

**TOWN OF WINDSOR
TOWN COUNCIL
HYBRID MEETING
May 2, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:22 p.m. by Mayor Trinks.

Present: Mayor Donald Trinks, Deputy Mayor Lisa Rampulla Bress, Councilor James Dobler, Councilor Ronald Eleveld, Councilor Kristin Gluck Hoffman, Councilor Kenneth Smith, Councilor Jody Terranova, and Councilor Len Walker

Not Present: Councilor Nuchette Black-Burke

Mayor Trinks read aloud the notice of the public hearing to hear public comment on:

“POSSIBLE SALE OR LEASE OF TOWN-OWNED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 20 WILLIAM STREET.”

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Miller, 130 Palisado Ave, spoke in support of authorizing Team Paragon using 20 William Street. She said that Team Paragon is an awesome group and we should do everything to promote this program.

Peter Moore, 941 Thompsonville Road, Suffield, is a teacher at Windsor High School and spoke in support of Team Paragon. He stated that he has been helping with Team Paragon for several years and that the Town Council has done great work in supporting this team for over twenty years. It's a great program that he has spent a lot of his time on.

Brian Abbot, 53 Strawberry Hill, is the Team President of Team Paragon and he spoke in support of Team Paragon. He thanked the Town of Windsor for supporting Team Paragon and Blazing Spirits. Mr. Abbot said that this is fully supported by volunteers and donations and stated that he thrives on watching the students join the program. He stated that students gain great experience in communication and volunteerism through fundraising, community service and presentation skills. Mr. Abbot thanked the Town Council for their support and looks forward to many more years of the program.

Chris Koenig, 5 Ridgeview Drive, Bloomfield, spoke in support of Team Paragon. He stated that he is a long-time mentor and supporter of Team Paragon and that the team is trying hard to bring students to the best they can be and teach all kinds of skills like

how to survive in life and form relationships. Mr. Koenig thanked the Town Council for their support all these past years.

David Furie, 37 Lighthouse Hill Road, spoke in favor of Team Paragon and stated that he has mentored Team Paragon for over fifteen years. He said that they teach the students time and project management and that they learn many life skills like problem-solving, communication and critical thinking. Team Paragon also gives back through community service. Mr. Furie thanked the town for past support and any continued support.

Elise Nelson Carroll, 45 Portman Street, spoke in favor of Team Paragon and stated that she is the lead mentor for Team Blazing Spirits. She thanked the Council for all their support and stated that the building has been great for the program.

Diondrea Vanhouten, 31 Bend Road, spoke in favor of Team Paragon and stated that she is a parent to three children that have gone through Team Paragon. She said that some of the shy kids have learned to develop within the Team Paragon community in learning to better communicate. Mrs. Vanhouten also commented that there have been blurred lines between the Town of Windsor Recreation and the Board of Education (BOE) with an issue with the new O95 team. The O95 team has recently been setup and canceled out the freshman football team because the Athletic Director and Coach of the football team have taken it over. Mrs. Vanhouten said that now the people who can't afford football have to pay to play football.

Greg Vanhouten, 31 Bend Road, spoke in favor of Team Paragon and said that he is an Engineer. He stated that he loves how the students take over the program. All the teams help each other and then compete. Kids are getting advantages out of this and Team Paragon is providing students with great scholarships. He said that there needs to be a place to build, store and play. Mr. Vanhouten stated that he really appreciates the effort to move to William Street.

3) ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trinks declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Ozaki
Recording Secretary