



**TOWN COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING
March 1, 2021
Regular Town Council Meeting**

APPROVED MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trinks called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Present: Mayor Donald Trinks, Deputy Mayor Joseph McAuliffe, Councilor Nuchette Black-Burke, Councilor Lisa Rampulla Bress, Councilor James Dobler, Councilor Donald Jepsen, Councilor Lenworth Walker, and Councilor Kenneth Wilkos

Absent: Councilor James Govoni

2) PRAYER OR REFLECTION

Councilor Wilkos led the group in prayer/reflection.

3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Wilkos led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS

Councilor Rampulla Bress read the proclamation designating March 2021 as Women's History month.

5) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Sally Grossman, 106 Niles Road, called to discuss Millbrook Village and her concerns for the residents. Ms. Grossman stated that she was able to visit some of the units over the weekend and it seems that none of the newly renovated units have emergency pull cords. Prior to renovations, there were pull cords in the bathroom, living room, and bedroom. Tenants are being told by the Windsor Housing Authority that all the emergency pull cords will be installed at the end of construction. There have been elderly and disabled tenants who have been without pull cords for a year or more and grab bars have not been installed either. It is very concerning that the elderly and disabled do not have any way to be assisted with getting up off the toilet or from the shower. Another issue that Ms. Grossman is hoping the Council can investigate is the allegations of drug dealing and drug use that the staff of the Windsor Housing Authority has alleged against residents. There has never been evidence brought forward to substantiate these claims. These claims were made during public meetings. Drug use is one of the only reasons someone can be evicted from the complex.

Ned Bacigalupo, 89 Farmstead Lane, stated that when he was listening to what was going on a few weeks ago at the historical society, it gave him the idea to establish a Windsor Musical Society as a non-profit organization to benefit local musicians from Windsor. Mr. Bacigalupo stated that since it would be a non-profit, the first thing that would need to be accomplished is to get a grant from the town. A new concert on the Green series proposal would be a spring and fall concert series to be held on Saturdays. This musical society will feature only bands from Windsor. Mr. Bacigalupo stated that musicians were hit hard this year by the pandemic. Mr. Bacigalupo would like this concept to go to a vote with the Council and possibly see it become a committee.

6) COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Dobler reiterated what he spoke about at the last meeting regarding COVID-19. We are starting to see the end, fingers crossed, with the number of residents who are or will be vaccinated. Please stay vigilant with the guidelines.

Councilor Walker reminded everyone to continue to practice social distancing and follow the guidelines. It is also important to support local businesses and shop in town as much as you can.

Councilor Black-Burke thanked the callers who participated during the public comment section of the meeting. Councilor Black-Burke also thanked the Windsor Human Relations Commission for their series they had out for the month of February honoring Black History Month. Councilor Black-Burke reminded everyone to lock their doors and be vigilant about ensuring your valuables are secure. We want to ensure that our families feel safe in our community. The Windsor police department is doing their earnest best to make sure we are safe as well. Please continue to wear your mask and practice social distancing whenever necessary. Check on neighbors, and if they are elderly, ask if they need help signing up for the vaccine.

Councilor Govoni (absent)

Councilor Rampulla Bress also thanked the Human Relations Commission for their work honoring black history month. Councilor Rampulla Bress was able to attend some of their workshops and would like everyone to know that fellow councilor, Councilor Black-Burke, was at the last workshop and spoke/represented the commission as well. Councilor Rampulla Bress shared there is an upcoming virtual program, "Why Now? Museums and the Road to Inclusion", with Jamaal Jemerson and it is on March 18, 2021. Also, this weekend on Saturday, Windsor's 'Live. Love. Give.' group conducted a drive-through COVID safe food collection to help and benefit our community for the Windsor Food and Fuel Bank. They collected 7,696 items and four thousand dollars in donations are going to the Food, Fuel and Basic Need Bank. Councilor Rampulla Bress thanked the Live. Love. Give. group and Councilor Black-Burke's sentiments. Councilor Rampulla Bress thanked the callers who called during the public comment portion of the meeting. She especially would like to thank the young women who are advocating for the residents at Millbrook Village. Councilor Rampulla Bress also stated that a couple of months

back it was mentioned that there is a potential for an Arts Council and she hopes that the speaker could be a part of that commission if it is created.

Councilor Wilkos stated there is nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor McAuliffe stated that the Windsor Journal had erroneously published that our budget had passed and that is incorrect as it has not yet passed. The general time frame of next year's budget is: 1) We expect to get the Board of Education budget within the next two weeks, 2) In April several departments will present their budgets to the Town Council, 3) by April 28th the Council has final deliberations on the budget, and 4) on May 11th there will be the referendum.

Councilor Jepsen stated that as the winter season comes to an end, last year there was interest in a community garden regionally and locally so now is the time to start looking at seed catalogs.

Mayor Trinks stated there is nothing to report.

7) REPORT OF APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

a) Board of Education

A hard copy of the report was distributed to all councilors prior to the meeting.

Councilor Black-Burke emphasized and thanked President Lockhart for sharing that while the location for the grab-n-go meals have shifted, she wanted to reiterate and emphasize to the community to continue to come out to pick up those meals. They are being provided, so please continue to access that service.

Councilor Dobler commented on the budget. He knows that it is a fine line between having the budget as robust as possible, yet having it still be conservative. Councilor Dobler would like to know what the vote was regarding the 2.5% budget. President Lockhart stated that the vote was 7-2.

b) Board of Ethics

A hard copy of the report was distributed to all councilors prior to the meeting.

8) TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

COVID – 19 Vaccination Scheduling Assistance

Staff has developed resources for seniors wishing to sign up for vaccinations that do not have computer access, require help through the scheduling process, or are homebound.

Public Library

Both the Main Branch Library and the Wilson Branch Library have computers and staff available to help during operating hours.

Senior Center

The Senior Center and Recreation Department have implemented a “call-center” service for seniors that do not have computer access or need assistance in scheduling their appointment. A collection of volunteers and staff at the LP Wilson Community Center have been accepting phone calls and scheduling appointments via the state-wide on-line system. The call-center is available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There are at least two individuals available to process calls. Residents may call 860-285-1990.

Dial-A-Ride Transportation Services is also providing rides specifically to COVID-19 testing and vaccination appointments Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 pm. This round trip service is free for Windsor residents 60 and older and individuals with disabilities. There are limits to this service. Transportation will be to the closest facility and will not provide rides to drive-through facilities. A companion, including Personal Care Attendant (PCA), may also ride for free. A wheelchair accessible vehicle is available, and an aide must accompany the wheelchair rider. To make a reservation, residents should call 860-285-1996 at least two days in advance.

The Senior Center and Recreation staff are currently calling individuals on the Dial-A-Ride list to inquire if they have scheduled a COVID vaccination appointment and, if not, are notifying them that assistance is available.

Social Services

Social Services has contacted individuals on their At-Risk Registry and to date has identified several individuals requiring an at-home appointment offered by the Windsor Health Department.

Vaccination Schedule

The Health Department has been working to meet an ever changing landscape when it comes to COVID vaccinations. As of today, persons 55 years of age and older as well as school staff, day care and group home personnel are eligible to receive vaccinations.

Per the direction of the State Department of Public Health, local health departments are to focus on providing shots to school, day care and group home staff as well as fulfilling 2nd doses for persons who already received shots at our local clinics.

This week we are planning to hold 5 clinics in total. We will be providing shots to 40 housing authority tenants and homebound individuals.

We will also be providing 2nd shots to previously scheduled recipients.

Staff and volunteers will be providing approximately 400 first doses to Windsor public school employees.

We also plan to conduct 2 clinics in South Windsor for those scheduled for their 2nd dose and for South Windsor School staff.

Health Department staff are in the process of coordinating other clinic dates to serve the day care centers, group homes and remaining schools.

With the approval of the 3rd vaccine, we are all hopeful that the supply of vaccine will increase soon to allow for more vaccinations.

Wireless Telecommunications Facility off of Prospect Hill Road

A private company has filed a permit application with the Connecticut Siting Council to construct a communication tower off of Prospect Hill Road near the Day Hill Road end. Per State regulation, the Siting Council has exclusive jurisdiction over the siting/approval of cell towers.

The Siting Council has set two hearings for Thursday, March 4, 2021. There will be an evidentiary session held at 2:00 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. on that day is a public comment session. The applicant will provide a brief overview of the proposal and the public may make brief statements into the record. Both sessions will be held virtually.

Town staff has posted the hearing information on the town's website. This will include how to sign up for the evening session as well as links to the CT Siting Council.

Talk Without Text

The Town of Windsor Youth Services Bureau and the Windsor Locks Youth Services Bureau have teamed up to provide a community-wide “**Talk Without Text**” program. This program is geared toward having meaningful conversations during mealtimes with your family. “**Talk Without Text**” packs will be delivered in March and will provide suggested conversation topics, highlight the benefits of spending quality family time, along with other health resources. For more information, call Sarah Maffiolini, YSB Coordinator, at 860-285-1946 or register online at www.townofwindsorct.com.

Summer Fun Camps

Registration for Summer Fun Camps opened on March 1, 2021. Camps are for campers ages 5 – 13 and will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. Campers must have finished kindergarten to participate. Campers will enjoy organized games, activities, sports, swimming, arts and crafts, special events and so much more! \$145 per week. Scholarships and payment plans are available. We will be sure to provide fun while following all COVID guidelines and restrictions to keep our campers safe. For more information, call 285-1990 or visit our website at www.townofwindsorct.com.

From Ireland to America

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, on Wednesday, March 17th, at 3:00 p.m. the Windsor Senior Center will be offering a shared program via Zoom with our friends from the South Windsor Senior Center titled, “From Ireland to America”. This will be a festive music program celebrating traditional Irish music and culture and is presented by singer, yodeler and multi-instrumentalist Roger Tincknell. For more information, to register or get zoom information, call the Senior Center at 860-285-1992.

Councilor Rampulla Bress thanked Town Manager Souza and the town employees for all their efforts regarding the COVID vaccine, especially for the home-bound residents and those who have been having difficulty getting access to the vaccine.

Councilor Rampulla Bress wanted to add that there is still the fifty-five and older group that needs to be vaccinated and shared that there are ways to make appointments on certain websites, such as CVS, Walgreens, or going to the Connecticut COVID Vaccine portal. There are other options besides the Health Department. If you are a member of any medical group such as Hartford Healthcare or Trinity Health, there are also ways to schedule there.

Councilor Rampulla Bress would like to know if there is a need for additional staff or volunteers to handle the increased load and if there is a way to reach out to groups in the community. Town Manager Souza stated that at this point the need has not been identified, but we will continue to monitor that. As part of the vaccination clinics, we are using the Hartford Area Medical Reserve Corp for assistance. If we need additional volunteers, we will put that call out.

Deputy Mayor McAuliffe stated that Town Manager Souza mentioned something about the teachers and staff at the schools and would like to know if they will all be covered and vaccinated by the end of March. Town Manager Souza stated that their second doses will be 21-28 days out so that may put it at the first week of April to mid-April depending on the schedule of the second clinic. Windsor schools have a little over five hundred and fifty people eligible.

9) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Town Improvements Committee – Councilor Dobler stated there is nothing to report.

Special Projects Committee – Councilor Dobler stated there is nothing to report

Health & Safety Committee – Councilor Black-Burke stated the Health & Safety Committee met on Monday, February 22nd. During that meeting, there was an in-depth discussion about the vaccine roll-out. The committee also took time to talk about the car break-ins and car thefts happening in Windsor. The quarterly traffic enforcement data was also reviewed. The illegal trucking on Pierson Lane was discussed, coming to an understanding that there will be an action and hearing taking place sometime this month. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training was discussed and there was a deeper understanding of the different components to the training. Lastly, police officers will be equipped with bodycam vests in the near future.

Personnel Committee – Councilor Rampulla Bress stated there is nothing this evening, but the Personnel Committee is looking to schedule a meeting for the end of March.

Finance Committee – Deputy Mayor McAuliffe stated there is nothing to report for the Finance Committee.

10) ORDINANCES

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Approve a bond ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$205,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH WELCH PARK AND GOSLEE PARK POOL IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$205,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe that the reading into the minutes of the text of the ordinance entitled, 'AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$205,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH WELCH PARK AND GOSLEE PARK POOL IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$205,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION' 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 8-0-0 (Councilor Govovni absent)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe, to approve an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$205,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH WELCH PARK AND GOSLEE PARK POOL IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$205,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

Councilor Black-Burke stated that there was a lot of conversation about this topic at the last meeting. While Councilor Black-Burke understands that we are looking at rehabilitating, she is still very concerned about the people who may have disabilities that may not have what they need to access our town pools. This is placing a band-aid on something versus taking time to look at what we need.

Councilor Rampulla Bress concurred with Councilor Black-Burke. She stated that when we do have an opportunity to look at this more carefully, that if there needs to be an amendment or an appropriation, that staff will not be afraid to speak to the Council about that need.

Councilor Walker stated that he agrees with Councilor Black-Burke and Councilor Rampulla Bress. It is not so much an issue of fiscal responsibility, but more about when we do these upgrades it should be up to the modern standards. Current upgrades should be included. Councilor Walker feels that we may be doing things backwards.

Town Manager Souza stated that looking through the design of the renovations we will need to meet ADA and handicap accessibility regulations. The architectural firm that would be brought on under the guidance of the Public Building Commission will need to examine alternatives. In terms of the accessibility aspect, Town Manager Souza understands the councilors concerns and comments in terms of looking to the future. We will identify what those needs are as we go through the early part of the design and ensure that the Public Building Commission has that understanding as well.

Councilor Jepsen agreed with Town Manager Souza, stating that this is just design money, and the rule of thumb has always been to multiply the number by ten for the full project. That number seems to be around \$2,000,000, which is not a band-aid.

Councilor Black-Burke stated that the reference to the “band-aid” was in direct reference to a statement that was made at the last Council meeting. It was said that there would be some sort of apparatus that would be used to accommodate those who may have some sort of limitation or disability versus what the need is for persons with disabilities.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govovni absent)

12) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Receive Memorandum from Board of Education relative to Public Act 13-60

Town Manager Souza stated the town’s general government departments and school department have a long history of collaborating both formally and informally. For example, the town’s public works department for many years has been responsible for grounds maintenance and snow removal at school facilities. We have a combined risk management function staffed by one person. Through this formal arrangement, we combine administrative functions related to property and casualty liability insurance, worker’s compensation and safety training.

Working in partnership with the Public Building Commission, our respective facilities management staff (2 town and 1 BOE) coordinate the planning, designing, and implementation of major building projects at the various school facilities. The town’s defined benefit pension plan includes non-certified Board of Education staff and is managed by a committee comprised of representatives from both entities. We have also worked closely with the school administration in transitioning both entities to self-insured health and prescription drug programs.

Mayor Trinks stated that there are not issues or comments in response to this item.

- b) Appropriate of \$70,000 from the Capital Projects Assigned Fund Balance for Milo Peck HVAC design

MOVED by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe, seconded by Councilor Jepsen to approve an appropriation of \$70,000 from the Capital Projects Fund Assigned Fund Balance for the design of the replacement HVAC systems for Milo Peck Center.

Bob Jarvis, Director of Public Works and Town Engineer, and Whit Przech, Building and Facilities Manager, stated the original portion of Milo Peck School was constructed in 1947. Two additions were added in 1958 and 1988. This project will consist of the design of the replacement of HVAC systems throughout the building. The design will also include the phasing of the projects into two separate construction projects. The first phase will replace the heating systems and install new electrical service. The second phase will encompass installation of air conditioning and ventilation systems. DDC controls will be installed in both phases.

The new design will determine the most energy efficient and cost-effective HVAC systems to install to reduce construction and operating costs.

Councilor Rampulla Bress stated that she has the utmost confidence in Mr. Jarvis, the staff, and the Public Building Commission (PBC). Councilor Rampulla Bress received a letter from a citizen regarding this design and is wondering if there will be a transition away from fossil fuels and investigate clean electrically powered heating and cooling. Mr. Przech stated that they will be looking into new and clean technologies and will investigate all possibilities.

Deputy Mayor McAuliffe wanted to dig a little deeper into the topic that Councilor Rampulla Bress brought up. Deputy Mayor McAuliffe stated that he knows it is an older building and it has a steam heat boiler and old radiators. He would like to know if the plan is to pull the whole old system out and go with something such as heat pumps or geothermal type systems. Mr. Przech stated that they are considering pulling everything out and replacing it with a new energy efficient system.

Councilor Jepsen suggested that since this is going to the PBC after this motion that the Council do another motion that will make the referral to the PBC.

Councilor Wilkos would like to know if the building qualifies for historic status because when you have that status to the building, grants might become more accessible. Councilor Wilkos would also like to know if windows have ever been replaced or fixed and if there is an attic. He would also like to know if insulation could be blown in to increase efficiencies. Councilor Wilkos stated that he does not know if geothermal would work there because it requires a lot of space and wells to drill. Mr. Przech stated that the windows have been changed and there is some space between the top floor and the attic. Putting insulation in will be explored during the design process.

Councilor Jepsen stated that several years ago a new roof was put on. We may have added some insulation at the time the new roof was installed. Mr. Przech stated that there is a portion over the gym that is fully insulated.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Councilor Dobler to refer this project to the Public Building Commission.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- c) Introduce and approve a bond ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,105,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,105,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe that the reading into the minutes of the text of the bond ordinance entitled, 'AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING

\$2,105,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,105,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION' 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 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to introduce and approve a bond ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,105,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,105,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

Bob Jarvis, Director of Public Works and Town Engineer, and Whit Przech, Building and Facilities Manager, stated the adopted FY 2021–2026 Capital Improvements Program includes a project to design replacement HVAC equipment at the High School. The design is currently funded for FY 2024 with construction not currently in the Capital Improvements Plan. Due to the opportunity of financial incentives through the Eversource RTU Modernization program, staff has been pursuing the possibility of replacing 26 older roof top units this summer.

The total project cost is \$2,105,000 prior to potential energy rebates. Awarded incentives are approximately \$500,000. The town will receive the rebate through Eversource's HVAC RTU Modernization program, resulting in a total cost to the town of approximately \$1,605,000.

Councilor Jepsen would like to know if the twenty-six units are from the original high school and if they are all getting replaced. Mr. Przech stated that they all will be replaced. Town Manager Souza asked Mr. Przech to speak more about the refrigerant issue. Mr. Przech stated that there is a leak in one of the coils and the refrigerant is no longer made. It could cost \$18,000 to repair the coil.

Councilor Rampulla Bress would like more shared about the improvements with the HVAC and whether or not it will directly affect the heating and cooling, but also the air quality. Mr. Przech confirmed that the new units will affect the air quality in a positive way. The filters have a higher rating of cleaning contaminants from the air. A CO₂ sensor will be installed to check levels of CO₂ and bring fresh air into the building when needed. This will help the ventilation and air quality inside the building.

Councilor Jepsen would like to know if there are any special sensors to help serve the pool and the chlorine levels in the air. Mr. Przech confirmed that there are sensors for the chlorine as well.

Councilor Wilkos stated that the roof on the high school is in the Capital Improvements plan for the near future. Doing as much of this as possible prior to implementing the new roof is very important in terms of stress on the roof as well as new cutouts for the units.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- d) Set a Special Town Meeting for April 5, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. for a bond ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,105,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,105,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe that a Special Town Meeting be held at the Windsor Town Hall on April 5, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. (prevailing time) on the following ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,105,000 FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$2,105,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION," which ordinance the Town Council recommends be approved and FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to post and publish notice of said Special Town Meeting.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- e) Introduce an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ZONING REGULATIONS."

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe, that the reading into the minutes of the text of an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ZONING REGULATIONS" 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 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to introduce an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ZONING REGULATIONS."

Town Manager Souza stated the reason for this ordinance is to create a more effective deterrent to willful ongoing zoning violations and encouraging their immediate resolution without waiting months for judicial action. *Connecticut General Statutes*, Chapter 124, Section 8-12a allows municipalities to establish penalties for violations of the regulations established for their municipality.

Many violations are a simple misunderstanding that can be corrected with an informal discussion or letter. That informal resolution process would continue under this ordinance and fines would be

reserved for those instances where the violation is persistent and the violator recalcitrant or uncooperative.

A number of municipalities, including the towns of Canton, Chaplin, Darien, East Hampton, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Granby, Hamden, Newington, Manchester, Marlborough, Middletown, Monroe, Oxford, Stamford, Stonington, Wethersfield, Washington and others across the State, have enacted ordinances enabling their zoning enforcement officers to issue fines for violations. Windsor's proposed \$150 fine is capped by statute and consistent with other municipalities' ordinances.

Councilor Walker stated that the presentation of this ordinance is very timely in that we have had numerous complaints all over town with truck noise and code violations. The noise is occurring during sleeping hours. This is an excellent idea.

Councilor Rampulla Bress agreed with Councilor Walker. It is appropriate timing as well as an opportunity to give staff and these ordinances some "teeth". It is fine that we have been able to resolve these issues amicably in the past, but it is important that we have other options. It is obviously creating a great disturbance for people in the neighborhood every day. Councilor Rampulla Bress hopes that her fellow councilors will be willing to look at other ordinances, because there was a concern in the past with an ordinance regarding noise around construction. We do currently have ordinances that allow companies to do work on Sundays if it is foundation work. As our town changes and we develop and grow, we need to look at some of our ordinances so the impact of that growth does not negatively affect our quality of life in Windsor.

Councilor Black-Burke stated that what Councilor Rampulla Bress shared sounds like it could be an amazing workshop. Councilor Black-Burke would like to know how the dollars that are not significant are distributed and if it is something that is chosen by the Town Manager. Councilor Black-Burke would like to know more about processes with the ordinances and how often they are looked at and re-evaluated.

Town Manager Souza stated in terms of where the revenues go, on this particular ordinance we just mirrored the wetlands ordinance. If the Council would like to redirect that to the General Fund or to another location, that would be within the Council's prerogative to do so.

Councilor Jepsen stated that regarding other ordinances, this is for enforcement of the zoning code, but the actual zoning code is done by Town Planning and Zoning, not this body. Town Manager Souza stated that Councilor Jepsen's statement is correct. Councilor Jepsen then stated that some of the ordinances that Councilor Rampulla Bress is talking about are not necessarily something that we would touch in an ordinance. Town Manager Souza stated that the noise ordinance has a section that refers to construction and hours of operation. The decibel levels and standards that are set in the ordinances mirror the state law in almost every instance.
Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- f) Set a Public Hearing for March 15, 2021 at 7:20 p.m. for an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ZONING REGULATIONS."

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe that a Public Hearing be held on March 15, 2021 at 7:20 PM (prevailing time) on the following ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ZONING REGULATIONS" and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to post and publish notice of said Public Hearing.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

13) RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

MOVED by Councilor Rampulla Bress, seconded by Councilor Jepsen, to:

- APPOINT Tyler Cote as an Unaffiliated member to the Wilson/Deerfield Advisory Committee for a three year term to expire April 30, 2023 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Dominic DeCarlo as a Republican Alternate member to Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission for a four year term to expire March 31, 2025 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Louis Morando as a Democratic member to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission for a four year term to expire March 31, 2025 or until a successor is appointed
- APPOINT Carol Engelmann as a Democratic member to the Windsor Housing Authority for a five year unexpired term to expire July 31, 2023 or until a successor is appointed
- APPOINT Eric Kuintzle as a Republican member to the Town Planning & Zoning Commission for a five year term to expire November 14, 2025 or until a successor is appointed
- APPOINT Linda Massa as an Unaffiliated Alternate member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term to expire May 31, 2024 or until a successor is appointed
- APPOINT Linda Massa as an Unaffiliated Alternate member to the Commission on Aging & Persons with Disabilities for a two year term to expire January 30, 2022 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Steven Fraysier as a Republican member to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission for a four year term to expire March 31, 2025 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Lea Chayes as a Democratic member to Conservation Commission for a five year term to expire November 30, 2025 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Michael Bivans as a Democratic Alternate member (homeowner) to the Fair Rent Commission for a three year term to expire March 31, 2024 or until a successor is appointed
- REAPPOINT Kereme Murrell as a Democratic Alternate member to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term to expire March 31, 2024 or until a successor is appointed

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

14) MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- a) Minutes of the February 16, 2021 Public Hearing (Pavement Resurfacing bond ordinance)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to approve the unapproved minutes of the February 16, 2021 Public Hearing as presented.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- b) Minutes of the February 16, 2021 Public Hearing (451 Windsor Avenue)

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to approve the unapproved minutes of the February 16, 2021 Public Hearing as presented.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

- c) Minutes of the February 16, 2021 Regular Town Council meeting

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to approve the unapproved minutes of the February 16, 2021 Regular Town Council meeting as presented.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

15) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to enter Executive Session at 9:09 p.m. for the purpose of:

- a) Discussion of the selection of a site or a lease, sale or purchase of real estate (451 Windsor Avenue)

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

16) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Mayor Donald Trinks, Deputy Mayor Joseph McAuliffe, Councilor Nuchette Black-Burke, Councilor Lisa Rampulla Bress, Councilor James Dobler, Councilor Donald Jepsen, Councilor Lenworth Walker, and Councilor Kenneth Wilkos

Staff: Peter Souza, Town Manager; Scott Colby, Assistant Town Manager

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Deputy Mayor McAuliffe to exit Executive Session and re-enter the Regular Town Council meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

17) ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councilor Jepsen, seconded by Councilor Dobler to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Motion Passed 8-0-0 (Councilor Govoni absent)

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Brisebois
Clerk of the Town Council