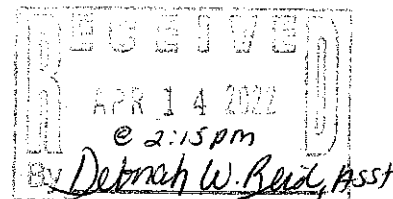


**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**



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TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Pendleton called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Liz Pendleton
Deputy Mayor Steven King Jr.
Councilor Erica Evans
Councilor Jamie Gamble
Councilor Phillip Koboski
Councilor Marek Kozikowski
Councilor Cesar Lopez
Councilor Karen Lydecker
Councilor Andrew Paterna

Others Present:

Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager
Vanessa Perry, Town Manager/Director of H.R.
Scott Roberts, Town Manager/CIO/Emergency Mgmt.

4. Mayor's Remarks

Happy first day of spring! Councilor Paterna gave members of the Council flags for Ukraine. Please keep the people of Ukraine in our thoughts and prayers as we go through our weeks. Mayor Pendleton remarked that if there are family and friends of our community that are having a hard time, to please reach out to the Department of Human Services as they will be more than happy to assist those in need.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Lopez made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilor Evans respectfully requested to add (Resolution Appointing Tiernan Cabot as a Student Representative to the Strategic Planning Committee) and (Resolution appointing Abigail Blanchfield as a Student Representative to the Strategic Planning Committee) as Items 13. E and 13. F, after the other appointments for the same Committee.

(Adoption of Agenda Continued on Next Page)

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5. Adoption of Agenda (Continued)

Deputy Mayor King made a motion to move items 13. A and 13. B under New Business to after 8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings and before 9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council.

Deputy Mayor King made a motion to move 17. Executive Session to after 8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings and before 9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council.

Councilor Paterna seconded the motion based on the necessary changes requested. Mayor Pendleton called for a vote on the amended motion; it was approved unanimously.

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

- Town Manager Michael Maniscalco reported that the Town has received an \$84,000 grant for two additional dispatch locations out of the emergency operations center, which is a federal grant.
- An emergency management tabletop drill will take place on April 5, 2022, to include a number of staff and also an outside consultant to assist with this drill.
- Mr. Maniscalco recognized Raisa Khaled, a young lady that asked the Town if she could have some donation boxes set up in Town Hall as well as the Community Center. Ms. Khaled put together a beautiful video of the donations that were received for schools in Bangladesh, Connecticut Children's, and the Chrysalis Center. The link provided will take you to the video she put together. <https://youtu.be/2jFHNfqlu3s>
- Mr. Maniscalco updated the Council on a large Freedom of Information (FOI) request that was received. To date, 34 hours have been put into preparing the large request, which is a little less than halfway through.
- Mr. Maniscalco reported that he had a meeting with a couple of representatives from the Patriotic Commission to discuss their banners. This program has been so successful that they have more banners than poles to hang them on. An option that is being considered is hanging a few banners around Town Hall Complex.

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(Town Manager's Report Continued on Next Page)

ITEM:

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

- The Main Street Bridge project is underway and at this time, the project is ahead of schedule.
- The Parks and Rec Facilities Committee had their first meeting on March 10, 2022, they had a really good conversation related to finding a location and permanent solution for the Parks and Rec Department.
- Lastly, working on scheduling the Strategic Planning Committee meeting, and hopefully, get a date and time for that soon

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that regarding the FOI request there are a number of items in the Act that are exempt from release. Unfortunately, due to the broad nature of the request, it's turning into reviewing a large number of emails and electronic documents that are exempt, such as, items with personal information related to a person's health, W-9's and W-2's. All this documentation needs to be reviewed to see if they meet one of five points under FOI requests that are exempt from being released to the public.

7. Public Input

Tom Dillon 34 Barber Hill Road stated he wanted to talk about item 7. Public Input. Mr. Dillon stated that there are published rules limiting the time the public can speak at a Town Council meeting, which he feels is unconstitutional. Mr. Dillon believes that the Town Council does not have the ability to supersede the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights with regard to freedom of speech at a Town Council meeting. He also stated the Town Council does not have the right to censor his remarks or any other resident of the Town when addressing the Council. Mr. Dillon feels that because he has brought examples of violating a person's freedom of speech that the Council will lose any immunity that they feel they have when it comes to trying to silence him or if they do not like his speech.

Mr. Dillon stated that the Town Council will be responsible (not the residents of South Windsor) for any damages in a potential lawsuit if they were to violate a resident's constitutional rights under item #7. Public Input in the meetings. He suggests that someone well versed in the United State Constitution and Bill of Rights train all Town employees and volunteers.

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

7. Public Input (Continued)

Paul Burnham 25 Pear Tree Lane Vice Chairman of the Economic Development Commission stated that the agenda has an appointment for the Economic Development Commission as an alternate and that Mr. Burnham had expressed that they need this appointment as they often struggle obtaining a quorum. With vacation schedules, people are away and even with a virtual meeting, they struggle to get the necessary members present to conduct business. Mr. Burnham stated that his alternates are present more often than not at the meetings than the regular Commissioners.

Dan Edwards 131 Hilton Drive stated that he is going through all the emails, meeting materials, and agendas of all the names that have been recommended for the Strategic Planning Committee. He states that he is happy to see Miguel Proano, however, he may be one of maybe two people that have been appointed by Republicans. Mr. Edwards also states that he sees Jan Snyder brought by the Democrats, which he thinks is fine. You want to have good people on the Committee. However, he believes that the Council needs to be cognizant because of the few names on the agenda have all been shot down in the past.

Toby Lewis 32 Linda Lane stated that the one-party rule does not work very well and as such, knows of committee members that were instructed how to vote. If they didn't agree they would be removed from the committee. Mr. Lewis stated that he is aware of a gentleman who served as a Chair of a committee and was removed because he would not "play ball" with the Town Manager. Mr. Lewis stated that this is not right and requests that as Town Officials they should all be responsible.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Councilor Paterna made a motion to approve the minutes of February 22, 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meeting: Regular Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2022.

Councilor Kozikowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Paterna made a motion to approve the minutes of Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2022.

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meeting: Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2022.

Councilor Lydecker seconded the motion. Deputy Mayor King respectfully requested a correction to the March 1, 2022, Special Town Council Meeting Minutes as Councilor Gamble was only listed by last name as Councilor's absent. Mayor Pendleton requested a roll call vote of which passed 7 ayes (Councilors Lydecker, Lopez, Kozikowski, Deputy Mayor King, Councilor Koboski, Paterna, and Mayor Pendleton) with 2 abstentions (Councilors Evans, and Gamble).

13. New Business

A. Affordable Housing Plan Presentation by Glenn Chalder, Consultant for Planimetrics – Presentation (Michele Lipe, Director of Planning to be present)

Michele Lipe and Glenn Chalder have been working with the Towns Affordable Housing Group and she thanked that group for helping to contribute to the plan that was presented. Ms. Lipe indicated that this is a draft plan, which the Planning and Zoning Commission will be taking it to a public hearing on April 26, 2022.

Glenn Chalder stated that his company, Planimetric has worked with the Town of South Windsor before. Mr. Chalder put together a PowerPoint Presentation as an overview of the Affordable Housing Plan. Public Act Connecticut General Statutes § 8-30(j) was passed requiring Connecticut municipalities to prepare an affordable housing plan by June 1, 2022, this plan must be updated at least once every 5 years. As indicated by the PowerPoint Presentation, an outline of the five major components was addressed.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Chalder informed the Council that Deed restrictive housing means that the deed on a particular property could have restrictions that limit its rental rate or sale price at State defined levels.

Answering questions from the Council, Ms. Lipe indicated that she wanted 1,000 participants for the survey but she was happy with the 900 that took the survey. The survey did not tie into any particular address or census block.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Chalder reported on the Affordable Housing Plan Appeals Procedure, South Windsor is subject to the Affordable Housing Appeals procedure. Statute 8-30g, states that less than 10% of a community's housing stock should meet the State criteria for affordability. South Windsor was at 6.7%.

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ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

The developer can submit an application that does not have to comply with local zoning and then the Commission's challenge is how to review that application and the only reason for a denial is a threat to public health or safety. There are 2 ways for a community to become exempt from that procedure. One way is if we get the 6.7% to 10 % and second for every affordable housing created earns housing unit equivalent points.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Chalder responded to the strategy on establishing protocols for rental rates and resale prices and that the math on an 830g verifying the rental rate and resale price, there are three things that need to happen to occupy a unit so it accounts. The household needs to be income qualified, the sale price needs to meet the criteria based on the calculations of income and housing cost burden, and lastly the 40-year limitation on that particular unit. The challenge can be, going through all the math to verify that all those boxes have been checked.

B. Fiscal Year 2023 General Government Budget Presentation (Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco to present)

- Mr. Maniscalco presented the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The total budget is \$134,130,568 a 4.82% increase.
- In the PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Maniscalco explains the four areas of the Proposed Expenditure Changes, which are: Town Operations, Debt, Capital, and Education.
- The total number of cuts the Town Manager made is \$1,219,200.
- The presentation broke down how the tax dollar is spent to show the residents.
- The additional funds being requested are \$6,163,779 of those funds, \$3,855,596 is being requested by Education, \$1,288,914 is debt associated to the BOE, and Town Operations is \$735,854, Capital is \$325,528 and lastly the Town Debt decreased by \$42,113.
- Revenues are how the proposed increase will be paid. Components that will contribute to revenues are: Intergovernmental (State Grants), Local (different fees associated with the building department), Miscellaneous, Transfers and the majority is from Property Taxes. Future meetings were listed on the presentation for the residents and the Council to be aware of.

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- Jess Malone, Assistant Director of Finance demonstrated on the Towns website how to get into the Digital Budget Book for the Fiscal year 2022-2023.

ITEM:

17. Executive Session

(Please invite Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco, Assistant Town Manager, Mrs. Perry, Assistant Town Manager, Mr. Roberts, and any other appropriate personnel deemed necessary).

A. To discuss the South Windsor Non-Supervisor Professional Employees Union Contract

Was made by Councilor Deputy Mayor King
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council

- Councilor Evans informed the Council that the Human Relations Commission. The Standing in Solidarity with Ukraine Event was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at the Town Hall. Councilor Evans, Koboski, Paterna, and the Mayor attended this event. There were about 40-50 participants, including Ukrainian individuals from the Town. There were meaningful speeches and community support.
- HRC is hosting a photo contest and exhibition, the title is Resilience and Hope Rising, they are accepting submissions through Friday, June 4, 2022. Open to amateur and professional photographer residents of South Windsor. Entries will be displayed at the South Windsor Public Library for the month of August.
- The Parks and Rec Commission discussed the Cross-Town Trail in which work continues with Eversource and abutting property owners.
 - The work at Rye Street Park tennis courts, repurposing for pickleball and deck hockey will start when the ground thaws.
 - The programs for Park and Rec are doing extremely well.
 - The Parks is also fully staffed and they are working on a project to make Park signs around the Town more uniform.

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- South Windsor Alliance for Families met and they have an upcoming event called “Spring into Healthy Living”, it’s on March 29, 2022, from 6-7 pm at the Community Center. Currently, registration is low and if they do not get more participants they will not be able to hold this event.

(Communications from Liaisons, Officers Continued on Next Page)

ITEM:

9. Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council (Continued)

- When the South Windsor Alliance for Families meets the discussion is centered on the services and the needs related to mental health.
 - Councilor Evans stated that we as a Town and the Town Council members need to look at what can be done to better understand what is available to provide services regarding mental health services.
- The Art Commission has five remaining spaces available. Democrats have occupied the three seats currently spoken for and although there is one more to nominate and appoint, Councilor Evans calls on the Republican Town Committee to fill their duties in finding appropriate individuals for the four seats.
- For the Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission there are four seats available the Democrats have filled three and the Republicans have filled one seat. Councilor Evans calls on the Republican Town Committee to fill their duties in finding appropriate individuals for the three seats.
- These two Commissions were created with the intent to be non-political. Councilor Evans states that she is disappointed as we approach the Social Justice Racial Equity Commission's creation 1 year ago and this Commission has not been able to meet. As far as the Art Commission, we are months into this and have not been able to have this Commission meeting.
- Councilor Kozikowski stated that on March 15, 2022, the Planning Zone Commission held a meeting, and they decided on several applications. They approved a moratorium on Residential single-family subdivisions and special exceptions permits for housing. They also denied an application for a warehouse distribution center on Talbot Lane. The Commission also approved a site plan for a new People’s Bank building at Evergreen Walk.

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10. Reports from Committees

Councilor Evans reported that the John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds sign and installation has been completed and on March 29, 2022, at 1 pm there will be a ceremony to reveal and honor the Fairgrounds Sign. The family has been invited

Councilor Evans suggested coming up with an abbreviation or nickname for the Parks and Rec Facilities Planning Implementation Committee. This Committee will be meeting at 5:30 pm on the second Thursday of every month in the Madden Room.

Councilor Evans informed the Council, that this will be the last time she reports on the Strategic Planning Committee. In the future, it will be Deputy Mayor King and Councilor Kozikowski. She reported that she is thrilled to see the final names to complete the Committee is on the agenda. Previous nominated names will be a great addition. She also expressed how great it is to see young people, and students interested and invested in being part of this Committee. Also, the inclusion of Jan Snyder provides a wealth of knowledge, with her previous experience working on Strategic Planning.

11. Consent Agenda

a. First Reading

Councilor Gamble made a motion to approve Agenda Items 11.a.A through 11.a.B. as a First Reading on the Consent Agenda.

Councilor Paterna made a motion to move Item 11.A.a. and Item 11.A.b. off the consent agenda to New Business. Councilor Evans seconded the motion

The motion passed with a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Councilors Evans, Lydecker, Lopez, Paterna, Deputy Mayor King, and Mayor Pendleton) and 3 nays (Councilors Gamble, Kozikowski, and Koboski).

b. Second Reading

Councilor Evans made a motion to approve Agenda Items 11 b.A. through 11b. C. as a second reading on the Consent Agenda.

A. Resolution Appointing Anitha Elango (D) to the Public Building Commission and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting.

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ITEM:

10. Consent Agenda (Continued)

b second Reading (Continued)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Anitha Elango (D) to the Public Building Commission for a term ending November 30, 2023, to fill the unexpired term of Bernard Thomas and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

B. Resolution Appointing Joe Durette (D) to the Inland Wetlands Commission and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Joe Durette (D) to the Inland Wetlands Commission for a term ending December 01, 2024, to fill the unexpired term of Steven King Jr. and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

C. Resolution Appointing Carolyn Emerson (D) to the South Windsor Arts Commission and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting.
(Mayoral Appointment)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Carolyn Emerson (D) to the South Windsor Arts Commission.

Was made by Councilor Evans
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Miscellaneous

None

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ITEM:

12. Unfinished Business

- A. Resolution Approving the South Windsor Non-Supervisor Professional Employees Union Contract for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2023 (Postponed from 3/7/22)
(Councilor Lydecker)**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the proposed "Agreement between the Town of South Windsor and the South Windsor Non-Supervisor Professional Employees Union" for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2023.

Was made by Councilor Lydecker
Seconded by Councilor Evans
The motion was approved unanimously.

13. New Business

- A. Resolution Appointing Audrey Delnicki (R) to the Blighted Property Appeals Board and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Audrey Delnicki (R) to the Blighted Property Appeals Board for a term ending November 30, 2024, to fill the unexpired term of Jamie Gamble and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting

Was made by Councilor Gamble
Seconded by Councilor Kozikowski

The motion failed with a roll call vote of 6 nays (Councilors Evans, Lydecker, Lopez, Paterna, Deputy Mayor King, and Mayor Pendleton) and 3 ayes (Councilors Gamble, Kozikowski, and Koboski).

(New Business Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

B. Resolution Appointing Richard Balboni (R) as an Alternate to the Economic Development Commission and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Richard Balboni (R) to the Economic Development for a term ending November 30, 2024, to fill the unexpired term of Robert Burns and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting

Was made by Councilor Gamble
Seconded by Councilor Kozikowski

The motion failed with a roll call vote of 6 nays (Councilors Evans, Lydecker, Lopez, Paterna, Deputy Mayor King, and Mayor Pendleton) and 3 ayes (Councilors Gamble, Kozikowski, and Koboski).

C. Resolution Appointing Janice Snyder (R) to the Strategic Planning Committee.

(Councilor Evans)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Janice Snyder (R) to the Strategic Planning Committee.

Was made by Councilor Evans
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

D. Resolution Appointing Miguel Proano (R) to the Strategic Planning Committee.

(Councilor Kozikowski)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Miguel Proano (R) to the Strategic Planning Committee.

Was made by Councilor Kozikowski
Seconded by Councilor Koboski
The motion was approved unanimously

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(New Business Continued on Next Page)

ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

E. Resolution Appointing Abigail Blanchfield to the Strategic Planning Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Abigail Blanchfield to the Strategic Planning Committee.

Was made by Councilor Kozikowski
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

F. Resolution Appointing Tiernan Cabot to the Strategic Planning Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Tiernan Cabot to the Strategic Planning Committee

Was made by Deputy Mayor King
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

G. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on the Proposed General Government Budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Monday, April 18, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the South Windsor Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Avenue, South Windsor, Connecticut as the time and place for a Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed General Government Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

Was made by Councilor Lopez
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

H. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on the Transfer of Funds from the Capital Non-Recurring Account to the Women's Police Department Locker Room Account

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Monday, April 4, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the South Windsor Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Avenue, South Windsor, Connecticut as the time and place for a Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$100,370 from the Capital Non-Recurring Account to the Women's Police Department Locker Room Account

Was made by Councilor Paterna
Seconded by Councilor Koboski
The motion was approved unanimously

I. Resolution Approving the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Calendar

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Calendar, a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A**.

Was made by Deputy Mayor King
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

J. Resolution Approving a Refund of Taxes to Sixteen (16) South Windsor Taxpayers

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a refund of property taxes to sixteen (16) South Windsor Taxpayers, the total of said refunds being \$6,780.66 and as more fully described in attached **Exhibit B**.

Was made by Councilor Gamble
Seconded by Councilor Paterna
The motion was approved unanimously

14. Passage of Ordinance

None

15. Public Input for Any Matter

Public Input for any other matter shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes. When recognized by the Mayor, the speaker(s) shall approach the lectern, give their name and address. Speakers shall avoid personal attacks or impugning or alleging an improper motive to any person. The speaker(s) may address the Council on any item. The speaker(s) shall limit their speaking time to five (5) minutes

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Audrey Delnicki from Felt Road spoke to the Council on denying qualified people vetted by the minority party to serve on boards, committees, and commissions. She spoke about being on the Inland Wetlands Conservation Commission in 1999 as a full member and that she was reappointed several times by both Democrats and Republicans. She served on the Inland, Wetlands Commission for 19 years, 4 months, and 10 days as a full-time member. Ms. Delnicki spoke on how the Mayor seeking volunteers for several committees but they will not approve qualified residents to serve on these committees, boards, or commissions. She requested that the Council reconsider the vote and if they do not that they will show how political they are being in how the Council is blocking experienced members of the minority party.

Corrine Bodua Pleasant Valley Road discussed the FOI request that the Town Manager is working on and that it was originally not completed to satisfaction. In fact, she claims there was proof that many items that were legally required to be included were not. She claims that the Town Manager denied a resident access to a public meeting. She discussed the Town mask mandate that the Town Manager put in place which she stated was an abuse of authority because it was unnecessary to place on town businesses. She claimed that the Town Managers' salary is 391% higher than the average salary in the Town of South Windsor. She claimed that the Town Manager has 2 assistants which previous Town Managers did not have. She ended by saying stop holding these appointments that you're voting against to standards that the Council has failed to live up to.

Dan Edwards 131 Hilton Drive spoke about denying volunteers. Stated that you can't ask for volunteers and then deny them. He suggested an independent committee of the Town Council to review FOI requests.

Stephanie Weintraub 155 Skyline Drive addressed the Council by informing them that she is not buying the fact that she is not qualified or fit to serve the Community of South Windsor. No one has asked her about her experience.

16. Communications from Council

Councilor Koboski spoke about the Candle Light Vigil for the Ukrainian Community, He recognized and thanked the Human Relations Committee for putting together a nice evening.

18. Adjournment

At 9:20 p.m., Councilor Paterna made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Councilor Gamble seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

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Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Barone
Recording Secretary