TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

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TOWN COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS - SOUTH WINDSOR TOWN HALL

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Mirek called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:004p.m.

4. Roll Call

Members Present:

Mayor Carolyn Mirek

Deputy Mayor Janice Snyder Councilor Cindy Beaulieu Councilor M. Saud Anwar Councilor William Carroll Councilor Lisa Maneeley Councilor Liz Pendleton Councilor Matthew Riley

Members Absent:

Councilor Edward Havens

Others Present:

Matthew B. Galligan, Town Manager

Morris Borea, Town Attorney

Mayor Mirek presented a proclamation to Mitchell Fuel Company, Inc. to recognize their 60th Anniversary. Representative Tom Delnicki also recognized Mitchell Fuel Company, Inc.

Mayor Mirek then presented a Certificate of Recognition to Officer Joseph Futtner and Officer William Eastwood for their actions taken on September 13, 2017 while helping to deliver a baby girl. Officer Futtner was unable to attend the meeting. Representative Delnicki also recognized Officer Eastwood.

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager

Mr. Galligan reported on the following items:

State Budget

The Governor vetoed the budget. On October 2, 2017 there is a Legislative Meeting with CCM which Mr. Galligan has been asked to attend. After the

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ITEM:

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

State Budget (Continued)

Legislative Meeting there will be a press conference by CCM. Mr. Galligan stated that he was interviewed by Fox News on Friday, September 29, 2017.

Budget Letters

Mr. Galligan explained that he had written a letter as requested by Council members and had sent that letter to all Council members for their review, as shown in attached **Exhibit A**. Some Council members did not send back a response to that letter so the letter did not get sent out. A letter was then received from Councilor Anwar, Havens, and Pendleton, as shown in attached **Exhibit B**. The letter may have seemed one-sided, so it was decided to send out the drafted letter from the entire Council to South Windsor Representatives so they would know how the majority of the Council felt on this issue. A response letter was then sent from Senator Larson, as shown in attached **Exhibit C**.

Boards and Commissions

Mr. Galligan suggested that roundtable discussions be brought back so that all Boards and Commissions could meet to discuss different issues such as quorums, minute requirements, etc.

Mayor TV

A meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4th to determine topics, speakers and how to move forward.

Rating Agencies

The town received a notice from Moody's who was inquiring about the town's cash flow, financial statements and how the town is going to handle the state budget. Mr. Galligan explained that the town had assured Moody's that the town's cash flow is fine even with the lack of revenue from the state. Our

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ITEM:

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Rating Agencies (Continued)

fund balance will be affected, but moving forward, the town will have to start considering asking the state to not pass the financial burden to municipalities as that raises taxes for residents.

Committee for Polling Locations

The Polling Locations Committee has met, and Mr. Galligan stated he would be drafting a final report that will be sent to the entire Committee. The Committee will review it, and it will be revised and then sent to the Council.

A letter that was not discussed tonight is a letter from the Mayor.

Mayor Mirek read her letter into the record, as shown in attached **Exhibit D**.

Answering questions from Council members, Mr. Galligan stated that he would have to ask the Town Assessor how many more homes have reported having a crumbling foundation. He will send a report from the Assessor to the Council. The Connecticut Center for Digital Investigations/Inter-Local Agreement is an agreement that allows police departments to work regionally on cyber-attacks. South Windsor alone does not have the funding to afford the technology necessary.

Town Attorney Borea explained further that he had reviewed this agreement. The Police Chief's Association in Connecticut drafted a model agreement, requested comments from the town's that will be involved, and then a final report was written. There is a statute that allows towns to set up a cooperative agreement between each other so that each town can share resources. It also gives officers from each town the ability to have arrest powers in the other towns which allow effective investigations for these type of crimes. There will be a cost to each town.

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ITEM:

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Councilor Anwar stated that the letter from Councilor Havens, Pendleton, and himself also talked about the fact that the South Windsor Town Council are all volunteers who do not get paid. The individuals at the state level get paid. There are disagreements on the local level regarding the budget, but South Windsor was still able to establish one within the time line given. The State of Connecticut needs to sit in a room and should not come out until they come up with a budget. The letter also talked about the budget not being a bipartisan budget, but a starting point. There are concerns from educational entities who feel the school systems around the state would be negatively impacted. Both parties agree on 75% to 80% of the items in the budget, but it is time for them to work something out on the remainder of the budget.

Councilor Carroll requested that the Town Manager read out loud the portion of his report where he speaks about public members receiving an e-blast from Councilor Anwar regarding the letter from Councilors Havens, Pendleton, and Anwar.

Mr. Galligan explained that he only wanted to explain in his Town Manager's Report what had happened. He had drafted a letter and sent it to the Town Council for their review. He heard back from the majority party, but not from the minority party, so he did not send out the letter. On Monday, September 25th, a letter did go out from Councilors Havens, Pendleton, and Anwar. At that point, there were other Council members who asked why the letter that was supposed to be written on the Council's behalf had not been sent out. Mr. Galligan stated he was waiting for the minority party to respond. At that point, it was decided that the letter the Town Manager had drafted on behalf of the Town Council should be sent out. Mr. Galligan then explained that he received a call from the Mayor who had received a complaint from an employee at the Police Station about getting an e-blast from Councilor Anwar. Apparently, the e-blast was sent to all members of the South Windsor Police Department.

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ITEM:

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Councilor Carroll stated that his concern is that Councilor Anwar addressed a letter to Mayor Mirek, but it went out to town residents and others in town. It is concerning that Council members are sending e-blasts out without the consent of the Council.

Councilor Riley stated that all Council members were given an opportunity to work together to try to come up with a letter that would represent a view that all Council members agreed to, but not everyone took that opportunity. Councilor Riley then stated that in addition to a lot of Boards and Commissions having issues with getting a quorum, there also seems to be a fair amount of overlap, at times, between the missions of certain Boards and Commissions. There may be an opportunity to eliminate some Boards or Commissions, or consolidate some. Councilor Riley requested that the Town Manager send the entire Council the reports sent to the Rating Agencies.

Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to extend the Town Manager's Report for five minutes. Councilor Anwar seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Councilor Pendleton requested that Councilor Beaulieu make comments about the fund balance.

Councilor Beaulieu stated that the fact that the town received the new ratings recently from both agencies is an indication that the town has a fund balance that meets their requirements. Credit should be given to the way this town has been managed.

Answering questions from the Council, Mr. Galligan explained that if the state budget stays as it is, the worst case scenario would be the effect on the town's fund balance. The town has had a spending freeze in place since July, but there are certain items that will need to be done, such as taking the oil tanks out. If the town does not do that, it could cost the town more down the road. There are businesses that have not paid their taxes in town so the town may have to have a tax sale. There are mechanisms to increase revenue, reduce costs, and other ways to do business which is sustainable and give the ability to keep the level of services. All of these items depend on what the Council and residents are comfortable doing.

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ITEM:

5. Communications and Reports from Town Manager (Continued)

Councilor Pendleton requested that the Town Manager draft a plan on what the impact would be in a worst case scenario for the town if the State of Connecticut's budget stays in place. Councilor Pendleton then stated she would like more information regarding the Connecticut Center for Digital Investigations Inter-Local Agreement before setting a public hearing.

Mayor Mirek extended the Town Manger's Report for five more minutes with the consent of the Council.

Mr. Galligan stated he would have Chief Edwards send additional information to the Council. Mr. Galligan explained that other towns have already approved this agreement. Holding a public hearing does not approve this agreement, the Council would still have to go through an approval process.

Deputy Mayor Snyder requested the status on the Mayor TV program. Mr. Galligan explained that there is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 4th with the production crew. At that meeting, there will be discussions and decision made regarding this program.

6. Public Input (Items Not on the Agenda) (Continued)

Mr. Craig Zimmerman, 5A Amato Drive came forward to talk about the lack of a state budget and how this is hurting towns like South Windsor. It is time for everyone to work together across party lines for the greater good. Hopefully, it can be agreed upon that all three budget proposals are each flawed from South Windsor's perspective. They either substantially cut the Towns ECS Education Funding, change or reduce funding for special education services, add unnecessary barriers to school district, eliminate much needed scholarships to area colleges, make large cuts to our state university and community college system, underfund much needed support for those of our neighbors with crumbling foundations, or require our teachers to pay more for their pensions and change state employee benefits without going through the normal bargaining process. It is hopeful that Senator Larson, Representatives Delnicki, and Currey, along with Governor Malloy and the remaining legislators will get and remain

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

6. Public Input (Items Not on the Agenda) (Continued)

together in the same room, negotiating in good faith until the best possible budget agreements are reached. Mr. Zimmerman requested that everyone tries to hear and listen to each other, be respectful of one another, communicate with each other, and be ready and willing to work together.

Mrs. Mary Justine Hockenberry, 16 Foxglove Lane stated that South Windsor has great schools because of the hard work of the Board of Education, administration, superintendent, and families. The State of Connecticut needs a budget, and it is time for the state to work together. Mrs. Hockenberry then stated that The Diversity Celebration was a great event that is needed in our community. At this event, there were fireworks that were shot off from Collins Hill. Mrs. Hockenberry requested that the Town Council, Town Manager, and Director of Parks and Recreation look for a different location to shoot off fireworks because of the proximity to neighborhoods and the effect that it has on animals in the area.

Mr. Mike Pray, 56 Quarry Brook Drive came forward to inform the Council and public that the South Windsor Alliance for Progress will be holding an event called Think, Eat, Save: The Future of Food Waste in CT. at the South Windsor Public Library, Friends Room at 6:30 p.m. Food waste accounts for about 23% of Connecticut's garbage which means about 520 tons of food waste is generated per year.

Mrs. Ritu Goel, 80 Cornerstone Drive explained that she had received a call from the Journal Inquirer regarding a Facebook post that Kathy Daugherty had an objection to. Mrs. Goel stated that she is not in favor of guns and her post was simply saying "Prays for Vegas." She does not understand why anyone would need an automatic weapon which only inflicts pain and suffering on others. Mrs. Goel then went on to state that at the September 18, 2017 Town Council Meeting, the Town Manager said he would send a draft letter for everyone to review and if it is ok he would send this letter out to South Windsor's representatives. If the entire Council did not approve the letter, it should not have been sent out. Mrs. Goel reviewed items in the letter sent out from Councilor Havens, Pendleton, and Anwar pointing out that the proposed republican budget would withhold education grants, reduce funds from special

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

6. Public Input (Items Not on the Agenda) (Continued)

education, eliminates funds from the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington, dismantles the States Clean Election program and enables corporations to triple the amount that they can contribute to exploratory campaigns, sweeps funds from the school bus seat belt funding, clean energy fund and eliminates the newborn screening fund. Also, affects the funding for crumbling foundations.

Mr. Andy Paterna, 301 Strawberry Lane came forward to share his views on the recent budget proposal. Mr. Paterna reminded the Council about the \$62 million cut to community colleges; \$309 million cut to the University of Connecticut; the new tax on teachers where 2% is added to their pension contributions, but then that money is taken and put into the general fund, not into pensions; cuts to plans to install seat belts in school buses to keep our children safe; and the lack of funding for crumbling foundations. Mr. Paterna then stated that he feels there should be a ban on assault weapons and told the Council between 1996 to 2006 there were zero deaths in Australia due to their actions.

State Representative Tom Delnicki, 130 Felt Road stated that on September 8th, the Governor came out with his compromised budget. On September 11th a bipartisan budget passed through the House and the Senate. On Friday, September 29th the Governor vetoed that budget. There is a tentative date of October 10th to hold an override session of the veto. Today, State Representative Delnicki said he received a call that a session will be held tomorrow. There are only a couple of ways the Legislators can be called into session; one is by the Governor by Executive Order. State Representative Delnicki stated that he would work hard for the Town of South Windsor.

Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to extend the public input for five minutes. Councilor Pendleton seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Mr. Toby Lewis, 32 Linda Lane stated that he was at the September 18, 2017 Town Council meeting and saw that there was a consensus regarding the Town Manager drafting a letter for Council members to approve to be sent to the South Windsor representatives. Before that letter was sent, another letter was sent out. The state needs a budget to move items forward, and that is what should be encouraged. The Council in this town needs to work for the benefit of this town and should not be fighting.

(Public Input Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

6. Public Input (Items Not on the Agenda) (Continued)

Mr. Robert Rossani, 125 Valley View Drive stated that based on comments tonight, the general public is not educated on gun laws. The State of Connecticut has a gun registry, and fully automatic weapons have been banned since the Clinton Ban. Mr. Rossani stated that he does not know one gun that has gone off without someone firing it. As far as a budget, the state will never get a 100% buy in from everyone, and people are going to have to make concessions in order to get a budget passed.

7. Adoption of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of the following Town Council Meetings: Regular Meeting of September 18, 2017.

Was made by Deputy Mayor Snyder Seconded by Councilor Maneeley

Councilor Anwar stated that on page 3, under Public Input it should read "and would like the \$12 surcharge put back into the state budget", rather than "and would like the 12% surcharge put back into the state budget".

discussed under Councilor Pendleton about an item voiced concern Communications and Reports from Town Manager. Under that report it says "Council members had a lengthy discussion regarding the state budget and decided, by consensus, to send a letter to the South Windsor legislators informing them that the South Windsor Town Council is in support of the approved budget, and it is important that the Legislators know how important it is to approve a budget before the fist of October, otherwise South Windsor will have a deficit of \$12 million dollars." Councilor Pendleton requested that the Clerk of the Council listen to the tape because she stated that she felt there was consensus to draft a letter to be sent to the Council for their input, not send the letter.

Deputy Mayor Snyder stated that there should be something in the paragraph that says the Town Manager was going to draft a letter and then send it to the Town Council for their approval before sending it to the Legislators.

(Adoption of Minutes Continued on Next Page)

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ITEM:

7. Adoption of Minutes (Continued)

Councilor Anwar felt that it would be worthwhile to put the exact words in that section.

Mayor Mirek explained that she had brought it up to the Clerk of the Council that the Council was not in support of everything in that budget, as stated in the conversation.

Council members decided that verbatim minutes should be done for this section of the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to table the decision on the minutes. Councilor Pendleton seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Snyder then stated that she would like to withdraw her motion to accept the minutes.

8. Public Petitions

None

9. <u>Communications from Liaisons, Officers, and Boards Directly Responsible to Council</u>

Councilor Beaulieu reported on the following items from the Economic Development Commission meeting:

- The land on the corner of Rye Street and Sullivan Avenue has been cleared. A businessman in town is having a set of buildings constructed.
- Peter DeMallie came to the Economic Development Commission and gave a good presentation on the expansion of Carla's Pasta. Carla's Pasta has been a great business to have in town and is an excellent taxpayer
- The Commission was informed about the Food Waste Recycling event and everyone there is very interested in hearing about that.

Mayor Mirek informed the Council and public that there would be a Crumbling Foundations Meeting on Wednesday, October 4th at 6 pm in the Council Chambers. Anyone interested in this topic is invited to attend.

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ITEM:

10. Reports from Standing Committees

None

11. Reports of Temporary Committees

None

12. <u>Public Participation</u> (Items on the Agenda)

Mrs. Sarah Reba, 79 Andreis Trail came forward and stated that she feels the Town Council and the Planning & Zoning Commission did not follow the orders of the Judge regarding the 8-24 referral of the Bark Park. The Judge's intention was for the town to go back and do an 8-24 referral which was never previously done. The Judge wanted the Planning & Zoning Commission to reflect on the balances of interest of a couple who owns a home nearby against the entire community who enjoys the park. The Judge ordered that the Planning & Zoning Commission determine whether any modifications to the dog park are appropriate to further mitigate the impact on the Andreis Trail neighborhood and then to issue a nonbinding report containing any recommendations for modifications, but that did not happen. The Town Manager described the history of the dispute from the town's perspective alone. When Mr. Hill, the aggrieved homeowner on Andreis Trail asked to speak to provide clarity from his perspective, he was not allowed to speak. Mrs. Reba stated she does not think the process was done correctly and does not think the Planning & Zoning Commission or the Council have done what the Judge requested.

Mrs. Nancy Yario, Andreis Trail stated she should not have to live with the issues at the Bark Park. She stated that her quality of life has diminished since the establishment of the dog park. Funds have been put into this project by the town, and an 8-24 referral was never done previously. Mrs. Yario said she has a plan to modify the Bark Park and would like to set up a meeting to discuss this.

Mr. George Hill, Andreis Trial felt that the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting was not structured well. The Judge wanted the Planning & Zoning Commission to review the entire project. The Town Council has never approved this park, nor has the Planning & Zoning Commission.

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ITEM:

13. Consent Agenda

None

14. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

None

15. New Business

A. Resolution Accepting the Favorable Recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission

WHEREAS, at a Special Meeting held on August 28, 2017, the Town Council approved a referral of the Bark Park issues along with the installation of lights and water to the South Windsor Planning & Zoning Commission for a report pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, at the Planning & Zoning Commission's September 12, 2017 meeting, the Planning & Zoning Commission forwarded a favorable recommendation for the project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts the favorable recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission and approves said project.

Was made by Councilor Carroll Seconded by Councilor Riley

Councilor Carroll stated that this issue was brought to court and the Judge asked the town to go back and go through an 8-24 referral process. At this time the Council is adhering to the requirement that the Judge put upon the town.

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ITEM:

15. A. (Continued)

Councilor Riley requested that the Town Manager confirm that the town has complied with what the Judge wanted the town to do. Councilor Riley also questioned if an adequate discussion was held at the Planning & Zoning meeting.

Mr. Galligan responded that he had the attorney explain to him what exactly needed to be done. The 8-24 referral goes to the Planning & Zoning Commission. At that meeting, Mr. Galligan stated he made a presentation, and the Planning & Zoning Commission has approximately 30 or 35 days to make a report to the Town Council after reviewing the referral. There is no formal public hearing for an 8-24 referral nor is there any public input. Public hearings can be appealed, and then the process would need to start all over The Judge indicated in his message that he felt an 8-24 was warranted because a water line and lights were installed in the park. The town has tried to settle this issue out many times, but each proposal was rejected. In court, the plaintiff wanted an injunctive relief to take away the park. The Judge explained that it is not his job to take away the park, but to make sure the correct process is followed. If the Planning & Zoning Commission had rejected the 8-24 referral, this item would have come back to the Town Council. If the Town Council wanted to move forward, a super majority vote would have been necessary. Tonight the vote that is needed is a majority vote because the Planning & Zoning Commission has approved the 8-24 referral. Mr. Galligan stated that he is still open to discussions with Mr. Hill and Mrs. Yario.

Councilor Riley asked for confirmation that the town and the Planning & Zoning Commission have complied with the Judge's order? Mr. Galligan stated that the town and Planning & Zoning Commission have complied with the Judge's order. Mr. Galligan stated he has no problem working with Mr. Hill to come up with a reasonable solution. The hours of the park are sunrise to sunset.

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ITEM:

15. A. *(Continued)*

Councilor Maneeley stated that she was not on the Council at the time the Bark Park was established. Councilor Maneeley questioned if the purpose of this resolution is to comply with what the court requested of the town? Mr. Galligan explained that this resolution is required to meet the order of the court. This park was created because there were concerns about giving tickets to people in the park for not having their dogs on a leash and for defecating in the park. The idea of a dog park was supported by the public to solve these issues, and because there was so much public support, there were a lot of people volunteering to do different contractual work at the park.

Councilor Pendleton felt that the title of the resolution should be clear of what this resolution is for and she stated that no report was issued by the Planning & Zoning Commission, so she is not sure "report" is the correct word that should be used. It was her understanding that the town did not pay any money to have the water or lights installed. Councilor Pendleton said she understands that the Council had to follow the legal process for this issue but stated she is sorry for any inconvenience that the dog park has bestowed upon the neighborhood of Andreis Trail.

Mr. Galligan explained that this resolution is a standard resolution that the town has had for every 8-24 referral. A letter comes from the Planning & Zoning Commission stating their view on the referral which is the report. A map was given to the Planning & Zoning Commission of the project, and that is what they approved.

Councilor Anwar stated that the dog park had caused some people a lot of challenges. Councilor Anwar said he was not on the Council when the decision to create a dog park happened. There are people in the community that use the park, and there are individuals who have been impacted by this park. There is a need to fulfill the order by the Judge, but it is important to continue conversations with community members who are being impacted by the park. Councilor Anwar stated that he would be abstaining from this vote.

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ITEM:

15. A. (Continued)

Councilor Carroll questioned if there is a timeline for the Council to decide on this issue? Mr. Galligan felt that the Council should take action on this issue tonight.

Councilor Carroll explained the process that occurs through the Planning & Zoning Commission and stated that if a project comes forward, and fits legally into the land, and is in conformance, then, that is what happens to anyone who lives in the area.

Councilor Pendleton made a friendly amendment to have the title of the resolution to read, "Resolution Accepting the Favorable Recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission Concerning the 8-24 Referral for the Bark Park". Councilor Carroll and Councilor Maneeley accepted the friendly amendment.

Councilor Beaulieu stated she was not on the Council when this park was established but has heard complaints regarding the dog park. There are still issues that need to be resolved, and Councilor Beaulieu stated she is hopeful that the Town Manager can work with the neighbors to come up with a solution. The Council's responsibility tonight is to decide on this issue so the town will comply with the court order.

Councilor Riley stated he feels the Council has to take action tonight in order to respond to the Judge.

Mayor Mirek stated she is sorry for the distress that anyone has been through but feels that the Council needs to close this chapter. This issue has been through the court system, there have been offers to mitigate circumstances, and she hopes the individual impacted will take the town up on an offer to help make their quality of life better.

Mayor Mirek called for a vote on the motion; it passed on a Roll Call vote of 6 to 0 with Councilor Anwar and Councilor Pendleton abstaining.

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ITEM:

15. New Business (Continued)

B. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on a Cooperative Arrangement Between Municipalities to Combat Cyber-Crime and Increase Investigative Capabilities through the Use of Digital Forensics

Monday, October 16, 2017, at 8:15 p.m., in the Council hereby sets Monday, October 16, 2017, 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 a cooperative arrangement between municipalities to combat cyber-crime and increase investigative capabilities through the use of digital forensics, which arrangement will be known as the CT Center for Digital Investigations.

Was made by Councilor Anwar Seconded by Pendleton

Answering questions from the Council, Town Attorney Borea explained that the town is going into an agreement with other towns and this agreement will not change any of the requirements of an investigation. This agreement will give the town more resources.

Council members voiced concern that there was not a discussion item held first for this item before holding a public hearing. More information is necessary from the Chief of Police before a public hearing is held.

Councilor Anwar withdrew the motion he made. Councilor Pendleton withdrew her second.

At 9:55 p.m. the Council took a five-minute recess. The Regular Meeting reconvened at 10:00 p.m.

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ITEM:

15. New Business (Continued)

C. Resolution Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing to Receive Citizen Input on an Amendment to Ordinance #141, Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby sets Monday, October 16, 2017, 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 an Amendment to Ordinance #141, Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission.

Was made by Councilor Beaulieu Seconded by Councilor Carroll

Councilor Beaulieu stated that there had been a lengthy discussion regarding the amendment to this ordinance and this resolution tonight is to set a public hearing. Councilor Beaulieu requested that the amendments be put on the website.

Mr. Galligan said these amendments will be put on the website and will also be available in the Town Clerks Office.

Town Attorney Borea explained that amendments to this ordinance were forwarded to him for review. It can be very difficult to get a quorum for some Boards and Commissions and to find a sufficient number of members. There are different categories of the type of people that are required for the makeup of this Commission. There was a concern where we did not want the Council to get caught up trying to fill these categories specifically so we put in a catchall provision (c) which would allow the Council to add "at large" members so the specific categories would not have to be met. If there is a problem finding people to serve on this Commission, there is a way to resolve that within section (c). Another change that was made was within the duties of the Commission, language was added to show that the Commission has the authority to do certain items as opposed to duties that are required. The last change is a provision stating that the Commission has the authority to do whatever they need to do to carry out their mission.

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ITEM:

15. C. (Continued)

Answering questions from the Council, Town Attorney Borea explained that the Commission could decide the number they would like to make a quorum. Roberts Rules of Order is a majority plus one, but it is a default rule.

Mr. Joe Kennedy, Chair of the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission came forward and explained that the Commission has been averaging six to nine members present so it was figured through the Commission that a quorum of five members would work.

Town Attorney Borea explained further to the Council that to appoint regular members to the Commission, a majority vote would be necessary, but if not enough members can be found to fit the different categories then the Council would need to appoint additional at-large members with a vote of 2/3rds.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the Commission is made up of six democratic members and six republican members. Councilor Anwar felt that the make-up of the Commission should be within the ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Snyder called for a point of order stating that this is just a resolution to set a public hearing. Taking input is great, but no one on here has the authority to make a decision at this time.

Councilor Carroll stated that at the last meeting there were discussions held regarding reducing the number of members on the Commission from 12 to 10 or the Commission should set their quorum to seven if the number of members stays at 12. Councilor Carroll felt that this item should be reviewed further.

Councilor Pendleton stated that the Council should not be discussing changes. The Council should be setting a public hearing. Our recommendations that were sent to the Town Attorney have never been sent back to us to discuss before going to a public hearing.

Town Attorney Borea stated that the Council could discuss and make changes at the public hearing.

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ITEM:

15. C. (Continued)

Councilor Pendleton stated that this would not give the public the ability to know what the Council is proposing to change.

Councilor Carroll stated that there were discussions at the last meeting, but no changes that were discussed have been made to the ordinance. A discuss should be held regarding the changes, and then a public hearing can be set at a future meeting.

Councilor Beaulieu withdrew her motion. Councilor Carroll withdrew his second.

D. Resolution Authorizing Town Manager, Matthew B. Galligan to Execute and Deliver any and all Documents Deemed to be Necessary or Appropriate to the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security on behalf of the Town of South Windsor

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of South Windsor may enter into, with and deliver to the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems necessary or appropriate for the "Memorandum of Agreement Regarding use of Federal Fiscal Year 2017 State Homeland Security Grant Funding and Custodial Ownership of Regional Assets in DEMHS Region 3"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Matthew B. Galligan, Town Manager of the Town of South Windsor is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of South Windsor and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of the "Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Use of Federal Fiscal Year 2017 State Homeland Security Grant Funding and Custodial Ownership of Regional Assets In DEMHA Region 3" including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Was made by Councilor Pendleton Seconded by Councilor Anwar The motion was approved, unanimously

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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October 2, 2017

ITEM:

15. New Business (Continued)

E. Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Daniel Seypura (R) from the Inland Wetlands Agency/Conservation Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby accepts with regret, the resignation of Daniel Seypura (R) from the Inland Wetlands Agency/Conservation Commission, said resignation to be effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council extends its thanks to Daniel Seypura for the time he has dedicated to serving his community by his membership on the Inland Wetlands Agency/Conservation Commission.

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

F. Resolution Approving a Refund of Property Taxes to Fifteen (15) South Windsor Taxpayers

BE IT RESOLVED that the South Windsor Town Council hereby approves a refund of property taxes to fifteen (15) South Windsor Taxpayers, the total of said refund being \$2,183.33 and as more fully described in attached **Exhibit E**.

Was made by Councilor Maneeley Seconded by Councilor Anwar The motion was approved, unanimously.

16. Passage of Ordinance

None

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ITEM:

17. Public Input/Participation (Any Matter)

Mr. Mike Pray, 56 Quarry Brook Drive stated that the presence of a bipartisan budget does not make it a sound budget. Mr. Pray is strongly opposed to the Executive Order but does not think putting a budget on the table is the right thing to do. There have been a lot of concessions from one side and not the other.

Mrs. Ritu Goel, 80 Cornerstone Drive said she would like to learn more about the Connecticut Center for Digital Investigations Inter-Local Agreement and asked where she could find more information regarding this item.

18. Communications and Petitions from Council

Councilor Beaulieu stated that she feels everyone should leave here keeping the victims in Las Vegas in our thoughts and prayers.

Mayor Mirek stated that traditionally the night before an election the Town Council meeting is canceled. Mayor Mirek then stated that she would be canceling the November 6, 2017 Town Council meeting.

19. Executive Session

At 10:43 p.m. Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue (Town Manager's Evaluation. Councilor Pendleton seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

The following individuals went into Executive Session: Mayor Mirek, Deputy Mayor Snyder, Councilor Anwar, Councilor Beaulieu, Councilor Carroll, Councilor Maneeley, Councilor Pendleton, Councilor Riley, and Town Manager Matthew B. Galligan.

At 11:00 p.m. Councilor Anwar made a motion to extend the meeting for 30 minutes. Councilor Beaulieu seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

At 11:30 p.m. Councilor Anwar made a motion to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Councilor Beaulieu seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

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ITEM:

19. Executive Session (Executive Session)

At 11:45 p.m. Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Councilor Pendleton seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

20. Adjournment

At 11:45 p.m. Deputy Mayor Snyder made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Councilor Pendleton seconded the motion; and it was approved, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah W. Reid

Clerk of the Council



Town of South Windsor

1540 SULLIVAN AVENUE • SOUTH WINDSOR, CT 06074-2786 AREA CODE 860/6442511 FAX 860/644-3781

MATTHEW B. GALLIGAN Town Manager

September 26, 2017

Senator Timothy Larson Representative Jeff Currey Representative Thomas Delnicki

Re: State Budget

Dear Senator Larson and Representatives Currey and Delnicki:

At the last Town Council meeting, there was a discussion about the State budget and its impacts on the Town of South Windsor. We all know that in these trying times that it has been very difficult for our representatives to balance both state and local government needs. A State budget has been proposed and accepted by both parties, and it does restore some items for the Town of South Windsor that will help us get through these difficult times.

Although we understand that there are many State programs that may face cuts, towns across the State of Connecticut have been implementing cuts for many years to make ends meet. We have renegotiated union contracts, pensions, health insurance plans, etc., in order to keep taxes down and services moving forward. The Town Council does understand that there are some very difficult decisions that have to be made on various State agencies, but the time has come that they must also learn to do with less.

We appreciate the bipartisan support during this budget process. We hope the Governor will either sign this budget or let it go through the 15-day process and move ahead. In the event that the Governor vetoes this budget, the Town Council, Town Manager, and the residents of South Windsor are asking for your support to override that veto. If the Governor's budget remains in place, education programming will be decimated for the residents of South Windsor and for many other municipalities in the State of Connecticut. Many programs will be cut, services will be curtailed, infrastructure improvements will not take place, and taxes will have to be raised. Higher taxes will be a burden on the elderly and less fortunate, and many might make the decision to leave. Our young urban professionals who attend our universities would also be facing higher costs to live in Connecticut, and we may lose some very talented people needed for our labor force and economic development programs.

It is with great concern that the Town Council and Town Manager write this letter to you. We want to ensure that the budget as proposed stays intact so that we can help our residents to stay in

South Windsor, help our young people grow in South Windsor, keep the current tax structure in place, and keep services at the levels that people are accustomed to. We all realize that you are in a very difficult position both financially and politically, but it is time for the State to move forward and make the tough choices that local governments have been making over the last few decades. We do appreciate your understanding on this issue and hope that you will see a clear path in voting in favor of overriding any veto process. You are representatives of our communities, and we want to move in the same direction in order to benefit our residents.

We thank you in advance for your continued cooperation, and we also stand ready to work with you moving forward on how to make the State of Connecticut a great place to work and live without raising taxes and hurting services. We are prepared to have those discussions and recommendations, as we all represent the same taxpayers.

Sincerely.

Matthew B. Galligan

Town Manager

Town of South Windsor

marten B. Sallya

cc: South Windsor Town Council

September 25, 2017

Mayor Carolyn Mirek South Windsor, CT

Dear Mayor Mirek,

During the town council meeting, on September 18, 2017, you requested that a letter be sent to all State Representatives, encouraging them to endorse the Republican budget. It was clear that the state budget will be used as an issue during the forthcoming municipal elections. Mayor Mirek, you and the Republican council members implied that any councilor who did not endorse the statement of unconditional support to the Republican budget would be portrayed as essentially being against education in South Windsor. This is exactly the kind of political partisanship that has resulted in a stalemate of the worst kind. Our concerns are with the content and ramifications of the Republican proposed budget, not with politics. For that reason, we cannot, in good conscience, support the Republican State budget as proposed.

We would like to share our concerns about the proposed Republican budget. The state remains deeply in debt. It is no secret that the state has been going through significant budgetary turmoil and the two parties maintain conflicting views. The Democratic members of the town council have been public and transparent about our concerns over the governor's executive order to withhold education grants from all but the neediest districts. We most certainly call for the reinstitution of full educational funding to all communities.

Within the Republican budget proposal, there are new formulas placed which will result in reduction in special education budget. These would have a profound impact on individuals and families, some of whom are the most vulnerable in our community. The Republican budget eliminates \$309 million from the University of Connecticut and University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. This would result in closure of regional campuses, multiple academic departments and possible closure of University of Connecticut Health Center. More applicants to UCONN and other state schools would be placed on wait-list. The university police and fire services could experience drastic reductions. Health and mental health services and support systems would be impacted. The \$75 million in the first year and \$125 million in the second year from Connecticut state colleges and universities would do irreparable harm to the middle class of our town and our state. The Republican budget is not only anti-education, but anti-teachers. It also increases the teachers' pension contributions by 2 percent and sends the money to the general funds instead of paying for their pensions.

The budget also dismantles the state's clean election program and enables corporations to triple the amount that they can contribute to exploratory campaigns. As you know Madam Mayor, disgraced former Republican Governor Rowland used such policies to his advantage. Under the leadership of Republican Governor Jodi Rell, policies that restricted the potential for abuse were enacted. The proposal to bring back the old-style programs that potentiate the systematic corruption of the political process should be unacceptable to all of us.

The sweeping of funds from school bus seat belt funding, clean energy fund and elimination of the newborn screening fund, is of great concern to us as well.

Compensation for victims of crumbling foundations, within the town of South Windsor, as well as this region, are one-third less than those proposed within the Democratic budget. These people stand to lose the single largest investment of their lives. They have little or no recourse other than what we, as a state can provide.

We were also quite surprised to see that the Republican budget is attempting to balance budget by making changes to state employee contracts, in 2027. Making revenue planning based on a "pie in the sky" and "accounting gimmicks," is magical thinking.

This state budget is not an issue to exploit for the purpose of promoting one party or another. We cannot grant a blanket endorsement of a Republican budget because the majority party in South Windsor demands it. This is not responsible leadership. While we have had disagreements on the significant cuts that have been made by Republicans in the education budget in South Windsor, together the Democrats and Republicans of South Windsor have fashioned a budget that is appropriate and responsible in the current situation. Now, we need our state representatives to do the same.

We believe it is important that we urge our state representatives, including Representative Delnicki, Currey and Senator Larson, to work across party lines and negotiate a budget that will not compromise the future of our town and state. We know both sides provide the much needed ECS funding to our schools. We just need them to work together to pass a responsible budget.

Remembering that all of us are volunteers, working toward the best outcome for our town, we want to thank you and our fellow councilors for your efforts on behalf of our residents.

Sincerely,

Councilor Ed Havens

Councilor M. Saud Anwar

Councilor Liz Pendleton

CC: Deputy Mayor Snyder, Councilors Beaulieu, Carroll, Maneeley and Riley.

Town Manager Matthew Galligan

Representative Tom Delnicki

Representative Jeff Currey

Senator Tim Larsen

SENATOR TIM LARSON

Third District

Legislative Office Building Room 3600 Hartford, CT 06106-1591 Tel. 860-240-0511 Toll-free 1-800-842-1420 www.SenatorLarson.cga.cc.gov



Chair
Public Safety & Security Committee
Vice Chair
Energy & Technology Committee
General Law Committee
Member
Commerce Committee

September 27, 2017

Matt Galligan Town Manager 1540 Sullivan Ave. South Windsor, CT 06074

Dear Matt,

Thanks for your letter, but I will not be shamed into voting for the horrible and damaging Republican budget. I prefer instead to work on a much better – and truly bipartisan – state budget alternative.

Let me address your letter point by point.

You say this Republican budget was accepted "by both parties" and has "bipartisan support." That's not true. Seven Democrats voted with Republicans to pass this Republican budget. The Republican budget was written and introduced by Republicans, and was not negotiated in a bipartisan manner. Democrats and Republicans may agree on 80% of the line items in their respective budgets, but the remaining 20% is contentious, and for good reason. Dozens of news stories over the past week have made clear the Republican budget's many shortcomings.

You note that towns have renegotiated union contracts, pensions, and health insurance plans. But so has the State of Connecticut. In fact, Democrats carried the water in negotiating and then passing SEBAC contract changes which save Connecticut taxpayers \$1.5 billion over the next two years. Not a single Republican voted for these union savings.

You note that "the time has come that (state agencies) must also learn to do with less." But Connecticut has already cut billions of dollars from various state

agencies since Governor Malloy took office. Our state workforce has been reduced by about 15% over that same time period. Our General Fund spending for this year – \$18.4 billion – is less than it was in FY 2012, half a decade ago.

You warn that, without some budget — any budget, no matter how awful — taxes will be raised in South Windsor. But the Republican budget eliminates Earned Income Tax Credits for about 600 South Windsor residents, who receive a third of a million dollars in EITC. That's a tax increase. Republicans raise ticket prices by 10% at the XL Center and Dunkin' Donuts Park, which is a sales tax hike on any South Windsor resident who attends these events. Republicans cancel \$165,000 worth of college scholarships for South Windsor students. Republicans tax South Windsor teachers another 3% in pension contributions, then put that money into the General Fund, instead of setting that money aside for teacher retirements. My point is, while there may be some concern that without the Republican budget local taxes may go up, I am convinced that with this Republican budget, the tax burden on South Windsor residents will definitely go up.

You are concerned that the "urban professionals who attend our universities" may face higher costs in Connecticut as a result of the budget impasse, and that "we may lose some very talented people needed for our labor force and economic development programs."

Here you and I agree. I agree that a Republican budget which cuts hundreds of millions of dollars from UConn will hurt our young urban professionals and may drive them out of state to seek better educational opportunities elsewhere. I agree that a Republican budget which cuts a couple hundred million dollars in Manufacturing Assistance Act monies and which eliminates the Small Business Express loan program — a program which has saved or grown more than 10,000 jobs in Connecticut, including investing \$5 million in South Windsor companies and growing or retaining 400 jobs here — will hurt Connecticut's labor force and our economic development efforts. I agree that a Republican budget which cuts workforce training for Electric Boat is bad for our urban professionals, our workforce, and our economic development.

Let me add that the Republican budget also provides only half, and possibly as little as only one-third, of the government aid for homeowners with crumbling foundations that the Democratic budget alternative does. This is an enormous difference in aid which would make an enormous difference in the lives, property values, and local Grand Lists for the residents of South Windsor, who have been so hard-hit by this problem.

My Democratic colleagues and I cannot ignore all this unnecessary economic and civic damage in the Republican budget. We cannot ignore their public lies of "no new taxes." And we cannot accept a Republican budget that is so unbalanced, so rife with phantom savings, that it's out-year budget deficits in 2020-2022 total \$6.2 billion.

I believe there's a better way, and that is a truly bipartisan budget compromise. That's what I'm aiming for.

Best,

Tim

Cc:
Carolyn Mirek
Janice Snyder
Dr. M. Saud Anwar
Cindy Beaulieu
William Carroll Jr.
Edward Havens, Sr.
Lisa M. Maneeley
Liz Pendleton
Matthew Riley
Deborah Reid

This is in response to the letters from our Democratic Town Councilors.

At the September 18th Town Council meeting, there was a discussion about having our Town Manager draft a letter, that we could all agree on, to send to our legislators asking them to seriously consider working together to support a budget that would hold South Windsor harmless from the draconian cuts which would go into effect if the budget was vetoed and the governor's executive order was enacted. The Town Council wanted to send a strong message to Hartford to NOT cut our education budget.

There was a consensus from the council to move forward and Councilor Anwar added that he would like to see the letter prior to it being sent. I said that we would all have an opportunity to weigh in.

The Town Manager asked for input for the drafted letter. I also sent out a letter to our three Democratic councilors reminding them to provide their feedback. However, none was received from them.

The bipartisan budget on the table right now is the only one, and it is not perfect. We asked that the letter to our legislators be worded such that the Democrats and Republicans in the legislature should work together to find a solution and perhaps find some changes for the better. The Governor's executive order decimates our education system and the approved budget does restore funding. Time is of the essence. Today Connecticut is 88 days without a budget and South Windsor is hanging in the balance since we cannot possibly sustain \$12 million and cuts to education and services.

Now is not the time to be political. Now is the time to focus on South Windsor and our taxpayers and children. I have tried numerous times to cross reach across the aisle for bipartisan support for saving South Windsor education funding. For the Democratic councilors to choose not to work together and instead have their own divisive letter sent publicly was neither appropriate nor helpful to our situation. They had the opportunity to help craft the letter. South Windsor needs all elected to officials to work together, just like we're asking our leaders at the state level to do, for the greater good of our community.

Mayor Carolyn Mirek

TAX REFUNDS

Aucoin, Joyce G.	\$	(39.83)	Salinas, Manuel E.	\$	(227.88)
383 Deming Street			71 Breezy Hill Road		
South Windsor, CT 06074-3714			South Windsor, CT06074		1 .
2009/Volk/3VWHM71KX9M074890			2012/Infin/JN1CV6AR8CM673388		
Reason: Total loss 7/15	•		Reason: Traded 4/16		
Blackburn, Theresa I.	\$	(27.04)	Spieker, Jared L.	\$	(35.81)
60 Willow Street			P.O. Box 7026		
South Windsor, CT 06074-3124			Jackson, WY 83002		
2011/Mazd/1YVHZ8BH5B5M16507			2002/Ford/1FMRE11L22HB56788		
Reason: Sold to daughter 8/15			Reason: Out of State Registration, WY 6/15		
Dickenson W. B. Plumbing and Heating	\$	(13.52)	VW Credit Leasing LTD	\$	(59.93)
53 Commerce Way	•	` .	1401 Franklin Blvd.		
South Windsor, CT 06074			Libertyville, IL 60048		
1998/Toyota/4TAPM62N8WZ117954			2012/VOLK/3VWDP7AJ2CM369549		
Reason: Total Loss 8/15			Reason: New owner 7/15		
Gorman, Thomas E.	\$	(15.35)	VW Credit Leasing LTD	\$	(135.93)
1111 Country Club Road	•	,,	1401 Franklin Blvd.		
Middletown, CT 06457			Libertyville, IL 60048	. •	
1970/Olds/336870E025434			2012/VOLK/1VWBP7A35CC071684		
Reason: Add from DMV			Reason: New owner 5/15		
Mcdougal, William J.	\$	(69.06)	VW Credit Leasing LTD	\$	(212.66)
69 Brook Street	.	(50,00)	1401 Franklin Blvd.		
			Libertyville, IL 60048		
South Windsor, CT 06074-1307 2006/Merc/3MEFM07Z36R613112			2012/VOLK/1VWAP7A33CC03566S		
, ,			Reason: Replaced 2/15		
Reason: Total loss 4/15	\$	(515.22)	VW Credit Leasing LTD	\$	(374.54)
Penske Truck Leasing Go.	Ψ.	(343.22)	1401 Franklin Blvd.		•
Rt 10 Green Hills			Libertyville, IL 60048		
Reading, PA 19603-0405			2012/VOLK/1VWBP7A30CC064349		
2008/FRHT/1FVACXDT48HAC5766			Reason: New owner 10/14		-
Reason: Sold 10/14	\$	(234.23)	<u> </u>		
Penske Truck Leasing Go.	4	(234.23)			÷
Rt 10 Green Hills					
Reading, PA 19603-0405					
2008/FRHT/1FVACXDT68HAC5767					
Reason: Sold 4/15	\$	(41.29)	1		-
Rice, James J. or Sandra A.	Þ	(41.23)			
461 Quarry Brook Drive	,				
South Windsor, CT 06074			·		
2006/Honda/JHLRD78546C042217			·		•
Reason: Sold 7/15	\$	(181.04)	#		
Salinas, Manuel E.	P	(101.04)			
71 Breezy Hill Road					
South Windsor, CT06074					
2011/Honda/5FNRL5H64BB099673					
Reason: Sold 5/16			- -		
			TOTAL		-2183.33
			H		##UU-44
	-		#		
, ,					
Jennifer Hilinski-Shirley, Collector of Revenue					
10/2/2017					
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