

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

**April 16, 2018
8:30 p.m.**

South Windsor Town Council

**PURPOSE: To receive citizen input on the Proposed General Government
Budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019**

Deputy Mayor Paterna called the Public Hearing to order at 8:30 p.m.; and requested that the Clerk of the Council read the call of the meeting (a copy of which is attached hereto, **Exhibit A**). There were approximately twenty (20) people present in the audience.

Deputy Mayor Paterna asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak.

Mr. Don Gonsalves, 40 Bayberry Trail, came forward and stated that there was only seven members of the public at the Board of Education Public Hearing. There are 15,000 residents that could have attended. The school budget represents 70% of the total Town budget. Our home prices have not increased in 10-15 years. If the school system is so important, why haven't our home prices gone up? Our taxes, as a percent of property value, are 2.7% with the average in the United States being 1.0%. In 2020/2021 the State will be looking at a \$3.5 billion dollar deficit in the State budget. The first thing the State will do is cut what is given to the Towns. Social security increases in the last three years have been less than 1% per year. The biggest asset a person has is their home. The School should be cutting costs, not adding costs. Mr. Gonsalves stated he is looking for a lawyer because the referendum that approved the two schools was incorrect and the Town could be sued for that.

Mr. Matthew Burdzey, 63 Trumbull Lane stated that he would support a 3.8% increase. The two things he saw in the budget that caught his attention was \$144,000 in Human Resource that he does not support without knowing more about it. There was also \$300,000 for Parks & Recreation through the General Fund. Could not find where that was restored in the budget. There is about \$1,000,000 spent on the Fire Department, but we spend \$2,700,000 on Leisure and Cultural items. The State has approximately \$11,000,000 coming to South Windsor, and in the budget he found \$9,500,000 coming from the State. Mr. Burdzey wondered where the remainder of the State money is. It would also be good to understand the demographics in South Windsor. The Town needs contingency plans. After this budget is passed, the State is facing about \$192,000,000 shortfall, and the State is going to cut some of the funds promised to South Windsor. The Town will have to make adjustments to the budget. The Town needs to be transparent in the budget process.

Mr. Charlie Rose, 60 Henry Road stated that there are a lot of large homes being built in Town and he stated that there is an increase in taxes each year and wondered what happens with the extra tax money that comes in with the new development.

Mrs. Nancy Yario, 20 Andreis Trail stated that the Park & Recreation Department had over \$1,000,000 in the ten years she has been dealing with the Bark Park issue. At different times when the Bark Park first opened, she wanted some bushes put up to help with the noise, but was told there was no money to do that. Mrs. Yario questioned what happened with the \$1,000,000 that Park & Recreation had and then stated that the Park & Recreation should not be making any profits.

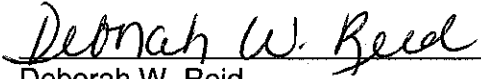
Deputy Mayor Paterna asked for a Straw Vote, the results of which were as follows:

Those supporting the proposed General Government Budget: 5

Those opposed to the proposed General Government Budget: 4

The public hearing was closed at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

Public Hearing Notice – Exhibit A

received 4/12/18 @ 3:05 PM
Courtney Cannella, ATC



OFFICE
OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL

Town of South Windsor

1540 SULLIVAN AVENUE • SOUTH WINDSOR, CT 06074-2786
AREA CODE 860/644-2511
FAX 860/644-3781

Exhibit A

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL INQUIRER

April 9, 2018

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Notice is hereby given that the South Windsor Town Council has set Monday, April 16, 2018, at 8:30 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 Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

Dated at South Windsor, Connecticut this 6th day of April 2018.

Attested to by:

Deborah W. Reid
Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

<p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR</p> <p>Notice is hereby given that the South Windsor Town Council has set <u>Monday, April 16, 2018, at 8:30 p.m.</u> 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 <u>General Government Budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.</u></p> <p>Dated at South Windsor, Connecticut this 6th day of April 2018.</p> <p>Attested to by: <u>/s/ Deborah W. Reid</u> Clerk of the Council</p> <p>Journal Inquirer April 9, 2018</p>
