

**Town Council
Council Chambers
Windsor Town Hall
December 19, 2016
Regular Council Meeting**

APPROVED MINUTES

1) ROLL CALL

Mayor Trinks called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

2) PRAYER

Councilor Govoni noted that in lieu of the prayer that he usually gives, he asked the public participants at the meeting to take time to think about the community they live and work in; all of the people who help run Windsor, the different religions that the Town supports and people should think about embracing the cultural and ethnic diversity that the Town has to offer, while remaining aware that not everybody is as fortunate as others might be. He asked everyone to take time to help the elderly and other populations that might be experiencing difficulties such as those with drug and/or alcohol dependency issues. He concluded by asking everyone to take time during the year to think about helping the community, to be open and help those who are less fortunate.

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

4) PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

a) Proclamation declaring December 2016 as Human Rights Month

At Mayor Trinks request, Councilor Jenkins read aloud a proclamation declaring December 10, 2016 as Human Rights Day and December 2016 as Human Rights Month. The Honorable Kevin Washington was presented with a commemorative plaque. Councilor Jenkins thanked Councilor Govoni for his comments under the Prayer section of the agenda

5) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Deacon Arthur Miller of 2 Meadowlark Drive asked the Town Council to develop a task force that would be charged with developing a statement that declares fully that Windsor is faithful to the United States Constitution, that freedom of religion will be

protected and celebrated, that the task force will put actions into words by designating a law enforcement detail charged with investigating any and all religious bigotry claims both verbal and active.

Hilary Carpenter of 45 Bradford Drive spoke of the toxicity in the world and Echoed the sentiments of Deacon Miller's request to develop a task force whereby Windsor declares itself as a sanctuary. Ms. Carpenter added that she would like to see Windsor's business community do this as well.

Sami Aziz of 70 Julia Street, Hartford, CT spoke on behalf of the Muslim community in Windsor and requested that the Town Council follow in the footsteps of both New Haven, CT and Hartford, CT (sanctuary cities) by making Windsor a sanctuary, as well as requesting that a task force be commissioned to recommend what ordinances, statements and measures should be established to protect the minorities of Windsor, including the Muslims. Mr. Aziz noted that most Muslims are living in great fear and perhaps the Town could host a yearly Ramadan Iftar dinner which would help bring the community together. Mr. Aziz asked that any training on Islam for local teachers, police and officials be done by Muslims.

Buju Dasgupta of 66 Wilton Road commented that we live in times of distrust and that she does not want to see the distrust experienced on a national level creep into the local level in Windsor. She said that local leaders must speak up and make all aware that Windsor will not tolerate bigotry. She encouraged private citizens and elected officials to find ways to make public statements and organize events that bring people together.

Moheb Kasem of 30 Gregory Hill Drive, Glastonbury, CT reported that he had attended a meeting at the First Church in Town. Mr. Kasem relayed a positive experience that his brother had in Town with one of Windsor's police officers, he wanted to say that positive experiences do not go unnoticed and he thanked the Town Council. Mr. Kasem provided some suggestions to the Town Council; increasing awareness in the local schools regarding Muslims, reject ordinances that require Muslims to register and send a letter President Elect Donald Trump, reiterating that Muslims are very much part of the fabric of the United States and have been since the days of slavery.

Liz Dupont-Diehl of 78 Palisado Avenue echoed similar sentiment to the speakers prior to her.

Nicole Grant Yonkman of 101 Hillcrest Road introduced herself as the Senior Pastor at First Church. She said her hopes to partner with the Town as plans to further support the Muslim community develop.

Kevin Washington of 736 Palisado Avenue introduced himself as Chairman of the Human Relations Committee HRC for the Town of Windsor, CT. Mr. Washington noted

he has worked with many of the religious leaders in Town and the issues discussed tonight beg for attention.

Miriam Kahn of 22 High Path Road asked the Town Council to take measures to protect the Muslims and the citizens of Windsor.

Tejas Bhatt of 17 Laurel Avenue he said he feels that assurances should be given by the Town that the Town they live in is an inclusive community. Mr. Bhatt suggested that the new Police Chief speak to the town residents (via a Town Council meeting) on what he recommends the police department can do.

Bob Wallick of 782 Stone Road expressed his support of Windsor adopting the fracking ordinance on tonight's Town Council Agenda. Mr. Wallick listed several of the chemicals, materials, damages and dangers relative to fracking and implored the Town Council to do everything in its power to keep these chemicals out of Windsor.

John Dunn of 15 Strawberry Hill asked whether or not the fracking waste ordinance could be drafted reflecting that fracking waste would not be allowed on any town roads in Windsor other than on Interstate Highways 91 and 291 and if this could be legally added, it would be to everyone's long term benefit.

Bonnie Karkowski of 1852 Poquonock Avenue spoke in favor of the fracking ordinance on tonight's Town Council agenda. Ms. Karkowski noted her ancestors came to Windsor seeking religious freedom and tolerance and that we all must have respect and tolerance for other cultures.

Debra Bologna of 933 Stone Road stated she was in favor of the fracking ordinance on the agenda and thanked the Town Council for its "forward thinking" on this important topic.

Patricia Abramowicz of 271 Rainbow Road read a letter from Anne Beaudin of 1009 Poquonock Avenue. The letter expressed support for the Town Council to adopt the fracking ordinance on tonight's agenda.

Mayor Trinks thanked all of the people who provided their thoughts, ideas and recommendations to the Town Council.

6) REPORT OF APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

a) Public Building Commission (PBC)

Richard Hazelton, member of the PBC provided an updated on the following projects:

- Animal Shelter Relocation; the PBC made revisions to the drawings, approved the drawings and Town staff expects the revised construction drawings will be

received this week. Once reviewed by staff, the drawings will be forwarded to the State for its review and the staff expects to bid this project in early 2017, with construction to begin in early spring, 2017.

- Clover Street School Partial Roof Replacement Design; project has received state funding approval, staff will bid this project in early 2017 with construction to be occur during the summer recess.
- Clover Street School HVAC Project; software corrections are expected to be completed in early January, 2017 the software programming corrections have the system operating as designed and all zones are operating within one degree of set points.
- Landfill Office Garage Renovation Project; contractor is scheduling replacement of HVAC equipment and the components will be installed in stages (to avoid a no heat situation) over the next two months.
- Town Hall HVAC Electrical and Energy Project; the contractor, Facility Solutions Group has completed the LED conversion of Town Hall and Staff continues to work with them to determine the best solution for replacing the lighting fixtures in the Town Council Meeting Room.
- L.P. Wilson Restroom and Shelter Shower Project; the first phase of this project is 99% completed. The PBC expects to open the new restrooms the first week of January, 2017 and then begin work on phase II which is the renovations to the existing restrooms which are located opposite the auditorium main entrance.
- Windsor High School Door and Fire Alarm Replacement Project; Siemens is currently connecting the new smoke detectors and the door closers to the fire alarm system and Siemens expects to finish this project the last week in December, 2016 while school is out of session.
- Town Hall Renovations Project Phase Two – Second Floor; McKinney Contracting is 75% completed and expects to finish this project by early January, 2017.
- Oliver Ellsworth Elementary School HVAC Replacement Design; the PBC expects to review the draft drawings at its second meeting scheduled in January, 2017, bid this project mid-winter with work scheduled to begin in late spring and completed during the summer months. Councilor Jenkins asked Mr. Hazelton if the project beginning in late spring would interfere with the school session. Mr. Hazelton confirmed that the majority of the work will be done in summer and therefore will not impact the students.

7) TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

There's a lot to in Windsor is being delivered next week

A reminder during this busy holiday season that the winter 2017 edition of *There's a lot to do in Windsor* is being delivered to Windsor residents and businesses next week together with the Community Courant section of the *Hartford Courant*. Residents that do not subscribe to the *Courant* will find their copy of the magazine inside the plastic bag delivered to homes each week with the Courant Community section and sales flyers.

This edition features information on programs and services available from January through April. It also includes the "Citizen's Guide to the Windsor Town Budget," a primer on the budget process and listing of opportunities for public participation. As always, the magazine will also be available online at townofwindsorct.com.

Town Hall Meeting with Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin

On January 23, 2017 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, Windsor residents are invited to join in a conversation with Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin to discuss "Our Capital City's Future." The meeting will be held in the town hall Council Chambers. With downtown residential units filling up, UCONN opening a new campus, and commuter rail service set to begin in 2018, Hartford is a city with lots of potential. But Hartford is also facing a significant and urgent budget crisis, with a deficit of \$50 million next year and even larger deficits projected in the years ahead. This is a chance for residents to talk directly with Mayor Bronin about both the opportunities and the challenges facing our Capital City. For more information, call 860-285-1800.

Police Department Community Outreach

Over the past few months, Chief Melanson and I have been discussing possible community outreach activities. We are looking at hosting a community meeting in mid to late January with the overall goal to have a dialogue with the community regarding the police department's overall philosophy and approach, an overview of police officer training as well as understanding the use of force and how police officers respond to resistance. We see this as an opportunity to bring officers and residents together to facilitate understanding, engage in conversation and to answer questions. I anticipate the meeting logistics will be finalized by the end of the month.

Also, Chief Melanson is exploring the possibility of offering a "mini" citizens' police academy. This would be a series of 2 or 3 sessions where a small group of residents (20 - 25 in size) will be able to engage in a more detailed look at police department operations. We will be finalizing these plans in the month of January in hope to offer the program in late winter or spring.

Police Lieutenant Promotion

I am pleased to announce the promotion of Sergeant Bill Freeman to Lieutenant. Lieutenant Freeman will be responsible for leading and overseeing the Patrol Division.

Bill has been with the Windsor Police Department for 21 years and has been a Sergeant for 16 years. He has recently led the Detective Division as Detective Sergeant and has been a constant in improving department operations, including helping to lead the implementation of the department's enhanced Computer Aided Dispatch / Records Management System.

Town Offices Closed For Holidays

Town offices will be closed for the following two Mondays, December 26th and January 2nd due to the holidays.

Councilor Govoni asked Town Manager Souza if drawings for the dog pound were available and Town Manager Souza replied that he would provide the floor plan to the town Council members.

8) COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor McKenney – thanked everyone who came out to the meeting, whether they were there for the fracking issue, or to support the Muslim community. He noted he had attended a session at First Church, feels the Town should support this issue and is happy to be a part of that whether it is in his capacity as a Councilor, individual, or both.

Councilor Petkis – echoed the sentiments of Councilor McKenney.

Councilor Simon – commented that it takes courage for people to come out to a meeting held in an official setting, noted there was almost a full house, appreciates hearing from people who normally don't come and encourages all to come again to Town events where decisions are made. He supports the Council in aiding the Muslim community and would like to help in that effort.

Councilor Govoni – noted his comments tonight were public service natured, and asked everyone to be mindful of hazards during this time of year i.e. wood burning stoves, outlet overload, fireplaces, etc..

Councilor Jenkins – stated from where the Councilors sit, tonight's full audience was a beautiful sight, filled with all kinds of people which is what Windsor stands for. She would like to see this occur more often and rejects any kind of registry that comes Windsor's way.

Councilor Wilkos – wished everyone happy holidays.

Deputy Mayor Terranova – thanked everyone for coming to tonight's meeting.

Councilor Jepsen – wished everyone happy holidays, thanked them for coming out and said he is hearing a lot of fear in what the speakers had to say.

Mayor Trinks – commented that it was really quite something to see everyone in the audience tonight. He wished them happy and safe holidays and encouraged them to come to the Toys for Tots toy drive scheduled to take place at Bart's on Palisado Avenue, Wednesday December 21, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. with celebrity radio personality Brad Davis broadcasting live for WDRC FM.

9) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Town Improvements Committee – Councilor Simon said the Town Improvements Committee met on Thursday, December 15, 2016 and discussed the proposed Northwest Park name change. He said that after a very substantial discussion it was determined that the staff will look to update the land management plan with work on this beginning within ninety days.

Councilor Simon noted additional discussion was held at the December 15, 2016 meeting regarding the John Mason statue on the Palisado Green. Councilor Simon reported the original agreement between the Town of Windsor and the State of Connecticut reflects that the State of Connecticut owns the statue and is responsible for all maintenance for it. The agreement also reflects that the Town of Windsor granted a 50 year easement for the statue to be located on the Palisado Green.

Lastly, Councilor Simon reported the first public meeting was held regarding the revised Public Safety Complex project. Additional planning is taking place which would combine the Public Safety Complex with a Public Works Garage and additional discussion will need to be held to determine whether or not to proceed with this as the costs are significant, regardless of how they are split up.

Personnel Committee – Deputy Mayor Terranova said the Personnel Committee had a very busy meeting on Wednesday December 14, 2016 and met with 10 individuals interested in serving on boards and commissions.

Finance Committee – Deputy Mayor Terranova noted the committee had met earlier in the evening to begin discussions on next year's budget. She said budget assumptions were looked at and it appears that the Grand List although not finalized will be down 1.5% from last year. She said assumptions were looked at relating to increases for certain expenditures such as pension expense and health insurance and the MDC assessment. Deputy Mayor Terranova said the motor vehicle tax cap will be set at 32 mills next year.

Health & Safety Committee – None

Joint Town Council/Board of Education Committee – None

Special Projects Committee – None

10) ORDINANCES – None

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

12) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Introduce an ordinance entitled, "GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION – STORAGE, DISPOSAL AND USE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE."

Councilor Wilkos MOVED and Councilor Govoni seconded that the reading into the minutes of the text of the ordinance entitled, 'GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION – STORAGE, DISPOSAL, AND USE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE' is hereby waived, the full text of the ordinance having been distributed to each member of the Council and copies being made available to those persons attending this meeting; and that the full text of the ordinance be recorded with the minutes of this meeting."

Motion Passed 9-0-0

Councilor Wilkos MOVED and Councilor Govoni seconded the following: "RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled, 'GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION – STORAGE, DISPOSAL AND USE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE' be introduced."

Councilor Wilkos noted that he had discussed this issue with most if not all of the Town Council members prior to the meeting. He then provided background on how he became interested in this agenda topic, relating his experiences of growing up on a farm, as well as having friends that had been negatively impacted by fracking and its byproducts. Councilor Wilkos introduced Jennifer Siskin from the Connecticut Food and Water Association.

Ms. Siskin made an extensive presentation to the Town Council highlighting the negative impacts of fracking waste. She noted the towns of Coventry and Andover have already passed Ordinances regarding fracking waste.

Councilor Simon then read aloud "Sec. 2 Prohibitions" of the proposed ordinance and asked Ms. Siskin to confirm that anything that could potentially be done in the Town of Windsor with respect to fracking was covered within this section. Ms. Siskin confirmed that it was.

Councilor Simon asked that once this matter comes back to the Council for a final vote, that the Council ask state legislators to introduce and support a permanent state ban on fracking waste.

Councilor Simon thanked Councilor Wilkos for bringing this item to the table.

Councilor Govoni noted that the State of Connecticut does not provide safety services (fire) to I-91 and I-291 and each town is responsible for providing these services for the sections of these highways that runs through their towns. He said that this should be

addressed by state legislators in any permanent moratorium enacted by the State of Connecticut.

Councilor Jepsen asked Town Manager Souza if the Town of Windsor can be more restrictive (than the State of Connecticut) with respect to what it is willing to allow. Town Manager Souza replied that, generally speaking, the Town cannot be more restrictive than the State; however this can be looked at prior to this agenda item coming back to the Town Council.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- b) Set a Public Hearing for January 3, 2017 at 7:20 p.m. (prevailing time) to hear an ordinance entitled, "GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION – STORAGE, DISPOSAL AND USE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE."

Councilor Wilkos MOVED and Councilor Govoni seconded the following: "RESOLVED that a Public Hearing be scheduled for January 3, 2017 at 7:20 P.M. (prevailing time) on the following ordinance entitled, "GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION – STORAGE, DISPOSAL, AND USE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE," AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to post and publish notice of said Public Hearing.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- c) Accept a sidewalk and utility easement for Windsor Station, Mechanic Street

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Jenkins seconded to accept the sidewalk and transformer easement located at 55 & 69 Mechanic Street, as shown on a map entitled, "Map showing easement to be granted to Town of Windsor across the property of Olde Windsor Station, LLC reconfigured lot C, Mechanic Street, Windsor, Connecticut, dated March 6, 2015, revised through November 29, 2016, prepared by F.A. Hesketh & Associates, Inc."

Mayor Trinks left the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

A presentation was made by Robert Jarvis, Director of Public Works / Town Engineer. There were no questions or comments regarding Mr. Jarvis' presentation.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 with Mayor Trinks absent for the vote.

Councilor Wilkos left the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Mayor Trinks rejoined the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Councilor Wilkos rejoined the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

- d) Approve authorization to expend up to \$60,000 from the Special project Fund for lease payments at 147 Addison Road for the period of January 2017 through June 30, 2017

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor McKenney seconded to appropriate and approve the expenditure of \$62,000 from Special Revenue account No. 4103 "Parks Garage Leased Space" for costs associated with the lease of 147 Addison Road for the period of January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

Councilor McKenney left the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 with Councilor McKenney absent from the room.

- e) Approve accepting a \$13,500 grant for the purchase of solar panels

Councilor Wilkos MOVED and Councilor Jepsen seconded to authorize acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$13,500 from the Connecticut Green Bank, for purchase and installation of a solar panel system.

Assistant Town Manager Jonathan Luiz made a presentation to the board regarding this agenda topic.

Councilor McKenney rejoined the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- f) Approve Town Council meeting dates for calendar year 2017 & January 2018

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Deputy Mayor Terranova seconded to approve the proposed Town Council meeting dates for calendar year 2017 and January of 2018.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

- g) Approve 2017 schedule for Board/Commission Annual Reports to the Town Council

Discussion was held by Town Council members and it was determined to make the following adjustments to the proposed schedule:

MDC Reports to Town Council will be on the following dates:

- Tuesday January 17, 2017
- Monday March 20, 2017
- Monday July 10, 2017
- Monday October 16, 2017
- Monday December 18, 2017

Board of Assessment Appeals moved from Tuesday February 21, 2017 to Monday May 1, 2017

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Wilkos seconded to approve the proposed 2017 schedule for Board/Commission Annual Reports to the Town Council as amended.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

13) RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Mayor Terranova MOVED and Councilor Jepsen seconded to approve the following appointments:

- Keniel Williams as a Democratic member to the Youth Commission for a three year term to expire September 30, 2019 or until a successor is appointed.
- Meg Harvey as an Independent Alternate member to the Town Planning & Zoning Commission for a two year unexpired term to expire November 11, 2017 or until a successor is appointed.
- Leonard Swade 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.
- Kimberly Williams as an Unaffiliated Alternate member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term to expire May 31, 2018 or until a successor is appointed
- Arbaaz Tanveer as an Unaffiliated member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term to expire March 31, 2018 or until a successor is appointed.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

14) MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- a) Minutes of the December 5, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Govoni seconded to approve the unapproved minutes of the December 5, 2016 Regular Town Council meeting as presented.

Motion Passed 9-0-0

15) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – None.

16) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Discussion of the selection of a site or a lease, sale or purchase of real estate.

Councilor Jepsen MOVED and Councilor Jenkins seconded to enter into executive session to discuss the selection of a site or a lease, sale or purchase of real estate.

The Motion Passed 9-0-0 at 9:57 p.m.

Present for executive session were all 9 Town Council members, Town Manager Peter Souza, and Assistant Town Manager Jonathan Luiz.

Councilor Jenkins MOVED and Councilor Wilkos seconded to leave executive session at 10:19 p.m.

The Motion Passed 9-0-0

17) ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Terranova MOVED and Councilor Govoni seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Motion Passed 9-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine A. Healey
Clerk of the Town Council