth Wilkos, and Councilor Bernard Petkis.

2) PRAYER – Councilor Petkis prayed.

3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilor Petkis led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS – None

5) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mary Kay Rendock of 311 Prospect Hill Road spoke against cuts to the Windsor Public Schools. She cited the need of the Windsor Public Schools having to compete with CREC magnet schools.

Jay Royal Lewis of 130 Palisado Avenue spoke in support of the Town Council adequately funding the school system. He said that he and people in his demographic are troubled by a possible lack of funding for the local school system. He asked that the Town Council consider what would be cut and the ramifications of those cuts on the education of the school children.

Jenn Fields of 19 Parkwood Drive requested that the Town Council continue to work collaboratively with the Board of Education and to not cut funding to the school system. She spoke in praise of the schools. She elaborated on the negative side effects of failing to adequately support the school system.

Linda Alexander of 155 Fieldstone Drive spoke of the recent bond rating analysis for the state. She expressed disagreement with the annual budget recently passed by the state.

Darlene Klase of 318 Hitching Post Lane asked the Town Council to not reduce the Board of Education's budget. She asked the Council to honor the contributions of students and teachers.

John Dunn of 15 Strawberry Hill suggested that the "rainy day fund" be utilized to fund the proposed "community reinvestment" capital projects. He also suggested reducing funding for Other Post Employee Benefits to \$300,000 from \$450,000. Mr. Dunn presented several figures about changes in Board of Education annual pupil counts and annual spending. He provided results of a survey he conducted on his own about the budget.

Michele Vannelli of 1152 Poquonock Avenue spoke in favor of cuts to both the town and Board of Education budgets. She said the public safety complex should remain a top priority. She said that people will not come to Windsor if they do not feel safe here.

Stacey Samson of 604 Stone Road spoke against Board of Education budget reductions.

David Furie of 37 Lighthouse Hill Road praised town officials for informing the public about the proposed budget. He implored the Town Council to not reduce the school budget.

Liz Dupont-Diehl of 76 Palisado Avenue spoke against cutting the budget. She said that Windsor's mill rate is consistently low for the value that citizens get.

Nancy Field of 27 Pilgrim Drive spoke against cutting the Board of Education budget. She said she negotiated the recent teachers' union contract. She said that there is no justification in rejecting the budget because of the teachers' salary increases.

Kimberly Tynan of 65 Nook Farms Road spoke against cutting the education budget.

Debby Samson of 604 Stone Road thanked the Town Council for being united on this year's budget. She said she attended four budget forums held by the Town Manager and Superintendent of Schools. She questioned the intent of those voting against the budget.

William Herzfeld of 1031 Windsor Avenue commended members of the Town Council for their budget work. He spoke in favor of the use of one-time funds to do much-needed capital projects. He said that zero percent or one percent annual budget increases are not sustainable and they will lead to deterioration of services. He praised the recent hires made by Superintendent Cooke. He recommended reducing proposed capital project expenditures.

Linda Correa-Oppelt of 449 Broad Street spoke against any budget cuts to education.

Coralee Jones of 1171 Matianuck Avenue said there is a difference between cutting a budget and reducing an increase.

Richard Williams of 401 West Wolcott said people are in a global fight for education. He spoke of the need to educate children. He spoke against tampering with the education of children.

Wendy Schwartz of 10 Sand Hill Road read a letter from April Michaud of 44 Cobblestone Way. The letter spoke against cuts to the education system. Ms. Schwartz explained that her decision to buy a house was based on the Windsor teachers and various school program offerings. She spoke against any reductions in funding to the Board of Education budget.

Cari Turek of 248 Poquonock Avenue said cuts need to be made to both the town and schools because of reduced funding from the state.

Comalita Elliott of 52 Lincoln Way thanked the Town Council for its hard work. She said money that goes to education is not going to waste – it is going to good use. She praised the Windsor school system and its teachers. She listed the colleges that her son was recently accepted into.

6) REPORT OF APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

a) Public Building Commission (PBC)

Mr. Bob Gustafson, Chair of the Public Building Commission, gave a report of several projects the PBC is working on as follows:

- Animal Shelter relocation project – a new building design has been reviewed by the PBC and the Animal Control officer. Cost estimates are being finalized.
- Clover Street School roof replacement project – drawings have been reviewed and approved by the PBC. Authorization to bid the project is forthcoming from the state.
- Clover Street School HVAC project – the contractor is waterproofing the foundation wall where piping penetrations were installed and commissioning the HVAC control system.
- Landfill office and garage renovation project – materials are expected to arrive tomorrow. Installation should begin immediately. The project should be done in eight weeks.
- Town Hall HVAC and lighting project – a letter was received from Eversource stating that the company will provide the town with a \$64,287 rebate in consideration of lighting and boiler upgrades. The contractor is ordering materials and scheduling work with town staff.
- L.P. Wilson restroom and emergency operation shelter project – bids are due on June 8th. The work is estimated to be done by late summer.
- Windsor High School Door and Fire Alarm Replacement project – bids for the fire door portion of the project are scheduled for review by the PBC.
- Town Hall Interior renovation Phase 1 – completed with a \$3,000 balance in the account.

Councilor Petkis thanked members of the PBC and the Police Chief for including the Animal Control Officer in the study of a proposed Animal Control facility.

b) Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Chair James Martin discussed of the function and makeup of the Commission. He said that:

- The EDC recently reviewed information about the local economy, discussed the recently adopted Tax Increment Financing law, and conducted its annual review of the priority redevelopment properties list. He said the list has been updated.
- The Leipold Inc. fixed assessment request enabled the company to successfully expand its operations in Windsor.
- A May 4th business breakfast was co-hosted by the EDC and the Windsor Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Martin acknowledged Economic Development Director, Jim Burke, for the work he has done on behalf of the EDC and the entire Windsor community.

7) TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town of Windsor Memorial Day Observances

The Town of Windsor Public Celebrations Committee is proud to announce that the 2016 Memorial Day Parade Marshal is U.S. Navy Veteran and Windsor resident Michael Bunk.

On May 30th a ceremony will be held at the Elm Grove Cemetery located in Poquonock beginning at 8:00 AM followed by a ceremony at Veteran's Cemetery at 9:00 AM. Following the ceremony at Veterans Cemetery, the Memorial Day Parade will proceed to Windsor Town Hall via Poquonock Avenue for the Parade Marshal's address. The parade usually arrives in the center of town between 9:45 AM and 10:00 AM. The 10:00 ceremony at town hall will include a special flag ceremony performed by members of Boy Scout Troop 149.

Any Windsor veterans, scout troops or other community organizations wishing to march in the parade should meet at the corner of East and Pleasant Street between 8:30 AM and 8:45 AM to assemble.

In case of rain, there will be one single ceremony in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 10:00 AM. Detailed information on Windsor's Memorial Day observances can be found on the town's website at www.townofwindsorct.com. Contact Enita Jubrey at 860-285-1835 with any other questions.

The Shad Always Returns

The 51st Annual Shad Derby Parade and festivities are scheduled for this Saturday, May 21st. Activities on the town green including games, food, drink and informational booths begin at 9:00 AM and will conclude by 4:00 PM. The annual 5K road race begins at 10:00 AM on Broad Street. The parade will step off from Windsor High School at 11:30 AM. Motorists can expect detours around the center of town during the celebration and along the parade route. For detailed information visit www.windsorshadderby.org.

8) COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor McKenney spoke of Darlene Klase's commentary about the Windsor High School students contributing many services to the town citizenry at large. He said that the community would be remiss to not support those students. Councilor McKenney said that people that advocate for cuts to the Board of Education never speak to the effect that those cuts will have on the students. He said people that say the school budget has padding never say where that padding is. He said such comments are reckless. Councilor McKenney went on to say that findings from a non-scientific survey should not be brought to the Town Council. Councilor McKenney spoke of the community responsibility to educate the children of Windsor.

Councilor Petkis publically commended Sage Park Middle School students Kyra Hastings and Tiffany Coulter for raising funds for the Windsor Food Bank through a bake sale.

Councilor Simon said he hopes that people that spoke tonight stick around for the budget deliberations. He spoke about the problem Windsor has where a small group of voters have the power to veto a proposed budget put together by Town Councilors that were elected by a large

group of voters. He encouraged people to engage their neighbors in dialogue and educate them about the budget and ask them to make a commitment to vote. Councilor Simon said the town has a lot of options this year to bring down the tax rate without having to cut spending.

Councilor Govoni spoke of the difficult decisions the Town Council has with respect to making budget cuts. He asked the public to vote and to provide direction to the Town Council.

Councilor Jenkins thanked people for coming out and sharing their ideas about the budget. She said she wholeheartedly supports the schools. She assured people that the Town Council is taking into account what is happening at the state level. She said the Town Council has to balance that with what type of town we want to be. She spoke of the Town Council's love of the town and how they care about their neighbors and what happens in town not just now but ten and twenty years into the future. Councilor Jenkins said the Town Council has options and that it should seriously take a look at them.

Councilor Wilkos thanked people for coming and speaking tonight. He thanked Superintendent Cooke and Town Manager Souza for holding several public budget information sessions. He said the Town Council has to make decisions that work for everyone in the community.

Deputy Mayor Terranova said she appreciates everyone that came out tonight to speak. She said she has come to the meeting tonight with an open mind.

Councilor Jepsen congratulated the new Shad Derby Queen, Iris Afantchao. He thanked people for coming out tonight and speaking about the budget. He said that aside for about \$50,000 to \$60,000 designated in the budget for design services, there is no money earmarked in the budget for a proposed public safety complex. Councilor Jepsen said the proposed budget did try to carve out capacity for a future debt service for a public safety complex project.

Mayor Trinks said he appreciates people's cooperation with limiting their public comments to three minutes. He expressed disappointment with the result of the recent budget referendum.

9) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance Committee – None

Health & Safety Committee – None

Joint Town Council/Board of Education Committee – None

Personnel Committee – Deputy Mayor Terranova said a meeting is scheduled for May 25th.

Special Projects Committee – None

Town Improvements Committee – None

10) ORDINANCES – None

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

12) NEW BUSINESS

a) Approve easement with Connecticut Department of Transportation for a portion of Route 159

Deputy Mayor Terranova MOVED and Councilor Jenkins seconded to grant an easement for the purposes of installation, replacement and maintenance of ADA compliant traffic appurtenances to the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation as shown on the attached map titled, "Right of Way Survey, Town of Windsor, Map Showing Easement Acquired from Town of Windsor by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, Town of Windsor Route 159 (Broad Street) at Maple Avenue and Post Office Road", dated November 2015; and FURTHER RESOLVED that Peter Souza, Town Manager, be authorized to sign the required easement documents on behalf of the Town of Windsor.

At Town Manager Souza's request, Town Engineer, Bob Jarvis, provided an overview of the proposed easement.

Councilor Jenkins said she is glad the proposed changes are happening. She said she remembered seeing something on social media about this intersection. She said that she hopes the proposed changes will make the intersection more safe for people, especially here in the center of town.

Councilor Jepsen said he thinks this project is a wonderful thing, but he will vote against this motion for symbolic reasons. He cited the Department of Transportation's (DOT) recalcitrance concerning the guardrail at Stony Hill and the DOT's road work in the southern end of Windsor Avenue without holding a public hearing or performing outreach.

Councilor Govoni said he would support the motion. He said that he has seen and heard about people having difficulty crossing the road in these areas. He said this work will make it safer to cross the road.

Motion Passed 8-1-0 with Councilor Jepsen voting in opposition.

b) Approve amendments to tax clerk job description.

Deputy Mayor Terranova MOVED and Councilor Jepsen seconded that the job description for the position of Tax Clerk be amended and approved as presented. Town Manager Souza asked Human Resources Director Amelia Bliss to provide an overview of the proposed changes to the job description. Ms. Bliss explained the reasons for the proposed changes.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

c) Authorize submittal of grant application to the State of Connecticut's Main Street Investment Program

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Deputy Mayor Terranova seconded the following resolution: "RESOLVED to authorize the submittal of a grant application to the Office of Policy & Management under the Main Street Investment Fund Program; And BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Peter Souza, the Town Manager, is duly authorized to execute the grant application, administer the project, and execute such documents thereto as may be required.

Town Manager Souza asked Economic Development Director, Jim Burke, to provide an overview of the grant application. Mr. Burke provided an overview of the Main Street Investment Fund program. He gave details of the proposed work that would be done on Broad Street should the town be awarded grant funds.

Councilor Wilkos inquired about whether or not traffic control signal changes are included in the project. Mr. Burke said the proposed project does not include changes to the traffic control signals.

Councilor Wilkos asked if it would be appropriate to include in the grant application flashing crosswalk signs near the plaza building. Town Manager Souza said the flashing crosswalk signs could be included, but the proposed capital budget calls for six of those types of devices to be funded.

Councilor Wilkos expressed concern about the proposed kiosk negatively effecting store-front businesses on Broad Street. Mr. Burke said the intent of the kiosk is to compliment the store-front businesses on Broad Street, not complete with them.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

d) Budget deliberations and adoption of revised FY 2017 budget

Councilor Simon, speaking to why the proposed budget was crafted the way it was, said the budget has three pieces to it. The first is the operating budget for the schools. The second is the operating budget for the town. The third is an unusual bucket of one time capital projects totaling \$1.9 million.

Councilor Simon said that Walgreen's is going to pay \$1.1 million in taxes next fiscal year and beyond, and that Amazon is going to pay about \$1.3 million in taxes next year and beyond that it will pay about \$300,000 in taxes annually. Councilor Simon said the FY17 budget plan that was put forward called for spending \$1 million of next year's Amazon tax revenue on one-time projects, as opposed to spending it on operating budget items which would cause a \$1 million hole in the FY18 budget.

Councilor Simon said that by spending the \$1 million on one-time projects in the FY17 budget, that the \$1 million could be utilized in FY18 on things such as the operating budget, for a hole in state aid, or a new public safety complex that will cost the taxpayers about one to two million dollars per year for twenty years. He said the Town Council was thinking ahead about a variety of scenarios that were not positive.

Councilor Simon said that if the Town Council is to lower the mill rate increase, then he prefers doing so by utilizing about \$600,000 of the \$1 million in one-time projects as opposed to reducing the operating budgets for the Board of Education or General Government.

Councilor Wilkos said he disagrees with Councilor Simon on not cutting any operating budget expenses. Councilor Wilkos spoke of approximately \$700,000 in reductions in state aid that the town should make adjustments for in its own budget. He said it is virtually impossible to not share a little bit of fiscal responsibility among all the departments. Councilor Wilkos suggested taking approximately \$1,000,000 from the Community Investment Initiatives and also cutting each department one half of one percent. He said his proposal puts the town in a better position with the FY18 budget.

Mayor Trinks left the meeting at 9:10 p.m. and returned at 9:12 p.m.

Councilor Wilkos explained that his revised budget proposal calls for expenditure reductions of one half of one percent. He said that would equate to a reduction of \$684,818. He would also reduce the Community Investment Initiatives by \$1,000,000. He said this proposal, which amounts to a 1.73 per cent mill rate increase takes into consideration the gap in state funding that exists in the town's proposed budget.

Councilor Jepsen asked Town Manager Souza how the General Assembly's adopted budget differs from the Town of Windsor's proposed budget in terms of state aid to the town. Town Manager Souza said there is a \$572,000 difference. He said the biggest reductions in state aid are a reduction in pupil transportation revenues by \$253,000, a reduction of \$260,000 in the Municipal Revenue Sharing Account revenues and a reduction of \$65,000 in Education Cost Sharing funding.

Councilor Wilkos, in consideration of information provided by Town Manager Souza, said he would reduce his proposed cuts to the Community Investment Initiatives by \$200,000. Councilor Jepsen asked Councilor Wilkos why he would not just reduce revenue expectations. Councilor Wilkos said he thinks a half point reduction to all departments is fair.

Councilor Simon said the \$600,000 in capital cuts he is proposing gets the mill rate increase to 1.94 per cent. Councilor Simon suggested holding off on approving the list of one-time capital projects until a later time when the net effect of the state's adopted budget is fully known.

Councilor Jepsen said the decision to be made is whether or not to ignore cuts in state aid. He asked the Town Manager if the Town Council would run afoul of laws if it ignores the recently decided cuts in state aid. Town Manager Souza answered no and said that ignoring cuts in state aid would have a significant impact on the FY18 budget.

Deputy Mayor Terranova spoke about the different proposals offered by Councilor Simon and Councilor Wilkos. She said the bigger question is addressing the current reduction in state funding.

Councilor Simon said that the voting down of the proposed budget shatters the Town Council's long-term planning.

Councilor Govoni spoke of his fondness for the Board of Education. He said the Town Council has the responsibility of considering other expenses. He spoke of the need for improvements to be made to the Public Safety Complex. Councilor Govoni said the one-time expenditures would allow the Town Council to get the Public Safety Complex done. He said the proposed budget was crafted to keep taxes down in the long-term.

Councilor Petkis explained that the Town Council spent a great deal of time working through the budget process, and that during the time the Town Council did not hear a lot of input from people. He said that it is unfortunate that people that supported the budget did not come out and vote yes. Councilor Petkis said that if the Town Council is going to have to cut things in the operating budget, then cuts should be made to both the town and education sides. He said he is troubled by the fact that the Town Council is in this situation.

Councilor Jenkins said that cutting the budget with the same percentage across all departments is irresponsible because it does not allow for a discussion about the impact of cuts and a discussion of what we can do without. She said that the state's reduction of the Alliance Grant will automatically result in the Board of Education being cut by \$64,000.

Councilor Jenkins said she has a hard time cutting services when she knows that the town has a one-time pool of money that it can pull from and hopefully make this budget more palatable for the voters. Councilor Jenkins said one of the things that stuck in her head from the Board of Education is that the students in grades three through five were testing below state average because they did not have a math teacher and a science teacher. She said that is not acceptable. She said we want the students to do well and that we do not know what the long-term impact is the issue in those grades not being addressed will be. She said those students in the third grade through the fifth grade will be behind.

Councilor Jenkins expressed her desire to utilize money available to push this budget forward. She asked the people advocating for a no vote to think about the long-term effect of what the town will be in the future.

Mayor Trinks said that as a result of the referendum, we found there is an interest in bringing the tax down as opposed to doing upgrades that would address complaints that the town was looking worn down and tired. He explained that he would support Councilor Simon's proposal with the understanding that it will have some negative impacts.

Councilor Govoni MOVED and Councilor Jenkins seconded to recess.

Motion Passed 9-0-0 at 9:36 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:47 p.m.

General Services

Moved by Councilor Simon and seconded by Deputy Mayor Terranova to reduce the proposed budget for General Services by \$600,000, which would put the budget figure at \$13,351,070. Councilor Simon said the intent is to reduce the one-time capital project amount so that the tax rate would be reduced.

Councilor Jepsen said he supports the motion but this motion will kill the mechanism that the Town Council planned to have help fund the Public Safety Complex project.

Councilor Simon said the motion probably kills the \$28 million version of the project, but not another version of the project.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

Board of Education

Moved by Councilor Wilkos and seconded by Councilor Petkis to reduce the Board of Education budget by one half of one percent, which would equal \$337,357 for the Board of Education.

Councilor Wilkos said he does not like that the Town Council has potentially shelved a new police department and public safety complex including the fire station. However, he is looking at overall spending and is taking into consideration the state's fiscal condition for the next several years. This would bring the mill rate increase to under two percent, while still keeping a significant amount in the Community Investment Initiative.

Deputy Mayor Terranova said she cannot support the motion because an across the board cut does not give the Town Council the opportunity to consider the impacts of such a cut. She would favor a cut that has the least impact to services over a cut that impacts everyone.

Councilor Simon said he does not support the motion. He explained that one-time capital project expenditures have much less priority to him than the Board of Education operating budget and the town operating budget.

Councilor Jepsen said that he finds it interesting that the amount of money that the state is cutting from the town is equivalent to the cuts that Councilor Wilkos is proposing to cut. He said absent the Walgreens tax money, the Town Council would likely have to make the cuts proposed in the motion. He said he does not like across the board cuts because it is the job of the Town Council to make targeted cuts.

Councilor Jenkins said the motion could reduce roughly three teachers from the Board of Education. She explained the cut already made to General Services will not impact human beings. She explained that she cannot support the motion because education is a priority and teachers are the last thing that should be cut.

Councilor McKenney said that the proposed Board of Education budget would restore teachers and programs that were cut in the past. He said it is interesting that the same people that advocate for the Town Manager and Superintendent to make cuts are the same people that say they do not trust those people. He spoke about nasty emails people have sent to the Town Council and said that those people can get their point across without being insulting. Councilor McKenney said that he cannot support across the board cuts because cutting money for fixing a median and sidewalk does not equate to cutting education because they are not the same thing. He said that at some point the Town Council needs to think about the future of those

children that we cheer for on the sports fields but we do not pay enough to support their education.

Councilor Wilkos said it is not necessarily true that the proposed motion would result in teacher layoffs. He said that he is not targeting any positions.

Councilor Petkis said it is unfortunate that what is happening right now is due to the state's management and people in the community not getting out and voting. Councilor Petkis said that the motion on the table does not mean that Councilor Wilkos wants to eliminate teachers.

Councilor Jenkins said that the Town Council needs to think about the impact that would be inflicted by the staff cuts proposed in the motion, especially when the Town Council has a pool of money available to utilize in order to help reduce the tax increase.

Councilor Govoni expressed his frustration with the state's unfunded mandates and the state's changing of tests for determining whether a community is an Alliance District or not.

The Motion Failed 4-5-0. Voting no were: Mayor Trinks, Deputy Mayor Terranova, Councilor Jenkins, Councilor Simon and Councilor McKenney. Voting yes were: Councilors Jepsen, Wilkos, Govoni and Petkis.

Councilor Wilkos MOVED and Councilor Petkis seconded to make the following reductions: \$24,129 from Town Support for Education, \$53,793 from Safety Services, \$10,803 from Recreation and Leisure Services, \$5,033 from Human Services, \$2,765 from Health, \$9,116 from Development Services, \$2,184 from Community Development, \$33,128 from Public Works, \$2,843 from Information Services, \$11,708 from Administrative Services, \$4,959 from General Government, and \$50,000 from General Services – specifically from Open Space.

The Motion Failed 4-5-0. Voting no were Mayor Trinks, Deputy Mayor Terranova, Councilor Jenkins, Councilor Simon and Councilor McKenney. Voting yes were Councilors Jepsen, Wilkos, Govoni and Petkis.

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Deputy Mayor Terranova seconded that the total General Fund Expenditures be modified from \$111,462,990 to \$110,862,990.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Simon seconded to accept General Fund Revenues of \$110,862,990.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

Councilor Simon asked if the new mill rate increase would be 1.94 per cent. Town Manager Souza confirmed that figure.

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Simon seconded that the next annual vote on the budget be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. at all seven polling places.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

13) RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS – None

14) MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

a. Minutes of the May 2, 2016 Public Hearing (Chaffee House Lease)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen and seconded by Deputy Mayor Terranova to approve the unapproved minutes of the May 2, 2016 Public Hearing on the Chaffee House Lease.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

b. Minutes of the May 2, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen and seconded by the Deputy Mayor to approve the unapproved minutes of the May 2, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting with one correction.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

15) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Kimberly Tinana of 65 Nook Farms Road read aloud a written letter that she said was circulating on the subject of the budget.

Christina Santos of 65 Winthrop Road said that Mr. Sill's new position is funded by a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. She said that any reductions in funding to the Board of Education budget would result in bodies being eliminated. She cited a math teacher, science teacher and strings teacher. She said that each referendum costs about \$12,000 and therefore the people lobbying against passing a budget should pay the cost of each referendum.

16) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Wilkos seconded to enter into executive session at 10:43 p.m. for the purposes of strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining and discussion of the selection of a site or a lease, sale or purchase of real estate.

Motion passed 9-0-0

Councilor Govoni said he would recuse himself for the portion of the executive session dealing with strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining.

Present: At 10:44 p.m. Mayor Trinks, Deputy Mayor Terranova, Councilor McKenney, Councilor Simon, Councilor Jepsen and Councilor Wilkos entered executive session in the Roger Ludlow Room. They were joined by Town Manager Souza, Human Resources Director Amelia Bliss, Town Attorney Kevin Deneen and Assistant Town Manager Jonathan Luiz.

At 10:50 p.m. Ms. Bliss exited executive session and Councilors Govoni and Petkis entered executive session.

Councilor McKenney MOVED and Councilor Simon seconded to end executive session. The motion passed 8-0-0 with Councilor Jenkins absent. The motion passed at 10:58 p.m.

17) ADJOURNMENT

Councilor McKenney MOVED and Councilor Simon seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0-0 with Councilor Jenkins absent. The motion passed at 10:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Luiz
Assistant Town Manager