

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 1

October 5, 2020

**TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING**

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Paterna called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna
Deputy Mayor Liz Pendleton
Councilor Audrey Delnicki
Councilor Erica Evans
Councilor Cesar Lopez
Councilor Karen Lydecker
Councilor Lisa Maneeley
Councilor Janice Snyder

Members Absent: Councilor Mary Justine Hockenberry

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

After roll call was complete, Mayor Paterna read two proclamations recognizing Frank “Bill” Dzen and Catherine Molloy on their retirements.

4. Mayor’s Remarks

Mayor Paterna thanked the Human Services Department for keeping the Senior Center operating during COVID-19 and staying connected with the senior citizens in South Windsor.

Mayor Paterna informed the public that the Town of South Windsor has great information on its website regarding absentee ballot voting and in-person voting. Mayor Paterna thanked Bonnie Armstrong, Town Clerk; Sue Burnham, Registrar; and Sue Larsen, Registrar, for their work.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Maneeley made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Deputy Mayor Pendleton seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 2

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

Mr. Maniscalco reported on the following items:

- South Windsor was ranked 12th on Money Magazine's top 50 best places to live in the nation.
- Met with the owners of The Promenade Shops at Evergreen Walk, Poag & McEwen. They will be bringing in Charter Realty, who specializes in retail development, to bring more business to Evergreen Walk.
- The bases for the flag poles at the Wapping Community Center have been installed.
- There have been 238 individuals infected with COVID-19 in South Windsor. One hundred and ninety are past quarantine. There have been 32 people who have passed away due to COV-19. Statewide, there has been an increase in COVID-19. Mr. Maniscalco reminded everyone of the importance of washing hands, social distancing, and using masks, especially as the weather changes, and everyone will be indoors more.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Maniscalco explained that COVID-19 cases are steady in South Windsor but seem to be creeping up one or two at a time Statewide. There is concern regionally and Statewide. If anyone wants information regarding the COVID-19 case at the high school, they should contact the Superintendent of Schools. The Health Department has been in communications with the Board of Education and is working on contact tracing. Mr. Maniscalco explained to the Council and public that the Public Works Department works with a contractor who evaluates the condition of pavement in our community. Based upon the condition of the pavement, a list is established setting the priorities. The money to do paving comes from capital projects, and the money to do items such as crack sealing comes from the operating budget. The annual fee for sewer fees comes from the Water Pollution Control Authority, and that fee did not go up this year.

Mrs. Perry informed Council members that 43 years is the longest an employee has been employed with the Town recently. In the past, there was an employee who was here for a long time, but she would have to check the years.

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 3

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

7. Public Input

None

8. Adoption of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meetings: Special Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2020; Regular Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2020; and Public Hearing Minutes of September 21, 2020.

Was made by Councilor Delnicki
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton

Councilor Evans stated that some clarifications should be made on the Special Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2020. Under Item 8. D. it presently says Councilor Snyder has been working with the Library to schedule community events that will be held once or twice per month, and there is a resolution on the agenda tonight to request funding in order to hold programming. It is important to the Sub-Committee that this Sub-Committee continue their work after meeting the obligations of the resolution, and it has been discussed to create a Sub-Committee under the Human Relations Commission, which will need guidance from the Town Council. Councilor Evans is proposing this section to read; Councilor Snyder has been working with the Library to schedule community events that will be held once or twice per month. There is a resolution on the agenda tonight to request funding in order to hold programming, facilitation, and training. After the Sub-Committee meets its obligations under the resolution, it is important that the Sub-Committee continues under the Human Relations Commission or as a Commission through the creation of an Ordinance. The establishment of the new Sub-Committee or Commission will need guidance from the Town Council.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the Adoption of Minutes with the proposed clarifications to the September 9, 2020 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 4

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

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

Councilor Evans reported that at the Public Building Commission meeting last week, the Commission discussed the distribution of soils and preliminary concepts for Pleasant Valley Elementary School.

10. Reports from Committees

Councilor Evans informed the Council and the public that there would be a virtual community conversation on October 20, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. The speaker will be Dr. Joseph Cooper.

Councilor Evans then informed that Council and the public that there will be a Naming of Public Lands and Buildings Committee meeting on October 8, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. to discuss honoring John Mitchell, James Throw, and Al Larson. The Committee will discuss the naming of public lands and buildings for each individual.

11. Consent Agenda

First Reading

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to approve Agenda Item 11.a.A as a First Reading on the Consent Agenda. Councilor Evans seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

A. Resolution Appointing James MacPherson to the Energy Committee 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 James MacPherson to the Energy Committee and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

Second Reading

Councilor Lydecker made a motion to approved Agenda Items 11.b.A. through 11.b.D as a Second Reading on the Consent Agenda. Deputy Mayor Pendleton seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

(Consent Agenda Continued on Next Page)

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

Minutes

Page 5

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

11. Consent Agenda (Continued)

- A. Resolution Appointing James Hennessey (D) to the Park & Recreation 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 James Hennessey (D) to the Park & Recreation Commission for a term ending December 31, 2021, to fill the unexpired term of Alan Larson and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

- B. Resolution Appointing Linda Jeski (D) to the Human Relations 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 Linda Jeski (D) to the Human Relations Commission for a term ending November 30, 2020, to fill the unexpired term of Lloxi Lopez and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

- C. Resolution Appointing Nick Jones to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee 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 Nick Jones to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting

- D. Resolution Appointing Marietta St. Onge to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee 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 Marietta St. Onge to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

Minutes

Page 6

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

12. Unfinished Business

- A. Resolution Authorizing Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to Sign and Enter into an Agreement with the City of Quito, Ecuador (Postponed from the September 21, 2020, Town Council Meeting)**

WHEREAS, The Sister Cities Program is dedicated to improving human connections and understanding through cultural, trade, and educational exchange with other communities throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, The Sister Cities Partnership/Program between South Windsor, Connecticut, and Quito, Ecuador will foster mutually beneficial relationships and the exchange of ideas between two municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the South Windsor Town Council would like to enter into The Sister Cities Program with the City of Quito, Ecuador

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby authorizes Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to sign and enter into an agreement with the City of Quito, Ecuador.

Councilor Lopez explained that he had a meeting with a representative from Sister City International in Washington, D.C., who is willing to create a template to show the Council what this relationship would look like. This can be shown to the Council when it is complete.

Councilor Snyder made a motion to table this resolution. Councilor Maneeley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

13. New Business

- A. Discussion Item: Naming of a Town Site in Honor of John Mitchell (requested by Councilor Snyder)**

Councilor Snyder explained that the Naming of Public Lands & Buildings Sub-Committee met in March to discuss the naming of a Town site in honor of John Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell was a businessman, Chamber member, Rotary Club member, and a former Mayor. Two weeks after this meeting was held, COVID-19 happened, and this issue was put on hold. In March, two locations

(Discussion Continued on Next Page)

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 7

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

13. A. (Continued)

were identified by the family as potential locations to name in honor of John Mitchell (South Windsor Fairgrounds, aka as the Barton Property on Brookfield Street, and the pavilion at Veterans Memorial Park). Councilor Snyder stated that it should be reviewed if the Barton Property has any deed restrictions placed on it where it could not be named after someone or if a name has already been chosen. She then questioned if someone has spoken to the Rotary Club? There are presently two more individuals that the Sub-Committee will be discussing to name something in the Town after. Those individuals are James Throwe and Al Larson. Councilor Snyder requested naming something after Mr. Mitchell be completed first because discussions have already been held on this.

Mayor Paterna stated that Mr. Ray Favreau was supposed to talk with the Rotary Club to see if they would agree to naming the pavilion after Mr. Mitchell. A report will be given at the Naming of Public Lands and Buildings Sub-Committee meeting. Mayor Paterna said he would have to refer to the Town Manager to see if there were any restrictions on the Barton Property when the Town purchased it. Mayor Paterna reminded the Council that discussions regarding Jim Throwe and Al Larson still need to be held.

Mr. Roberts informed the Council that the meeting with the Naming of Public Lands and Buildings Sub-Committee would be a Webex meeting and broadcast live.

B. Resolution Regarding Race Amity Day

WHEREAS, the South Windsor community stands strong against racial injustice wherever and whenever it may occur; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut supports the motto of the United States of America, E Pluribus Unum; and

WHEREAS, the greatest asset of the State of Connecticut is its people; and

WHEREAS, South Windsor is comprised of multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-racial citizens; and

(Resolution Continued on Next Page)

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

Minutes

Page 8

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

13. B. (Continued)

WHEREAS, there is no room for racism, bigotry, prejudice, or violence in our Town, State, or Nation; and

WHEREAS, friendship, collegiality, civility, respect, and kindness are commonly shared ideals of the collective citizenry of the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Towards E Pluribus Unum Initiative has invited communities across the United States of America to join in introspection and reflection on the beauty and richness of the diverse peoples of this great nation while reaching out with a spirit of amity toward one another; and

WHEREAS, we stand for Love and Care for all community members, people of all cultures, and we support the program known as Race Amity Day

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council encourages all residents of South Windsor to stand up against racism, racial inequality, social injustice, and violence, and commit to working together in our community to address any racism in our Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council welcomes all residents to come together to create positive changes in South Windsor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council will designate the 2nd Sunday in June each year to be proclaimed as Connecticut Race Amity Day; support the goals and ideals of Race Amity Day in the State of Connecticut; encourage all citizens of South Windsor to join in activities in support of the goals and ideals of Race Amity Day; and authorize and issue this resolution calling on the people of the Town of South Windsor, in the State of Connecticut, to observe Connecticut Race Amity Day with appropriate programs and activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council stands firmly committed to peace, justice, freedom, and establishing an anti-racist culture in South Windsor.

(Resolution Continued on Next Page)

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

Page 9

October 5, 2020

ITEM:

13. B. (Continued)

Was made by Councilor Evans
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton

Answering questions from the Council, Mayor Paterna explained that the organization sponsoring the programs on Race Amity Day is the Connecticut Coalition on Race Amity and suggested that the Human Relations Commission consider getting involved. Mayor Paterna then informed the Council that the approval of this does not commit the Town to allocate any funds for the programming.

Mayor Paterna called for a vote on the motion; it was approved unanimously.

14. Passage of Ordinance

None

15. Public Input

Mr. Bill Thomas, President, Connecticut Coalition for Race Amity, **(Exhibit A)**

16. Communications from Council

None

17. Executive Session

None

18. Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., Councilor Snyder made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Deputy Mayor Pendleton seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

Reid, Deborah

From: TownCouncilComments,
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 7:23 PM
To: Reid, Deborah
Subject: FW: Race Amity Day

please print for mike

From: Bill [ccramity@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 7:19 PM
To: TownCouncilComments,; Bill Thomas
Subject: Race Amity Day

To South Windsor Council

Regular Meeting October 5, 2020
REF: New Business Item 13.B
Resolution Regarding Race Amity Day

Bill Thomas
President
Connecticut Coalition for Race Amity (CCRA)
860-644-1938
CCRAmity@gmail.com

I am writing on behalf of CCRA in support of New Business Item 13.B. The CCRA mission is to foster the building of unified communities by facilitating gatherings where diverse people can have meaningful dialogues, discover the values in each other and recognize diversity as a benefit to humanity's well-being. Race Amity Day is a day that can promote inclusion in a more social atmosphere. Sharing food, fun, games and other social activities is a simple and straightforward approach.

The phrase of "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion" (DEI) has become a commonly used reference for improving relationships between all people. In many instances, the first two words are being unitized in group activities, whether in the workplace, church, town councils, neighborhoods, and organizations. Inclusion, however, providing equal access to opportunities and resources and being accepted and appreciated, needs to be practiced more effectively. We believe inclusion requires the building of relationships, and envision Race Amity Day to be a foundational element for advancing inclusion by celebrating our national motto – E pluribus unum, "out of many, one."

Our coalition does not feel that the Town of South Windsor will have any financial responsibilities, unless they decide to sponsor some activity, other than having the mayor of South Windsor issue a proclamation of recommendation on the 2nd Sunday of June every year.

I ask for your approval of this resolution.

Exhibit A

With sincerest regards,

Bill Thomas

President

CT Coalition for Race Amity

860-644-1938

CCRAmity@gmail.com (email)

CT-CRA.org (web)