

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

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June 21, 2021

**TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – SOUTH WINDSOR TOWN HALL**

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Paterna called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna
Deputy Mayor Liz Pendleton
Councilor Erica Evans
Councilor Steven King, Jr.
Councilor Philp Koboski
Councilor Cesar Lopez
Councilor Karen Lydecker (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)
Councilor Lisa Maneeley
Councilor Janice Snyder

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

After Roll Call was complete, Mayor Paterna recognized Debra Burch from the South Windsor Volunteer Fire Department for earning the Executive Fire Officer Certification.

4. Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Paterna stated it is great to be back to in-person meetings and invited everyone to get involved.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Lydecker made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilor Koboski seconded the motion.

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ITEM:

5. Adoption of Agenda (Continued)

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to amend the agenda to move Item 13. O. (Resolution Approving an Annual Salary for Town Manager Michael Maniscalco for Fiscal Year 2021/2022) after 17. B. (Executive Session).

Councilor Evans made a motion to continue Items 12. A. and 12. B. to the next Town Council Meeting.

Councilor Maneeley seconded the motions, and they were approved unanimously.

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

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

Town Manager Maniscalco reported on the following:

- There have been a total of 1,746 cases of COVID-19 in South Windsor, with 1,689 past quarantine at this time. Fifty-three individuals in South Windsor have passed away due to COVID-19.
- There is 59.85% of individuals vaccinated.
- The Town has stopped holding its vaccine clinic due to lack of attendance but will finish up the second shots for individuals who had received their first shot at the clinic.
- The Town is watching to see what happens with the Implementer Bill from the State.
- The Town is expecting to receive approximately \$11,408,078 in ECS funding this year and next year. This amount is expected to drop after these two years.
- Reimbursement for Pleasant Valley Elementary School was approved in the amount of \$22,000,000.
- The vehicle GPS and camera system will cost an additional \$9.00 per month per vehicle. The Town is looking to offset the \$100,000 annually of damage that occurs to the Town vehicles. There have also been workers' compensation questions of the use of seat belts in some Town vehicles. Having the cameras will help the Town know that seat belts are being used to save the Tax Payers additional money.
- The Town has finished its application to FEMA for Storm Isaias. The application is for reimbursement of \$300,000 to the Town.

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ITEM:

6. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that the new GPS systems being installed could record the audio; the Town has agreed that there will not be audio recordings done. The system that the Town presently has is due to be replaced, and the additional camera being installed is \$9.00 per vehicle per month. Town Manager Maniscalco stated that he believes installing the cameras will be an additional \$11,000 per year.

7. Public Input

Mr. Dave MacDonald, 79 Laurel Street, made comments as shown in attached **Exhibit A**.

Mr. Dan Edwards, 131 Hilton Drive, came before the Council and compared the goals of the Human Relations Commission and the proposed Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission. Mr. Edwards questioned if the training that is required with the creation of the Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission the best thing for the Town and Town staff. Is this going to be easy, measurable, and smart, and is this something the Town Manager is going to be able to negotiate with the unions? Is it really in the best interest, or does the Town already have existing training programs that won't take Town staff away from doing their day job? In summary, Mr. Edwards felt that more transparency is needed.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meeting: Regular Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2021.

Was made by Councilor Lopez

Seconded by Councilor Snyder

The motion passed on a roll vote of 8-0 with Councilor King abstaining

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meetings: Public Hearing Minutes of June 7, 2021; and Regular Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2021.

Was made by Councilor King

Seconded by Councilor Snyder

The motion was approved unanimously

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

Councilor Evans reported that the Park & Recreation Commission met on June 9, 2021. The Commission shared that the Cross Town Trail starting at Clark Street and ending on Priest Farm on Sullivan, is being finalized and will be developed by the South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways. The showmobile has a delivery date of June 23, 2021. The summer programs through Park & Recreation have started this week and have 2,740 registrations. Veterans Memorial Pool is open, and swim lessons began today. The Farmers Market has been a big hit in its new location. They will also start the POP program, and the Power of Produce for Families will start later this month. The Summer Concert Series will begin on June 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at Evergreen Walk.

10. Reports from Committees

Mrs. Brenda Koboski, Chairperson of the South Winsor 175th Anniversary Committee, came before the Council to update them on the 175th Anniversary celebrations. The Committee has coins, t-shirts, and other SWAG that are being sold at different Town events. This is being done to get people excited about the 175th Anniversary celebrations on September 17th and 18th. The Committee is meeting every other week trying to get sponsorships and to get organizations and clubs involved. The South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee has a website (SouthWindsor175.org). If anyone is interested in participating in any manner, please contact the Committee.

11. Consent Agenda

a. First Reading

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

- A. Resolution Appointing Bala Ramasamy (D) to the Water Pollution Control Authority and Postponing Consideration of this Motion until the Town Council's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**

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ITEM:

11. Consent Agenda (Continued)

a. First Reading (Continued)

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Bala Ramasamy (D) to the Water Pollution Control Authority for a term ending November 30, 2023, to fill the unexpired term of Steven King, Jr., and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

B. Resolution Appointing Deborah Cohen (D) an Alternate to the Historic District 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 Deborah Cohen (D) an Alternate to the Historic District Commission for a term ending November 30, 2021, to fill the unexpired term of Elizabeth Burgess and postpones consideration of this motion until the Town Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

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

b. Second Reading

A. Resolution Appointing Jill McAllister to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Jill McAllister to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee.

B. Resolution Appointing Vasanth Kainkaryam to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Vasanth Kainkaryam to the South Windsor 175th Anniversary Committee.

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ITEM:

11. Consent Agenda (Continued)

b. Second Reading (Continued)

C. Resolution Appointing Stephanie Weintraub (R) to the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby appoints Stephanie Weintraub (R) to the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission for a term ending November 30, 2022, to fill the unexpired term of Philip Koboski.

13. New Business

A. Discussion Item: Recovery Act Funds (requested by Councilor Snyder)

Councilor Snyder stated that she would like Town Manager Maniscalco to give an estimate of the amount of money that will be coming from the Federal Government, and explain what those funds will be used for, and the specific criteria for the use of these funds.

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that the amount of money that the Town of South Windsor will be receiving is \$7,742,659. The funds will be received in two separate rounds, with the first half being disbursed in 2021 and expected tomorrow, and the second half being disbursed in 2022. Town Manager Maniscalco informed the Council of the preliminary guidelines that have been outlined and explained that the final guidelines will be coming out sometime at the end of the month or next month. Town Manager Maniscalco stated that the funds could not be used to reduce taxes. If its use is deemed non-compliant, the Federal Government can come in and request reimbursement. The Town has identified approximately 13 projects that are believed could potentially be eligible in the following areas:

- Additional Social Workers for the mental health challenges. These Social Workers would work with the Police Department and with the summer camps.
- A water safety program because lifeguards have made over ten saves this year.
- Sewer Infrastructure Projects.

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ITEM:

13. A. (Continued)

- Broadband Projects.
- Upgrades and renovations to the South Windsor Town Hall.

Councilor Snyder questioned if the Water Pollution Control Authority has been included in discussions regarding the sewer infrastructure projects? Town Manager Maniscalco explained that Mr. Manfre has been involved in the discussions and has brought forward a prioritized list of projects.

Answering further questions from the Council, Mr. Maniscalco explained that the Park & Recreation Department is pushing to have the water safety programs implemented this summer, and this program could be offered for another couple of years. It has been made clear that the Social Workers will be temporary grant-funded positions.

Councilor Snyder requested that the projects and all of the components of each project that will be done by the Town be put on the website and social media in order to keep the public informed.

Councilor King requested that the guidelines from the Federal Government be put on the Town website.

Town Manager Maniscalco stated that it is his understanding that the funds need to be used by Fiscal Year 2024. If those funds are not used, they would have to be returned to the Federal Government.

Councilor Snyder requested that when the money gets deposited into the Town's Special Revenue Account, that the Council be informed. Also, when a list of projects is complete, the Council members should receive a description of the project and the cost estimates for each project. Councilor Snyder also requested that this information be put on the Town website and on social media.

**B. Discussion Item: Unexpended Funds from Fiscal Year 2020/2021
(requested by Councilor Snyder)**

Councilor Snyder stated that she would like the Town Manager to give the Council an estimate of the unexpended funds from the current Fiscal Year and explain what those funds will be used for.

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ITEM:

13. B. (Continued)

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that the Town is \$3,400,000 over what was budgeted for in revenue. The Town has experienced higher than estimated tax collection, building permit fees, Town Clerk fees, and Fire Marshal fees. The Town is \$1,400,000 under in expenses due to saving money because of vacancies in the Police Department as well as savings in electricity costs at the Police Department. There have also been savings in Public Work salaries due to vacancies. Lastly, the Town still has money in its Contingency Account and smaller amounts throughout the departments. Town Manager Maniscalco informed the Council that there are plans to fund the pension with about \$1,000,000, and approximately \$1,000,000 will be put back into the General Fund. Funding both of these items will help with the Town's rating. Town Manager Maniscalco stated that the remainder of the funds would be put towards GAP financing.

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that funds will not be put towards Capital Projects from unexpended funds, but Recovery Act Funds will be put towards some Capital Projects that meet the criteria outlined by the Federal Government. Town Manager Maniscalco stated that there is close to \$100,000,000 in school building projects that need to be bonded. The Town needs to work hard at getting to the AAA rating because it can save the Town significant money.

C. Resolution Creating a Strategic Planning Committee

WHEREAS, the Town of South Windsor undertook a strategic planning process in 2001 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has the desire to make decisions and implement strategies in a plan-full manner with the intent of doing the best for all South Windsor's residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes that the Town can achieve more effective and efficient service delivery to residents through planning processes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has the desire to develop a vision, goals, and objectives through working with a broad spectrum of residents who represent diversity in age, race, and gender

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ITEM:

13. C. (Continued)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby creates a Strategic Planning Committee with the express intent to accomplish the following:

1. Through broad outreach to the community, develop a vision statement for what the community would like to become:
 - a. The Committee will advertise and hold two (2) public hearings to gather input from the community.
 - b. Through support of the Town staff, the Committee can consider conducting a survey using multiple mediums for dissemination.
 - c. Develop and deliver a report to the Town Council by 7/1/2022 that will explain the Committees recommended vision and why it is the recommended vision.
2. Work collaboratively with the Town Council to develop goals that will accomplish the vision.
3. Work with the Town Council and Town staff to create specific, measurable objectives that will accomplish the identified goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall be appointed by the Town Council and shall be made up of no more than nine members. Two members must attend South Windsor Public Schools; two members must consider themselves to be senior citizens; there must be representatives from both genders, and there must be representation of both political parties. Every effort shall be made to seek both cultural and ethnic diversity. The Town Manager, Mayor, and Minority Leader (or their designee) will be considered ex officio members with full rights to speak at meetings but will have no right to vote.

Was made by Deputy Mayor Pendleton
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Mayor Paterna made a motion to amend the resolution to change some language in the last paragraph, add that the Mayor and Minority Leader will accept nominations from Town Council members and residents (residents may nominate themselves), bring the list of nominations to the Town Council for review, and bring their recommendation for the Committee make-up to the Council for approval. Deputy Mayor Pendleton seconded the amendment, and it was approved unanimously.

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ITEM:

13. C. (Continued)

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

The amended resolution to read as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of South Windsor undertook a strategic planning process in 2001 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has the desire to make decisions and implement strategies in a plan-full manner with the intent of doing the best for all South Windsor's residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes that the Town can achieve more effective and efficient service delivery to residents through planning processes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has the desire to develop a vision, goals, and objectives through working with a broad spectrum of residents who represent diversity in age, race, and gender

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby creates a Strategic Planning Committee with the express intent to accomplish the following:

1. Through broad outreach to the community, develop a vision statement for what the community would like to become:
 - a. The Committee will advertise and hold two (2) public hearings to gather input from the community.
 - b. Through support of the Town staff, the Committee can consider conducting a survey using multiple mediums for dissemination.
 - c. Develop and deliver a report to the Town Council by 7/1/2022 that will explain the Committees recommended vision and why it is the recommended vision.
2. Work collaboratively with the Town Council to develop goals that will accomplish the vision.
3. Work with the Town Council and Town staff to create specific, measurable objectives that will accomplish the identified goals; and

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ITEM:

13. C. (Continued)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall be appointed by the Town Council and shall be made up of no more than nine members. Two members must attend South Windsor Public Schools; two members must consider themselves to be senior citizens; there must be representatives from diverse gender identifies, and there must be representation from active political parties. All efforts shall be made to seek both cultural and ethnic diversity in representation. The Town Manager, Mayor, and Minority Leader (or their designee) will be considered ex officio members with full rights to participate at meetings but will have no right to vote in the process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that two Councilors, one being the Mayor and one being the Minority Leader, will accept nominations from Town Council members and residents (residents may also nominate themselves); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Minority Leader shall review nominations for this Committee, bring the full list of nominations to the Council for review, and bring their recommendation for the Committee make-up to the Town Council for approval.

D. Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign and Execute the Connecticut Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program Supplemental Application for the Main Street Bridge over the Podunk River, State Project No. 9132-4174

WHEREAS, the Town of South Windsor is eligible to receive a grant from the State of Connecticut Local Bridge Program to fund up to 50% of the eligible project costs for the reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge over the Podunk River

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby authorizes its Town Manager, Michael Maniscalco, MPA, to sign the Local Bridge Program Supplemental Application and any associated agreements between the State of Connecticut and the Town of South Windsor for the Main Street Bridge over the Podunk River, located 0.5 miles south of I-291 on Main Street, Bridge No. 04174.

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ITEM:

13. D. (Continued)

Was made by Councilor Koboski
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Councilor Koboski stated that he is happy to see this bridge being done.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Doolittle explained that discussions regarding this bridge began in 2014. The cost estimate for this bridge is about \$2,900,000. The Town had originally had a design to replace just the bridge deck, but was denied by the DEEP and DOT collectively because they wanted different treatments for the stream channel. The Town will have to replace the entire bridge, so the cost is higher than originally expected.

Mr. Doolittle informed the Council that the Town should still be able to obtain the 50% from the State. The other half of the project is being funded through Capital Projects and the 2018 Bond Referendum. Some funds have been spent on the design and the permitting for this project. Hopefully, the project will begin this summer and be completed next summer, but the Town is waiting on an easement from one property owner who owes back taxes to the Town. This creates difficulty trying to obtain an easement.

Town Manager Maniscalco reiterated that the easement is holding this project up at this point. The Town has attempted to negotiate with the property owner a few times, and unfortunately, as Mr. Doolittle pointed out, being in the tax sale provides no incentive for that individual to negotiate with the Town. Once there is an identified new owner of that property, the Town could work on negotiating something with them.

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

E. Discussion Item: Update on Laurel Street Traffic Study (*requested by Deputy Mayor Pendleton*) (*Jeff Doolittle, Town Engineer to be present*)

Deputy Mayor Pendleton explained that she had asked for a report last year regarding the effect of painting the lines on Laurel Street and requested the Town Engineer to give the Council an update.

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ITEM:

13. E. (Continued)

Mr. Doolittle explained that as a result of the traffic study, it was determined that the speeds were a little high on Laurel Street, but that was the only traffic issue on Laurel Street. Some of the other roads had some other traffic issues, but you need to look at the neighborhood as a whole because you can't just look at one street without impacting other streets attached to it. The Traffic Engineer recommended that the Town do several minor things to try to reduce speeds and reduce cut-through traffic in that neighborhood as follows:

- Paint centerlines and edge striping specifically on Laurel Street, Woodland Drive, and Oak Street.
- Put up some additional temporary speed detection signs (radar signs).
- If the Town were to do a speed hump, it was recommended to put it on Woodland Drive between Laurel Street and Avery Street.

The Town surveyed the neighborhoods per the Traffic Calming Policy, and due to responses, the speed hump was not done, but the other two measures were completed. In 2019 when the initial study was done, the average speed was about 31 mph, and the 85th percentile speed was 38 mph on Laurel Street. In July of 2020, after the lines were painted, the average speed dropped to 25 mph, and the 85th percentile dropped to 33 mph on Laurel Street. In April of 2021, the Police Department did another survey, the average speed on Laurel Street was 29 mph, and the 85th percentile speed was back up to 37 mph. So, it is fluctuating, but in reality, has not changed much as a result of the study and the things the Town has done. There are no plans to make any more changes to the road, and it is felt what has been done is appropriate.

Chief Lindstrom from the Police Department, explained that the speed study that was conducted after the roadway was marked shows a decrease in average speed, and then the most recently brought it back up a little bit. Chief Lindstrom stated he would have to review if this is a statistically significant increase or not. Any time a counting machine is put on a road, the counts may be different depending upon the season and volume, and that is why you will not get a consistent number every time. Chief Lindstrom explained further that a study is done for about one-week period (24/7). The data is collected, and a report identifies the average speed, the 85th percentile of speed, the maximum speed, the low speed, the time of day, and the day of the week.

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13. E. (Continued)

Chief Lindstrom informed the Council that when the Police Department receives a complaint or there is a problem, a machine is put out in the area where there is a complaint or problem, which gives the truest picture. The biggest complaint that the Police Department receives from neighborhoods is speed, regardless of the neighborhood, and what is often found is the problem doesn't exist to the magnitude of the complaint. At this time, there is nothing more that can be done or warranted for any other actions to be done on Laurel Street. The scope of the problem, as seen by personal observation, and technical observation provides an issue that has been addressed with traffic calming measures secondary to speed humps and stop signs. Chief Lindstrom informed the Council that stop signs, by definition, are not to be used to control speed; they are used to control intersections and where streets come together. These things that have been done have been effective and were appropriate steps to take. Chief Lindstrom understands what Mr. Macdonald is saying but does not know that his continuous push for speed humps is the right answer and, in fact, feels there is a lot of problems that come with them. If a problem doesn't exist based on observation and data, the Town is hard-pressed to do much more than mark the roadway, educate the public, and send some enforcement action there. It is no different than many other streets in Town.

Councilor Koboski explained that he has lived in that area and feels there is a concern there and questioned the cons of putting a stop sign at the intersection of Birch Road and Laurel Street? Chief Lindstrom stated he would have to look at the traffic at that intersection. When trying to solve an issue with traffic calming measures, you must be mindful to make sure you are not displacing a problem to another area.

Mayor Paterna felt that there would not be any harm in putting up a stop sign on Laurel Street and then observing if there is a difference. Chief Lindstrom explained that he would want to look at the manual on uniform traffic control devices and ensure it is warranted, and look at the location. Again, stop signs are not to be used or deployed to remedy speed, but the Police Department can look into this.

Councilor Snyder stated that she would agree to just take another look at it.

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13. E. (Continued)

Town Manager Maniscalco explained that if the Town was to put a stop sign at the corner of any road that was contrary to the purpose identified in the manual, if an accident occurs, the Town could be held liable. Certainly, the Chief and staff will take another look at this issue and will get something back to the Council in writing.

F. Resolution Accepting the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Suspense List

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Suspense List as proposed and submitted to the Town Council by the Collector of Revenue.

Councilor Evans recused herself from this item.

Was made by Councilor Lopez
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that the Tax Collectors Office has been unsuccessful collecting from the individuals on the suspense list. The Town will continue to try to collect the taxes through collection services, marshals, and constables. When these amounts accumulate to an amount that is noticeable or meets the requirements associated with the tax sale, they will end up in a tax sale which will auction off the properties associated with it, and the Town will get funds returned.

Town Manager Maniscalco stated that the suspense list is generated through a database, and if something shows up in error, it is probably a clerical error that needs to be fixed in the department. If anyone is on the list in error, they should contact the Tax Collectors Office.

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

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ITEM:

13. New Business (*Continued*)

G. Resolution Approving a Transfer of \$6,000 from the Contingency Account to the Cemetery Association Account

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a transfer of \$6,000 from the Contingency Account to the Cemetery Association Account to cover costs associated with the Cemetery Association budget.

Was made by Councilor Maneeley
Seconded by Councilor Snyder
The motion was approved unanimously

H. Resolution Authorizing Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to Sign and Execute a Lease Agreement with Key Government Finance ("Lessor") ("Escrow Agent") for the Lease/Purchase of Pierce Rescue Truck and Ford/Firematic Vehicle

WHEREAS, at the regularly scheduled meeting of January 4, 2021, the South Windsor Town Council approved the purchase of a replacement rescue truck, and a new support fire/police truck, and authorized Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to sign and execute agreements related to this purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to enter into a Lease and Escrow Agreement with Key Government Finance as the Lessor and Escrow Agent, who requires Town Council approval to enter into this specific ten-year agreement where the Town will own all equipment outright

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby authorizes Town Manager Michael Maniscalco to sign and execute a Lease Agreement with Key Government Finance ("Lessor") ("Escrow Agent") for the lease/purchase of Pierce Rescue Truck and Ford/Firematic Vehicle.

Was made by Councilor King
Seconded by Councilor Snyder
The motion was approved unanimously

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ITEM:

13. New Business (Continued)

I. Resolution Approving a Refund of Taxes to Seven (7) South Windsor Taxpayers

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a refund of property taxes to seven (7) South Windsor Taxpayers, the total of said refunds being \$7,463.54 and as more fully described on attached **Exhibit B.**

Was made by Councilor Koboski
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton
The motion was approved unanimously

J. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Elizabeth McGuire (D), an Alternate from the Planning & Zoning Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Elizabeth McGuire (D), an Alternate from the Planning & Zoning Commission effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Elizabeth McGuire for the time she has dedicated to serving her community by her membership on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Was made by Councilor Lydecker
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Mayor Paterna thanked Elizabeth McGuire for her service to the Town of South Windsor.

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

K. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Gavin Zhu (R) from the Board of Assessment Appeals

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Gavin Zhu (R) from the Board of Assessment Appeals effective immediately; and

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13. K. (Continued)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Gavin Zhu for the time he has dedicated to serving his community by his membership on the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Was made by Councilor Snyder
Seconded by Councilor Koboski

Mayor Paterna thanked Gavin Zhu for his service to the Town of South Windsor.

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

L. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Ashwatha Naryana (R) from the Water Pollution Control Authority

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret the resignation of Ashwatha Naryana (R) from the Water Pollution Control Authority effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Ashwatha Naryana for the time he has dedicated to serving his community by his membership on the Water Pollution Control Authority.

Was made by Councilor Maneeley
Seconded by Councilor King

Mayor Paterna and Councilor Koboski thanked Ashwatha Naryana for his service to the Town of South Windsor.

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

M. Discussion Item: Anti-Blight Ordinance (*requested by Councilor Koboski*)

Councilor Koboski questioned what steps would need to be taken if someone felt there is a blight issue at a certain property? Councilor Koboski explained that at the Mestek building on Route 5, the grass is overgrown, and the parking lot is a mess.

(Resolution Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

13. M. (Continued)

Town Manager Maniscalco informed the Council that he has reached out to the Zoning Enforcement Officer and has asked her to start enforcement actions. At this point, a letter has been sent to the owner of the property informing them that they are in violation of the ordinance based upon the condition of the property. The property owner will have a certain time period to correct the violation. If they do not conform, a fine of \$100 per day will be issued. Collecting the \$100 per day is not the ultimate goal. The ultimate goal is to get the property cleaned up. Hopefully, the Town can move that process along. The best way to report a blighted property is to call the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Answering questions from the Council, Town Manager Maniscalco explained that after a blighted property is fixed, the Town will follow up to ensure it stays in conformance.

Councilor Koboski explained that he is concerned that the \$100 per day fine for a blighted corporate property may be cheaper to pay rather than to do the renovations on the building, and at which case, the Town will continue to have a blighted property. The fact that it is so visual is a concern.

N. Resolution Approving an Annual Salary for Deborah W. Reid, Clerk of the Council for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves an annual salary increase of 2% for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 for Deborah W. Reid, Clerk of the Council.

Was made by Councilor Snyder
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Pendleton
The motion was approved unanimously

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ITEM:

14. Passage of Ordinance

A. Resolution Adopting a Proposed Ordinance Establishing a Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby adopts the proposed Ordinance establishing a Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission, as shown in **Exhibit C**.

Was made by Councilor Evans
Seconded by Councilor Snyder

Councilor Evans thanked the many individuals who have been involved in the creation of this Ordinance.

Councilor Lydecker thanked Councilor Evans, who worked very hard on this Ordinance. Councilor Lydecker stated that she is excited that this Commission is being established because although the Town is moving in the right direction, there is still a lot of work.

Councilor Snyder stated that the Black Lives Matter Committee has completed all of the tasks assigned to them and feels that the Committee should be dissolved.

Mayor Paterna said that he is proud that the Town is moving in the right direction.

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

15. Public Input

None

16. Communications from Council

Councilor Maneeley requested that it be noted on the Town website that the next Town Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2021, due to the July 4th holiday.

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ITEM:

17. Executive Session

At 8:53 p.m., Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the possible purchase of real estate for the Town pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-210 (b)(7) (Brookfield Street), and to discuss a personnel matter (Town Manager Michael Maniscalco). Councilor Snyder seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Paterna, Deputy Mayor Pendleton, Councilor Evans, Councilor King, Councilor Koboski, Councilor Lopez, Councilor Lydecker, Councilor Maneeley, Councilor Snyder, Town Manager Maniscalco, Town Attorney Kari Olsen, Assistant Town Manager Vanessa Perry, and Assistant Town Manager Scott Roberts.

The Executive Session adjourned at 10:10 p.m., and the Regular Meeting reconvened.

O. Resolution Approving an Annual Salary for Town Manager Michael Maniscalco for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves an annual salary increase of 2% for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 for Town Manager Michael Maniscalco and authorizes the Mayor and Minority Leader to sign the amendment to the Employment Contract.

Was made by Deputy Mayor Pendleton
Seconded by Councilor Lopez

Mayor Paterna and Councilor Maneeley recognized the outstanding job that the Town Manager had done this year and thanked him for keeping the Town open during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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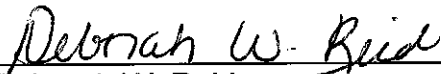
June 21, 2021

ITEM:

18. Adjournment

At 10:16 p.m., Councilor Maneeley made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Councilor King seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

Mayor, Councilors,

The speeding on Laurel Street is continuing.

We understand that the Town agencies have published the latest speed survey summaries from data that was collected between April 1st and April 7th, 2021.

The summaries, as presented in the survey, represent mathematical results of simple calculations of sums and averages of the raw data that was collected, with no review, audit or analysis of the raw data. A little math and voila, the Stealth Survey Summaries.

But a closer look at the raw data and the manner it was collected adds another dimension to the basic, indifferent mathematical calculations.

For instance, speeds were recorded at rates below the 25 mile per hour posted speed limit, down to 15 miles per hour.

Do any of you, who are familiar with driving on Laurel Street believe there are vehicles that travel the full length of Laurel Street at 15 to 20 miles per hour?

So then, what do the 15 to 20 miles per hour speeds represent?

As we have said in the past, the physical location of the Stealth unit allowed it to record the lower speeds of vehicles slowing down to enter or leave Brian Road or are entering and leaving the driveways on Laurel Street.

Using that data in summaries is in direct violation of recommended and accepted practices for valid speed surveys.

Removing the offending data creates a vastly different summary. One that better reflects what the residents are living with, where the average speed is 43 miles per hour or the equivalent of 111 miles per hour on I84.

This average speed is not to diminish the fact that speeds in the 50's and 60's up to 69 miles per hour were recorded a number of times. That is the reality of what the residents of Laurel Street are living with. The reality that does not enter into the neat averages represented by the agencies summaries.

To save time we won't revisit the other inconsistencies and bureaucratic stonewalling that we have endured over the last, more than two and a half years, because we have sent emails to you, told you at previous Council meetings and met with some of you, concerning the inconsistencies of the previous Speed Surveys performed on Laurel Street.

So we ask, will you continue to ignore the Laurel Street speeding issue using summaries that were mathematically arrived at, that do not conform to recommended and accepted practices or are you going to use your common sense and reasoning abilities to take a close look at the raw data and use that knowledge to make your decision to do something about the speeding.

We also point out that the report that the report that will be given tonight is, we believe, based on the data from the April 1st to 7th speed survey.

The report was actually due on November 1st, 2020. At that time, there were no data available for the report.

We point this out because it is a prime example of the Town's agencies not addressing resident's issues until they are pressured to do so by you folks. That is why we are asking you to put pressure on them to provide the speed humps or stop signs to calm the traffic on Laurel Street.

Name	Bill	Prop. Loc./Vehicle Info	Reason	Over Paid
BUTT USMAN	2019-03-5003178	2006/3VWXXJ71K5GME31866	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally, damaged, stolen etc.	(42.88)
CHASE AUTO	2019-03-5011806	2016/JM3KE4BY4G0753679	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally, damaged, stolen etc.	(825.71)
FINANCIAL SER VEH TRUST	2019-03-5007900	2018/WBSJF0C51JB283615	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally, damaged, stolen etc.	(1,931.72)
FINANCIAL SER VEH TRUST	2019-04-8001005	2020/WBS2U7C06L7E99265	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally, damaged, stolen etc.	(259.29)
FORI FRANCIS & PAMELA	2019-01-003191	137 MASKEL RD.	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments	(31.94)
ROCHE MARION TTR	2019-01-0008423	40 WILDLIFE TRL	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments	(3,975.51)
WHEELS LT	2019-03-5024832	2018/1GKKNXLSXZL187846	Sec. 12-71c Pro rata credit for property tax on motor vehicle when sold, totally, damaged, stolen etc.	(396.49)
Total of 7 Refunds				(7,463.54)

Carlene Andrusak

6/9/21

Drafted by:

Carlene Andrusak
Revenue Clerk

Date:

Approved by:

Jennifer R. Hillinski-Shirley
Jennifer R. Hillinski-Shirley
Collector of Revenue, CCMC, CCMO

Date:

June 2021

Ordinance

Social Justice & Racial Equity Commission

1. Establishment & Composition

A Social Justice and Racial Equity Commission is hereby established consisting of an eight (8) member panel of non-elected community members with education, training, or work experience in racial or social equity work and/or demonstrated practice or other relevant qualifications as equity leaders, all of whom shall be residents of the Town of South Windsor. All members shall be appointed to the Commission by the Town Council and shall include, to the extent possible, appointees with racial, ethnic, economic, and gender ("REEG") diversity. The Commission will consist of two (2) members who shall be Republicans, two (2) members who shall be Democrats, two (2) members who are not affiliated with the Republican Party but appointed by the Republican Party, and two (2) members who are not affiliated with the Democratic Party but appointed by the Democratic Party. At its establishment, commissioners will hold variant term lengths with four commissioners' terms (one Republican, one Democrat, one member who is not affiliated with the Republican Party but appointed by the Republican Party, and one member who is not affiliated with the Democratic Party but appointed by the Democratic Party) to expire at two years, and four commissioners' terms (one Republican, one Democrat, one member who is not affiliated with the Republican Party but appointed by the Republican Party, and one member who is not affiliated with the Democratic Party but appointed by the Democratic Party) to expire at one year. Thereafter, each commissioner's term will be for a set term of two years.

2. Liaisons

There shall be a panel of non-voting liaisons to the Commission as follows: the Town Manager (or designee), a Town Councilor, a Board of Education Member, the Police Chief (or designee), and an individual from the South Windsor business community recommended by the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce and appointed by the Town Council for a three-year term. Liaisons shall be invited to each regular and special meeting of the commission but shall not be counted in terms of establishing a quorum of, or minority representation on the Commission.

3. Organization

At the first meeting on or after December 1 of each year, the Commission shall elect from its members a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary, and other officers as deemed appropriate by the Commission.

The Commission will meet on a monthly basis according to the schedule as determined by appointed members annually and may hold special meetings as determined by the membership.

The Commission shall establish its own rules and procedures for the conduct of its business. Otherwise, it shall follow Robert's Rules of Order, where applicable and not in conflict with its rules and procedures.

If a vacancy occurs outside the regular allotted terms as set out above, an individual will be appointed by the Town Council for the unexpired portion of the term.

4. Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to foster the development of a more diverse community, to address specific issues at the root of REEG bias, and to suggest and implement proactive opportunities to combat REEG disparities as a public health crisis. The Commission will also collaborate with appropriate town groups and affiliates to carry forward the mission set forth in the Statement of Support created by the Black Lives Matter Sub-Committee and as approved by the South Windsor Town Council on March 1, 2021. The Commission will recognize and support the goals of social justice and racial equality in our community, passionately stand against REEG discrimination, and condemn violence against black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC).

5. Duties

- a. Work with Town Staff to ensure effective anti-racist and anti-bias training is offered for every town employee and elected official on an annual basis of at least two (2) hours, with a goal of twelve (12) hours minimum.
- b. Take action to investigate and promote policy changes that address REEG bias and disparity to create a more inclusive community.
- c. Collaborate with Town Staff to search and utilize specific avenues focused on the recruitment of BIPOC candidates for government opportunities.
- d. Drive occurrence of training sessions, community conversations, reading lists, and forums through a variety of media for all South Windsor residents, specifically targeted to bring about awareness of the following:
 - i. Critical self-reflection on racism
 - ii. Existing and historic inequities faced by those of REEG diversity
 - iii. Action and advocacy to fight REEG injustice
- e. Ensure the Town Government and Police Department continually improves upon policies and procedures that eliminate racism, bias, and profiling interactions in the hiring process. Increase diversity of employment through recruitment and hiring. Develop a system of open and transparent communication between town employees and citizens to create dialogue regarding REEG disparity within our community.
- f. Report annually to the Town Council and community the results and outcomes of the Commission's work.