

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

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June 6, 2022

TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Elizabeth Pendleton
Deputy Mayor Steven King Jr.
Councilor Erica Evans
Councilor Philip Koboski
Councilor Andrew Paterna
Councilor Marek Kozikowski
Councilor Karen Lydecker
Councilor Jamie Gamble

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

4. Mayor's Remarks

On behalf of the Patriotic Commission, Mayor Pendleton recognized the 2022 Essay & Poster winners and presented certificates of recognition to; Dhruv Ganesha, 1st Grade Pleasant Valley School poster winner; Sujitt Kannaiyan, 2nd Grade, Orchard Hill School poster winner; Alexander Maltz, 1st Grade, Eli Terry School poster winner; Jana Brownbill, 5th Grade, Philip R. Smith School, essay winner; Ananya Save, 4th Grade, Orchard Hill School, essay winner; William Chan, 3rd Grade, Philip R. Smith School, essay winner; Mihika Joshi, 8th Grade, Timothy Edwards Middle School, essay winner; Nevinna Gravseth-Roman, 8th Grade, Timothy Edwards Middle School, essay winner; Aniron Pal 6th Grade Timothy Edwards Middle School, essay winner; Olivia Kvadus, 10th Grade, South Windsor High School, essay winner; Rishabh Mohapatra, 10th Grade South Windsor High School, essay winner; and Dhanya Chasmawala, 11th grade, South Windsor High School, essay winner.

Councilor Evans welcomed and introduced Ria Saxena and noted Ms. Saxena's involvement in the Town of South Windsor and that she was responsible for submitting an application to fly the Pride Flag at four corners in honor of National Pride Month. Councilor Evans noted that Ms. Saxena is a leader in her school community and that she is a positive influence in our community.

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Acting on behalf of the Town Council, Mayor Pendleton recognized Ria Saxena and presented her a citation in observation of her award-winning poem entitled “In the Shadow of the Penumbra” which was presented to the Connecticut Supreme Court for Law Day and won 1st place.

Mayor Pendleton thanked members of the Patriotic Commission for all of their hard work over the recent months helping organize Armed Forces Day and the Memorial Day Parade.

Mayor Pendleton also congratulated the Town of South Windsor's soon-to-be graduates as High School graduation is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2022.

Mayor Pendleton also informed members of the community of a few upcoming events including the Strawberry Festival which is Saturday, June 11, 2022, Race Amity Day which is Sunday, June 12, 2022, and Flag Day is June 14, 2022.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Philip Koboski made a motion to adopt the June 6, 2022 agenda. Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. made a motion to move agenda item #13 I (Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property) to after item #7 (Public Input). Councilor Andrew Paterna seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

- Mr. Maniscalco informed members of the Town Council that the Town of South Windsor had participated in a Statewide Emergency Management tabletop drill on May 24, 2022, which is conducted on an annual basis. Mr. Maniscalco indicated that this past training was consistent with previous years which was based on major weather events.
- Mr. Maniscalco gave an update to members of the Town Council that the Strategic Planning Committee had met and discussed hiring a consultant and that the committee was reviewing a few different consultant options. Mr. Maniscalco informed members of the Town Council that the Strategic Planning Committee is hopeful that the consultant will be someone who understands the challenges that Connecticut communities face and to provide the community with a 3rd party to help with the formulation of a plan. Mr. Maniscalco also reminded members of the Town Council that on their agenda is to move funds from the Capital fund so that funds could carry forward into the next fiscal year in order to allow us the opportunity to get the best consultant possible.

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- Mr. Maniscalco notified members of the Town Council that the Parks & Rec Facility Committee had retained Colliers to conduct evaluations on four different sites in order to determine opportunities and challenges associated with each location. Mr. Maniscalco indicated that once the study had been completed the committee will make a recommendation and a final recommendation will be made to members of the Town Council.
- Mr. Maniscalco enlightened members of the Town Council that the South Windsor Farmers Market had their opening weekend this past Saturday, June 4, 2022, and will continue from 9:00 am to noon each Saturday thought out the summer. The Farmers Market offers a wide variety of vendors, craftsmen, and farmers who have signed up as well as entertainment for kids.
- Lastly, Mr. Maniscalco updated members of the Town Council that he had attended a conference call with OPM which has launched the STEAP Grant applications, and noted that the State has approved \$30,000,000 to be made in \$50,000 grants to communities that are eligible. The staff is currently working to determine eligibility and an appropriate project to apply with. Mr. Maniscalco also noted that once the application and approved project was ready to be submitted that a resolution would need to be made by the Town Council authorizing the Town Manager to sign the grant documents. Mr. Maniscalco further explained that the applications are due by August 15, 2022, and if members of the Town Council or members of the public have any special projects they would like to be considered please let him know.

Answering questions from the Town Council, Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco explained that members of the public could email him if they would like to suggest a project at Michael.Maniscalco@southwindsor-ct.gov. Mr. Maniscalco further explained that the Park & Rec facility committee had obtained a consultant which was roughly \$20,000 and that the money would be coming from the facility department.

7. Public Input

Elizabeth McGuire (89 *Heritage Drive*) spoke in support of agenda #13 I (Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property) and believed that the proposed ordinance does not go far enough. Ms. McGuire explained that she hoped the ordinance would ban all members of the public from carrying weapons in Town Hall and noted that she believed a police officer should be present at all Town Council meetings because they are trained and have taken an oath to protect the public. Ms. McGuire noted that restrictions on guns and gun owners were around during the old west and that members of the community have the right to enact an ordinance that promotes and protects public safety.

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Audrey Delnicki (*130 Felt Road*) addressing members of the Town Council spoke about council rules and noted that members of the public are asked to follow them and only speak under the correct public input section. Ms. Delnicki asked members of the Town Council to also abide by the Town Council rules and further explained that she believed the Special Virtual Town Council meeting which was held on Thursday, May 26, 2022, violated council rules.

Richard Balboni (*23 Debbie Drive*) addressed members of the Town Council in opposition of agenda #13 I (Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property). Mr. Balboni expressed his opinion and noted that every citizen has the right to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State. Mr. Balboni asked members of the Town Council to review the constitution. Mr. Balboni offered further public input.

Dan Edwards (*131 Hilton Drive*) spoke to members of the Town Council that members of the public were concerned by agenda #13 I (Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property). Mr. Edwards felt that the ordinance had nothing to do with recent national events, but rather the ordinance was smoke and mirrors as the two prior public speakers were trying to get on boards and commissions but their appointments had been denied.

Brendon Malone (*104 Third Street, Suffield, CT*) spoke to members of the Town Council in opposition of agenda #13 I (Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property). Mr. Malone informed members of the Town Council that he was the former Chairman of the Capital Region Council of Governments Regional Planning Commission and wanted to echo some of the other comments. Mr. Malone informed members of the Town Council about the gun certification process and the various different background checks that are performed. Mr. Malone further expressed his opinion and believes that people should have the right to own guns and open carry.

13. New Business

I. Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property (*Moved*)

Mayor Pendleton informed members of the Town Council that this was presented as an opportunity for members of the Town Council and the public to have an open and transparent discussion regarding public safety. Mayor Pendleton further noted that she had the courage to bring this item forward and that it was unclear at this time how the ordinance might evolve. Mayor Pendleton expressed her concern that she felt negligent in her duties as Mayor by ignoring the issue and the requests from the public to present an ordinance to make members of the public feel safer in Town-owned space. Mayor Pendleton opened the floor to members of the Town Council and asked for their input on the proposed ordinance.

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Councilor Karen Lydecker thanked Mayor Pendleton for putting this item on the agenda and felt that it is important to have these discussions with everything happening in our country. Councilor Lydecker indicated that she was surprised to see an ordinance drafted and in front of members of the Town Council so quickly and wanted to clarify the purpose of the proposed ordinance. Councilor Lydecker further clarified that the purpose of the proposed ordinance was to not allow members of the public to open carry on Town-owned property. Councilor Lydecker inquired where the statutory language was regarding a citizen's right to open carry.

Answering questions from the Town Council, the Town Attorney indicated that the State of Connecticut was neither an open carry nor concealed carry State according to the provisions of Connecticut State Statutes. The Town Attorney further explained the language in the proposed ordinance as presented to the Town Council.

Councilor Karen Lydecker inquired if there had been any disruptions to the good order, peace, and safety of the Town and asked if there had been specific disruptions in the last six months or year that might bring an ordinance as such forward.

Answering questions from the Town Council, Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco indicated that he had a few instances and conversations with Town employees who expressed their concerns regarding members of the public who open carry.

Councilor Karen Lydecker remarked that she would like to see the focus of the proposed ordinance shift from concealed carry and more about mental health and the issues that are affecting our Town and State. Councilor Lydecker further remarked that the legislation should come from the national and state level rather than the Town level.

Councilor Philip Koboski remarked that he felt that the proposed ordinance was a little bit of a knee-jerk reaction and that he had some concerns with what problem the ordinance was trying to solve. Councilor Koboski explained that Mr. Balboni has the right to open carry and that while some members of the public may not like the fact that he does, it is still his right.

Councilor Erica Evans thanked Mayor Pendleton for bringing this item forward. Councilor Evans noted that she felt the issue of public safety is not something that the Council should shy away from and the need for common-sense gun control was critical. Councilor Evans explained that she felt that more could be done at the Federal and State level. Councilor Evans further suggested that moving forward it might be a wise idea to have this conversation in a public forum to allow an opportunity for more public input.

Councilor Marek Kozikowski offered remarks and inquired about what problem the proposed ordinance was going to solve. Councilor Kozikowski explained that he wants our Town employees to feel safe while at work and offered additional suggestions and resources such as staff training

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regarding active shooter training, conflict de-escalation, and further inquired what additional steps the Town Council could take in order to help train and empower Town employees.

Councilor Jamie Gamble noted that he was surprised that a copy of the ordinance was included in the agenda packet so quickly and inquired if the Town Attorney had drafted similar ordinances for other municipalities.

Answering questions from the Town Council, the Town Attorney indicated that the draft of the ordinance was the result of a discussion between the Police Chief, Town Manager, and the Mayor.

Councilor Andrew Paterna thanked Mayor Pendleton for bringing this item forward for discussion and hopes that further discussions will take place in an open forum setting and that Town staff is invited to participate.

Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. thanked members of the Town Council and the public for their comments and spoke in favor of the idea of a Town forum to gather more public input and discussion on this item. Deputy Mayor King indicated that he felt there were other members of the public that the Town Council should hear from. Deputy Mayor King explained that he felt if one member of the public had a concern that the Town Council should take that into consideration. Deputy Mayor King further explained that he didn't feel that whether the Town of South Windsor was first or last in adopting a public safety ordinance was an important issue, but rather, that the Town Council was listening and acting on behalf of constituents. Deputy Mayor King specified that he felt that this proposed ordinance was not coming from a place of malice, but of concerns that have been raised by volunteers of boards & commissions, members of the public, and Town employees.

Mayor Pendleton thanked members of the Town Council for their discussion and input and noted that she appreciated the intelligent, healthy, and helpful communication and that it was important to take into consideration other members of the community and various prospective. Mayor Pendleton further explained that she supports open dialog and the idea of a public forum on this important topic.

Councilor Erica Evans respectfully requested that members of the Town Council move forward with the creation of a Town forum to continue the discussion on public safety in municipal buildings. Councilor Evans suggested that two different forums should take place, one in which conversation could be had among Town employees and one for members of the public. Councilor Evans recommended that a search be done to find experts who can offer an opinion on mental health, gun ownership, and gun safety.

Answering questions from the Town Council, Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco explained that there may be a scheduling conflict with members of the public and town staff being able to attend meeting the same meeting depending on the time of day. Mr. Maniscalco further explained that it may be difficult to schedule a time in the evening for members of the collective bargaining unit to attend.

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8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Councilor Andrew Paterna made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of May 16, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. which was passed by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Mayor Pendleton, Deputy Mayor King, Councilors Evans, Paterna, Kozikowski, and Gamble), 0 nays, and 2 abstentions (Councilors Koboski & Lydecker). **MOTION CARRIES.**

Councilor Andrew Paterna made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the Special Virtual Town Council Meeting of May 26, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Philip Koboski which was passed by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Mayor Pendleton, Councilors Evans, Koboski, Paterna, Kozikowski, and Lydecker), 0 nays, and 2 abstentions (Deputy Mayor King & Councilor Gamble). **MOTION CARRIES.**

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

Councilor Philip Koboski updated members of the Town Council that he had recently attended a meeting of the Public Building Commission and that there was a concern about some water runoff to a nearby pond that efforts were being made to correct the issue. Councilor Koboski also updated members of the Town Council that the Public Building Commission was moving forward with the Pleasant Valley school project and that DRA provided a presentation to go through color schemes of how they will be sent up and that a presentation was available for public inspection on the Town website.

Councilor Erica Evans updated members of the Town Council regarding the Human Relations Commission about a few of their upcoming events. Councilor Evans noted that June 28, 2022, was the Stonewall presentation which is being organized by Ria Saxena and will be held at the South Windsor Public Library. Councilor Evans also updated members of the Town Council regarding Race Amity Day which will be held on Sunday, June 12, 2022, at Veterans Memorial Park Pavilion. Councilor Evans further noted that officials from the state will also be presenting the Town of South Windsor with a proclamation as they are the first town in the state to recognize Race Amity Day. Councilor Evans updated members of the Town Council regarding the photo contest is still ongoing and there is information on the Town website on how members of the public can submit their photos. Photos will be displayed at the Town Library in the month of August.

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Councilor Marek Kozikowski updated members of the Town Council regarding the Planning & Zoning Commission and explained that the commission had further discussions regarding the use of adult cannabis retail and cultivation. A public hearing will be set by the Planning & Zoning Commission for further discussion.

10. Reports from Committees

No reports were given.

11. Consent Agenda

Councilor Marek Kozikowski made a motion to approve Agenda Item 11. B.1. as a Second Reading on the Consent Agenda.

A. First Reading

None.

B. Second Reading

1. Resolution Appointing Natalie O'Brien (U) as a member of the South Windsor Arts Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Natalie O'Brien (U) to the South Windsor Arts Commission for a term ending December 31, 2022.

Councilor Erica Evans seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. **MOTION CARRIES.**

C. Miscellaneous

None.

12. Unfinished Business

13. New Business

A. Discussion Item: Fire Houses One & Two Fire Alarm Project and Re-Allocation of Remaining Funds to Replace Fire Alarms at Veterans Memorial Pool & an Additional Fire Alarm System at TRACS

Fire Marshal, Walter Summers addressed members of the Town Council regarding the Fire House Alarms 1 & 2 and noted that the bidding process had gone very well and as a result, there was an additional unused balance remaining. Mr. Summers explained that the alarm systems that were in

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Fire Houses 1 & 2 were original and need replacing and that he is requesting a public hearing be scheduled.

Councilor Marek Kozikowski inquired about the process of excessive funds when monies are left over after projects are completed and noted that it is helpful when the Town has a robust Capital Improvement project list so that projects can be prioritized and that money is spent correctly.

Assistant Town Manager, Scott Roberts explained the Capital Improvement projects process and that the committee focuses on a five-year period and projects are adjusted from time to time and give way to projects that are health, property, and life-safety issues.

B. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on the transferring of Funds from the Capital Non-Recurring Account to the VMP & TRACS Fire Alarm Projects

Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Monday, June 27, 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 \$21,370 from the Capital Non-Recurring Account to the VMP & TRACS Fire Alarm Projects.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Marek Kozikowski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

C. Resolution Approving the Transfer of \$61,925 from the Social Security Tax Account to the following accounts to cover overages; \$32,075 to the Unemployment Account; \$14,850 to the Salary Contingency Account; and \$15,000 to the Liability Insurance Account

Councilor Erica Evans made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the transfer of \$61,925 from the Social Security Tax Account to the following accounts to cover overages; \$32,075 to the Unemployment Account; \$14,850 to the Salary Contingency Account; and \$15,000 to the Liability Insurance Account.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Andrew Paterna which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

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D. Resolution Approving the Transfer of \$950,000 from the Health Insurance Account and \$200,000 from the Police Operation Full-Time Salary Account and transfers \$400,000 to the Capital Projects Account and \$750,000 to the Pension Account

Councilor Philip Koboski made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the transfers of \$950,000 from the Health Insurance Account, and \$200,000 from the Police Operation Full-Time Salary Account to the following accounts; \$400,000 to the Capital Projects Account; and \$750,000 to the Pension Account.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Andrew Paterna which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

E. Resolution Approving the Transfer of \$63,000 from the Engineering Full-Time Salary Account to the Information Technology Full-Time Salary Account

Councilor Philip Koboski made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the transfer of \$63,000 from the Engineering Full-Time Salary Account and transfers it to the Information Technology Full-Time Salary Account.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Jamie Gamble which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

F. Resolution Accepting the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Suspense List

Councilor Jamie Gamble made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Suspense List as proposed and submitted to the Town Council by the Collector of Revenue, and as more fully described in attached **Exhibit A**.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Philip Koboski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

G. Discussion Item: Juneteenth to Become a State Holiday in Connecticut

Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco explained to members of the Town Council that the State of Connecticut recently adopted Juneteenth as a State holiday beginning in 2023. Mr. Maniscalco noted that one of our collective bargaining units would be eligible to observe this as a State holiday and

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wondered what direction members of the Town Council would like to take in observing Juneteenth as a Town recognized holiday.

H. Discussion Item: Public Act No. 22-30 An Act Concerning Fair Rent Commissions

Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco informed members of the Town Council that the Connecticut State Legislator has recently adopted an act concerning Fair Rent Commissions and that the Town of South Windsor would need to move forward with the creation of a committee/ commission. Mr. Maniscalco noted that the Town Planner was taking the lead on the formation of the Affordable Housing Commission & the Fair Rent Commission. Councilor Marek Kozikowski inquired if CRCOG would be able to assist the Town and other impacted Towns to administer the responsibilities of a new commission on a regional level. Mr. Maniscalco said that he would look into it and report back.

I. Discussion Item: An Ordinance Regarding Public Safety in Municipal Buildings Concerning Concealed Carry on Town Owned Property *(Discussion took place after item #7 as this item was moved).*

J. Resolution Approving the Job Classification and Fringe Benefit Description for Non-Bargaining Unit Members for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 through 2024/2025

Councilor Andrew Paterna made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Job Classification and Fringe Benefit Description for Non-Bargaining Unit Members for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 through 2024/2025.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Philip Koboski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

K. Resolution Approving a Refund of Taxes to Fourteen (14) South Windsor Taxpayers

Councilor Erica Evans made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a refund of property taxes to Fourteen (14) South Windsor Taxpayers, the total of said refunds being \$3,164.03 and as more fully described in attached **Exhibit A**.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Philip Koboski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

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L. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on the proposed amendment to Sec. 2-530 the Local Preference Bid Ordinance

Councilor Marek Kozikowski made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets **Monday, June 27, 2022**, at 8:15 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 amendment to Sec. 2-530 the Local Preference Bid Ordinance.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Philip Koboski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

M. Resolution Approving the Transfer of \$50,000 from the Contingency Account to the Strategic Planning Capital Account

Councilor Philip Koboski made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby transfers \$50,000 from the Contingency Account and transfers it to the Strategic Planning Capital Account for the purpose of a consultant fee.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Marek Kozikowski which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

N. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Janice Snyder (R) from the Greater Hartford Transit District Committee

Councilor Jamie Gamble made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Janice Snyder (R) from the Greater Hartford Transit District Committee effective April 27, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Janice Snyder for the time she has dedicated to serving her community through her membership on the Greater Hartford Transit District Committee.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Andrew Paterna which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

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O. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Ritu Goel (D) from the Park & Recreation Commission

Councilor Erica Evans made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Ritu Goel (D) from the Park & Recreation Commission effective June 02, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Ritu Goel for the time she has dedicated to serving her community through her membership on the Park & Recreation Commission.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Andrew Paterna which was passed by a unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

P. Resolution Waiving the Competitive Bidding Process for Sidewalk Replacement and Authorizes the Town Manager to Sign & Execute an Agreement

Councilor Karen Lydecker made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Engineering Department Advertised for Bids for Concrete Sidewalk Replacement in April 2022 and No Bids were received at the time they were due on April 21, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department thinks there were no bidders because of the increased demand for concrete sidewalk replacements in the area and a reduction in the number and size of the contractors who perform concrete sidewalk replacements in the area; and

WHEREAS, Hathaway Landscaping LLC has been performing Miscellaneous Concrete Sidewalk Replacement in South Windsor under contract from a previous bid in 2020 that has expired; and

WHEREAS, Hathaway Landscaping LLC has agreed to continue to perform Concrete Sidewalk Replacement for the Town of South Windsor under mutually beneficial and agreed prices for 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council finds it is in the Town's best interest to waive competitive bidding for the Replacement of Concrete Sidewalks and enter into an agreement with Hathaway Landscaping LLC for this work in 2022.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco to sign an agreement and other documents necessary to complete this work.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Jamie Gamble which was passed by a unanimous voice vote.
MOTION CARRIES.

14. Passage of Ordinance
None.

15. Public Input for Any Matter

James Dina (789 Main Street) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant closest to Main Street. Mr. Dina explained that he has been a resident of the Town of South Windsor since 1974 and that in the years since his family has experienced odors in their backyard, on the air, and in their home. Mr. Dina explained that since he has been a resident off and on over the years he has worked with the WPCA and town officials to help remediate the issue of the odors to no avail. Mr. Dina indicated that throughout all of his conversations with WPCA supervisors and town officials that the odors are due to the lack of correct upgrades to the facility and that year after year the residents of that area have been told to be patient as the Town works to solve the odor issue. Mr. Dina asked that members of the Town Council help to find a permit solution to this issue and support the WPCA in addressing this issue.

Jean Howat (763 Main Street) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant has been a resident since 1977 and the odor has been a problem all along. Ms. Howat expressed her concerns of the foul odors that come from the plant on a weekly basis and that the smells invade their homes and that almost every weekend the smell continues. Ms. Howat explained that this is not acceptable and that over the years she has maintained a good working relationship with the plant managers and that no matter the upgrades, the odor system has always been inadequate. Ms. Howat says that over the years and after countless conversations with WPCA managers the issue always seemed to be the same, which is that the biofilter that the Town purchased was the cheapest and the weakest choice made at the time. Ms. Howat is respectfully requesting the Town Council's attention to this issue and that they begin to address the odor.

Christopher Wiklos (756 Main Street) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant and he has been a resident of South Windsor for 30-years. Mr. Wiklos noted that the odor was affecting the quality of life on Main Street and that the various Town sponsored events are interrupted by the odor and that the impact on people is larger than perceived. Mr. Wiklos noted that this issue does not reflect well on the Town of South Windsor for either the residents who live here or the people that visit the Town on a regular basis.

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Carolyn Venne (*101 Rugby Lane*) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant and noted that she was the Executive Director of the Wood Memorial Library. Ms. Venne explained that the odor has been an issue for years and all year long. Ms. Venne explained that various events at Wood Memorial Library bring a lot of attention to Town and this is more than a one-time occurrence. Ms. Venne asked for members of the Town Council's support.

Floyd Baranello (*763 Main Street*) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant and presented members of the Town Council with a map of where odor samples had been taken. Mr. Baranello expressed concern that the locations where the samples were taken were much farther away from the residential neighborhood and that the odor levels are actually higher than they appear to be. Mr. Baranello is asking for the support of members of the Town Council to help get this issue corrected.

Audrey Delnicki (*130 Felt Road*) addressed members of the Town Council regarding an email that was sent to Scott Nolan, Clerk of the Council on May 22, 2022, regarding the nominating form for the June 6, 2022, Town Council meeting. Ms. Delnicki went on to indicate that the names that were submitted were conveniently left off the agenda. Ms. Delnicki asked the Town Council when enough was enough and then proceeded to submit a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco. Ms. Delnicki inquired where the Mayor get the authority to set the agenda and that she would like to get answer. Ms. Delnicki went on to further explain that she felt there was no unity in South Windsor and that members of the Town Council need to start allowing the appointments of the minority party.

Jean Howat (*763 Main Street*) spoke to members of the Town Council regarding the sewage treatment plant and mentioned that eventually, she would need to sell her home and that the current odor situation was not good for resale value.

16. Communications from Council
No report was given.

17. Executive Session

Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. made a motion to go into executive session at 10:05 p.m. to discuss item # 17(B) to discuss a strategy in negotiations (Strategy in Negotiations Regarding Retention of All Employees) and item # 17(A) to discuss a personnel matter (Town Managers Performance Evaluation) and invited the Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco into executive session. Councilor Andrew Paterna seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

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18. Adjournment

There being no more business to come before the meeting, Deputy Mayor Steven King, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the Regular Town Council Meeting at 10:58 p.m., which was seconded by Councilor Andrew Paterna and passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,

Scott A. Nolan

Clerk of the Council