

TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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November 9, 2015

TOWN COUNCIL – Organizational Meeting Council Chambers – South Windsor Town Hall

Prior to the commencement of the Program, a “Flag Ceremony,” followed by the Pledge of Allegiance was led by representatives from South Windsor’s Boy Scout Troop 62 and the South Windsor High School’s Treble Choir performed the National Anthem.

1. Call Meeting to Order

State Representative William Aman called the Organizational Meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

2. Invocation

Chaplin Doug Rowse delivered the Invocation.

3. Administering of Oath of Office to Town Council Members by State Representative William Aman

M. Saud Anwar
William Carroll (not present)
Thomas Delnicki
Edward Havens
Lisa Maneeley
Carolyn Mirek
Elizabeth Pendleton
Matthew Riley
Janice Snyder

4. Election of a Mayor by the Town Council for a Term of Office Ending November 13, 2017, or until a Successor is Chosen and Seated

State Representative Aman called for nominations for election of a Mayor by the Town Council for a term of office ending November 13, 2017, or until a successor is chosen and seated.

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4. (Continued)

Councilor Maneeley made a motion to nominate Thomas Delnicki as Mayor for a term ending November 13, 2017, or until a successor is chosen and seated. The motion was seconded by Councilor Riley.

There being no further nominations, State Representative Aman asked the following:

"All those in favor of the nomination of Thomas Delnicki as Mayor, please signify by saying 'Aye'." There being a unanimous response, State Representative Aman then declared Thomas Delnicki duly elected as Mayor of South Windsor in accordance with the motion adopted.

5. Election of a Deputy Mayor by the Town Council for a Term of Office Ending November 13, 2017, or until a Successor is Chosen and Seated

Mayor Delnicki called for nominations for election of a Deputy Mayor by the Town Council for a term of office ending November 13, 2017, or until a successor is chosen and seated.

Councilor Snyder made a motion to nominate Carolyn Mirek as Deputy Mayor for a term ending November 13, 2017, or until a successor is chosen and seated. The motion was seconded by Councilor Riley and was unanimously approved.

6. Appointment of a Clerk of the Council by the Town Council

Deputy Mayor Mirek made a motion to appoint Deborah W. Reid as Clerk of the Council for a term ending November 13, 2017, or until a successor is chosen and seated. The motion was seconded by Councilor Anwar and was unanimously approved.

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7. Setting of a Time and Place for Regular Council Meetings

Councilor Anwar made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the next Regular Meeting of the South Windsor Town Council be set for Monday, November 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the South Windsor Town Hall; and the previous Council schedule of Regular Meetings be adopted pending Council approval of permanent Rules and Procedures.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Pendleton and was unanimously approved.

8. Adoption of Rules and Procedures for the Town Council which Include the Method for the Calling of Special Meetings

Councilor Havens made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Rules and Procedures of the previous Council be adopted as this Council's Rules, including the method for the calling of Special Meetings.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Pendleton and was unanimously approved.

9. Administering of Oath of Office to Other Elected Officials by State Representative William Aman

State Representative Aman then administered the Oath of Office to the following elected officials:

Town Treasurer

Barbara Pandiscia (not present)

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9. (Continued)

Board of Education

Joseph Durette
Beth Esstman
Jamie Gamble
Michael Gonzalez
Mary Justine Hockenberry
David S. Joy
Phil Koboski
Richard Stahr
Craig S. Zimmerman (not present)

Planning and Zoning Commission

Stephanie Dexter
Kevin Foley (not present)
Bart Pacekonis

Constables

Joseph Etter (not present)
Sandra c. Jeski
Jay Murtha (not present)
James Neary
Joan Walsh

Board of Selectmen

Roger Anderson (not present)
Paul Burnham
Matthew Mitchell

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10. Remarks by the New Mayor

Mayor Delnicki thanked Troop 62, the South Windsor High School Treble Choir, and Pastor Rowse.

Mayor Delnicki then remarked that the votes have been counted and the signs are down and we have all taken the oath of office here tonight. The Town Council will have many challenges and opportunities that come before us over the course of the next couple of years. Every decision that is made has to be well thought out because there could be consequences that affect the Town for many years. The Council needs to continue to include the community's voice and input when dealing with issues and making decisions.

When a public hearing is held on an important issue, the Council should not vote on that issue the same night that the public hearing is held. The Council needs to digest the information that is received from the public and weigh the facts and then come back at the next meeting and make a decision.

Executive Sessions should only be held when absolutely necessary. Government needs to be transparent where everyone gets the same information at the same time and everyone is treated equally.

Ethics and integrity seems to be a problem in a number of communities throughout Connecticut, luckily South Windsor has yet to see that happen here.

Moving forward, there are a number of issues that need to be addressed. There is an old saying if you don't have a map in directions, how can you get to your destination without getting lost. With that in mind, work has begun on refreshing our strategic planning, we must bring this process to a successful conclusion and make the transition from "One Town, One Future" to "Our Town, Our Future". We are all in this together and we will all either succeed together or fail together; I prefer to success.

The EOC/Town Hall Annex is moving towards completion. The Council needs to focus on bringing it to a conclusion and placing that building in operation. The Town needs to continue to pursue grants and other sources of funding so that the burden on the taxpayers can be reduced.

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10. (Continued)

The new Orchard Hill School will be coming on line during this term, the Council needs to be prepared for the closing of Wapping Elementary School, the moving of the Recreation Department to the Wapping Elementary School and the transition of the Community Center to a full fledged senior center. These issues and many other issues will come before the Council and will require good ideas and thoughtful discussions. The Council will enthusiastically welcome new ideas from wherever they come from.

Mayor Delnicki congratulated the new Deputy Mayor, Carolyn Streeter Mirek, welcomed Billy Carroll to the Town Council and welcomed back Lisa Maneeley to the Town Council. Mayor Delnicki then recognized Edward Havens who has given a life time of service to the community and Saud Anwar for being the previous Mayor. As for those who did not get elected, please stay involved with the Town.

Mayor Delnicki announced that on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 there will be a Veterans' Day Ceremony at Veterans' Memorial Park. The reason we have free and open elections, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is because of the men and women in the armed forces that have been there safe guarding our Constitution, freedom and liberty.

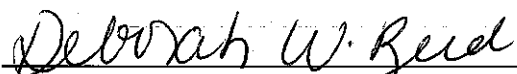
Mayor Delnicki invited everyone to the Mill on the River for a reception.

Mayor Delnicki also recognized Councilor Wagner and Councilor Paterna for their service that they gave to the Town and hope they continue to stay involved.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:26 p.m. by Councilor Pendleton. It was seconded by Councilor Maneeley and was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid, Clerk of the Council